FOURTEEN DAYS VERSUS TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS COURSE OF ALBENDAZOLE THERAPY FOR NEUROCYSTICERCOSIS IN CHILDREN: AN OPEN LABELLED, RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

AIM: To compare the efficacy of 14-days versus 28-days course of albendazole therapy in children with newly diagnosed active neurocysticercosis (NCC)

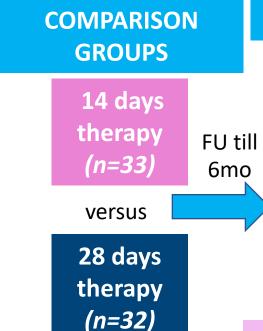
Age: 1-14 yrs, Newly diagnosed active NCC (based on Revised Del Brutto criteria)

(N=65)

ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

Albendazole
15 mg/kg/day,
in two divided
doses;
(Max. daily
dose 800 mg)

INTERVENTION



RESULTS

	Outcome measure	14days (<i>n</i> =32)	28days (<i>n</i> =33)	P- value
	Radiological resolution [n(%)]	6 (18.8)	9 (27.3)	0.56
	Seizure recurrence [n(%)]	5 (5.6)	2 (6)	0.18
	Days to seizure recurrence [mean(SD)]	46.4 (7.9)	22.5 (14.9)	0.03
	Calcification [n(%)]	26 (81.2)	23 (69.7)	0.39

Development of calcification had no association with age/duration of albendazole therapy/number of lesions

CONCLUSION: Fourteen-days treatment with albendazole therapy is as effective as 28-days treatment in achieving radiological resolution at sixmonth follow-up.

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