
Onchocerciasis (river blindness)

Report from the thirteenth InterAmerican Conference on Onchocerciasis, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

Onchocerciasis is a major public health problem in the Americas, particularly in the Caribbean region. The InterAmerican Conference on Onchocerciasis (IACO) was held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 November 2003. The conference was organized by the Caribbean Community and Caribbean Health Organization (CARICOM/PAHO), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Merck & Co., Inc. The conference was the first of its kind in the Americas and was attended by representatives from 18 countries in the Caribbean region. The conference was held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 November 2003. The conference was organized by the Caribbean Community and Caribbean Health Organization (CARICOM/PAHO), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Merck & Co., Inc. The conference was the first of its kind in the Americas and was attended by representatives from 18 countries in the Caribbean region.

The high prevalence of onchocerciasis in the Americas was highlighted by the IACO 2003 conference in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 18-20 November 2003. The conference was organized by the Caribbean Community and Caribbean Health Organization (CARICOM/PAHO), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Merck & Co., Inc. The conference was the first of its kind in the Americas and was attended by representatives from 18 countries in the Caribbean region.

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Treatment activities in 2003

Treatment activities for onchocerciasis were implemented in each of the 18 countries in the Caribbean region in 2003.

Evolution of treatment coverage by country in the Americas, 2000–2003
Evolution de la couverture par le traitement dans les Amériques, par pays, 2000-2003



