



“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania



RISKS OF LEPTOSPIROSIS LINKED TO LIVING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

**Doina Carmen Manciu^{1,2*}, Ioana Florina Iordan²,
Anca Maria Adavidoaiei², Maria Alexandra Largu¹**

¹*“Gr. T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 16 Universității Street, 700115 Iasi, Romania*

²*“Sf. Parascheva” Infectious Diseases Clinical Hospital, 2 Octav Botez Street, 700116 Iasi, Romania*

Abstract

Although considered a rare disease, endemic to low-income regions and unsanitary environments, leptospirosis is still encountered in some parts of Romania, in both rural and urban environments. Its specific pathways of transmission caused it to be a threat to people working with animals, pest control, farmers or those whose jobs place them in the presence of waters, sewers or in flooded areas. This paper investigates the occurrence and effects of leptospirosis by analyzing 17 cases of infection occurring between 2013 and 2015 in Iasi, Romania. The retrospective study revealed that 82% of leptospirosis cases were determined by serovars of *Leptospira spp.* known to be transmitted in a professional context or coming from household animals or rodents. These zoonoses lead to health risks and renal, hepatic and meningeal damage, which determined a high number of admission days as well as higher costs for care. Prevention of the disease includes non-exposure to risk factors, assuming protecting actions, immunization, chemoprophylaxis in several combinations, as well as education for proper environmental and body hygiene.

Key words: contaminated water, hepatic function, leptospirosis, rural area, serology

Received: March, 2017; Revised final: February, 2018; Accepted: February, 2018; Published in final edited form: March 2018

* Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: e-mail: dmanciu@yahoo.com