EVALUATION OF THE EFFICACY OF SURVEILLANCE, MONITORING AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT INTERVENTIONS FOR THE CONTROL AND ELIMINATION OF SOIL-TRANSMITTED HELMINTHS AS A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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The global estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO) indicate that more than 970 million people are infected with one or more of the major soil-transmitted helminths (STH), which represents 64% of the total prevalence of major neglected tropical diseases. Moreover, a global burden of STH infections is estimated to be 3394 million disability-adjusted life years. Considering the global burden of STH and, in line with the goal of the World Health Organization (WHO) 2030 Agenda to eliminate such diseases as a health problem, the synthesis of the best current evidence from the scientific literature on diagnosis, treatment, prevention and health education related to the control, surveillance and monitoring of STH infections becomes an important tool to support managers in the elaboration of public health policies. In this rapid review we are investigating which of these interventions are most effective for the control and elimination of soil-transmitted helminths as a public health problem. The acronym PICO was used to create the question and a systematic search was conducted in Embase, Lilacs, Pubmed, Scielo, Scopus, and Web of Science databases, identifying 1558 studies from 2000 to 2024. Systematic reviews were selected according to inclusion criteria: studies published in English, Portuguese or Spanish in which participants were human populations infected with Ascaris, hookworms, Trichuris or Strongyloides. Interventions were any type of diagnosis, treatment, water, sanitization, hygiene, or health education actions. Outcome measures were changes in prevalence, incidence, mortality, morbidities or parasite load. A total of 37 studies were included for in-depth analysis. Data extraction and evaluation of data quality is ongoing. The results will allow us to synthesize evidence on the best interventions in control, surveillance and monitoring to support the creation of public policies aimed at eliminating STH infections as a public health problem.

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