

Schistosomiasis

Schistosomiasis

This condition is prevalent in Africa, Asia and South America. It is caused by infection with *Schistosoma mansoni* in 75% of cases and by *Schistosoma haematobium* in the remainder. Splenic enlargement may result from portal hypertension associated with hepatic fibrosis, but can also result from hyperplasia induced by the phagocytosis of disintegrated worms, ova and toxin. Splenomegaly can occur at any age. The diagnosis is based on examination of the urine and faeces for ova, abnormal liver function tests and the presence of hypochromic anaemia. Successful medical treatment does not result in the regression of splenomegaly. Removal of a painful spleen may be indicated or as part of a devascularisation procedure in patients with associated portal hypertension.

Revision #1

Created 2025-12-31 15:26:20 UTC by Omar Ayman

Updated 2025-12-31 15:26:20 UTC by Omar Ayman