

## REVIEW

# EPIDEMIOLOGY OF SOIL-TRANSMITTED HELMINTHIASES IN MALAYSIA

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**Abstract.** We reviewed the epidemiology of STH in Malaysia from the 1970s to 2009. High prevalence rates persist among the rural Aborigines, estate workers and in urban slums and squatter areas. *Trichuris trichiura* is the most prevalent helminth in Malaysia ranging from 2.1% to 98.2%. *Ascaris lumbricoides* follows closely with a prevalence rate of 4.6-86.7%, while hookworm is the least prevalent (0-37.0%). A countrywide control program with special emphasis on school-based intervention is highly recommended among aboriginal people.

**Keywords:** soil-transmitted helminths, deworming, school-based intervention, Malaysia

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