



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

FIRST COLOMBIAN CASE REPORT OF MYIASIS INFESTATION BY COCHLIOMYIA HOMINIVORAX IN GIANT SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA.

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Background: cutaneous myiasis is an infestation in vertebrate mammals by different species of dipterous larvae. The disease has been described in veterinary medicine as a global public health problem related to poverty, lately, skin myiasis in humans concerns also as a public health issue. In fact, myiasis is the fourth most common skin disease in travelers to underdeveloped regions as Colombia.

Myiasis of the new world (America), known as screw-worm fly, is caused by *Cochliomyia hominivorax*, meanwhile in the old world (Africa, Europe and Asia) it is caused by *Chrysomya bezziana* and *Wohlfahrtia magnifica*. It was first described by Hope (1840) and later, Charles Coquerel (1848), reported the first series of cases of a "man-eating fly" in prisoners in Devil's Island. The name "screw-worm" is due to the ability of the larva to penetrate the wounds, forming tunnels and pouches, generating massive tissue destruction, intolerable pain and, in rare and severe cases, death.

Observation: we present the first literature case report in Colombia of aggressive muscle, glandular and bone destruction by *C. hominivorax* in a patient with a giant squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). Additionally, we report the first case of successful treatment of cutaneous myiasis in a malignant wound with topical oral solution of ivermectin 0.6%.

Key message: this manuscript represents an effort to raise awareness among health providers in cutaneous myiasis prevention, diagnosis, proper species identification and treatment. Myiasis is an underrated infestation with severe complications in oncology patients. We report the first Colombian case of cutaneous myiasis by *C. hominivorax* in a patient with SCC successfully treated with topical oral ivermectin.

