

Rapid suppression of *Onchocerca volvulus* transmission in two communities of the Southern Chiapas focus, Mexico, achieved by quarterly treatments with Mectizan.

Rodríguez-Pérez MA, Lutzow-Steiner MA, Segura-Cabrera A, Lizarazo-Ortega C, Domínguez-Vázquez A, Sauerbrey M, Richards F Jr, Unnasch TR, Hassan HK, Hernández-Hernández R.

Centro de Biotecnología Genómica, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Blvd. del Maestro esq. Elias Piña, Cd. Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico. mrodriguez@ipn.mx

Abstract

The impact of quarterly Mectizan (ivermectin) treatments on transmission, microfilaridermia, and ocular lesions was evaluated in two formerly hyperendemic communities (Las Golondrinas and Las Nubes II) located in the main endemic focus for onchocerciasis in Southern Chiapas, Mexico. The data suggest that *Onchocerca volvulus* transmission has been suppressed after elimination of microfilaridermia in these two communities. Increasing the frequency of Mectizan treatment to four times per year appears to have resulted in the rapid suppression of transmission in communities with residual transmission.