

**Table 1 Summary of 15 included trials.**

<b>Name, Year &amp; Country</b>	<b>Age of children</b>	<b>Clinical Question</b>	<b>Patient Numbers</b>	<b>SIGN 50 Grade</b>	<b>Outcomes or Results (% of patients cured*)</b>	<b>P Value / 95% CI</b>	<b>Reviewers Comments &amp; Assessment of Methodology</b>
Hall et al. 1993 Bangladesh <sup>i</sup>	5-10 years	Albendazole (ABZ) vs Metronidazole (MTZ)	Phase I: Albendazole 600mg:n= 103; Albendazole 400mgx3d:n= 116; Metronidazole: 375 mgx5d): n= 115 Phase II: Albendazole 800mg:n= 114; Alb 400mgx 5 days: n= 115; Met: 375mg x 5d 115 Total of 768 children, with 678 cases of infection among 426 children.	1++	Phase 1 ABZ 600mg: 62.1%; ABZ 400mg x 3d: 81.0%; MTZ 375mg x5d: 97.4%  Phase 2 ABZ 800mg: 74.6; ABZ 400mg x5d: 94.8; MTZ 375 x 5d: 97.4%	All treatments sig. different from each other: p<0.05 except ABZ 400mg x 5 which p>0.05 than MTZ	Excellent randomisation and parasitology descriptions in methods. Very large study. 2 phase study, retested with different doses. Not necessarily symptomatic children or mono-infection. Followed up for 15 months.
Dutta et al India, 1994 <sup>ii</sup>	2-10 years	400mg of ABZ daily as a single dose for 5d. or MTZ 7.5 mg/kg/dose x TDS x 5 day	N=150 75:75	1++	97% cure rate for both ABZ and MTZ	None given	Patients described as attending hospital, not clear if they are attending for GI symptoms or just enrolled opportunistically. Excluded if acutely febrile. Multicenter Study Well designed trial let down by its poor description of its parasitological methodology.
Misra et al. India 1995 <sup>iii</sup>	2-12 yrs	ABZ vs. MTZ	N=64 32 in each arm	1-	All were clear (100%) within 7 days. But ABZ was (mean) 3.7 days (+/-1.4) and MTZ was 4.5 +/- 1.1 days).	Not given	Performed on children who were not acutely unwell. Funded by SmithKline Beecham
Yereli et al. 2004 Turkey <sup>iv</sup>	3-15 yrs	ABZ vs. MTZ	N=107 52 ABZ, 55 MTZ	1+	By day 14 90.4% of ABZ and 89.1% with MTZ cured No SEs reported.	P= 0.92	No SEs reported but methodology to record them is not given.
Pengsaa et al. Thailand, 2002 <sup>v</sup>	7-15 yrs	Comparison of ABZ/ Praziquantel (PZ); ABZ and Tinidazole (TDZ)	N=84 I: ABZ/PZ:31 II: ABZ:26 III: TDZ: 27	RCT 1+	I: 74.2%; II: 50%; III: 92.6% SEs- two cases of "severe" (i.e. needing treatment) were recorded with combined treatment (abdominal pain).	P=0.01 between all three. But P>0.05 between combined treatment and either of the other two	Directly observed therapy. School children not hospital patients.
Escobedo 2003 (B) Cuba <sup>vi</sup>	2-15 yrs	Chloroquine (CQ) vs. ABZ vs. TDZ	N=165, ABZ:60; TNZ: 55 and CQ: 50	RCT 1+	TDZ cure: 91%, CQ: 86% ABZ: 62%. ABZ significantly less effective than other two, which were not significantly different from each other.	TDZ vs. CQ p>0.05. ABZ vs both others p<0.01	
Canete et al. (A) Cuba 2006 <sup>vii</sup>	5-15 years	1 day with 600mg of MBZ (200mg TDS) vs 50mg/kg of TDZ in a single dose	N=122 61 in each arm	RCT 1+	MBZ 39 (64%) vs TNZ 50 (82%)	None given	
Cañete et al. (B) 2006, Cuba <sup>viii</sup>	5-15 yrs	Mebendazole vs. Quinacrine	N=122 61 children in each arm	RCT 1+	MBZ: 78.7% QC: 83.6%.	p> 0.05	

<b>Name, Year &amp; Country</b>	<b>Age of children</b>	<b>Clinical Question</b>	<b>Patient Numbers</b>	<b>SIGN 50 Grade</b>	<b>Outcomes or Results (% of patients cured*)</b>	<b>P Value / 95% CI</b>	<b>Reviewers Comments &amp; Assessment of Methodology</b>
Sadjjadi, 2001, Iran <sup>ix</sup>	7-12 yrs	Comparison of MBZ and MTZ	50: 50	RCT 1-	MBZ cure rate: 43/50 (86%); MTZ: 45/50 (90%). Using chi sq. no stat. difference found. Only MTZ had SEs.	Not given	School children recruited rather than patients acutely presenting to health care services. Concept of blinding never addressed.
Al-Waili et al. 1992, Iraq <sup>x</sup>	3-13 yrs	MBZ: 200mg TDS for 5 days vs. MTZ 200mg TDS for 5 days	44 patients: 23 in MBZ and 21 with MTZ	RCT 1-	100% parasitological cure in both arms. Some mild SEs in MTZ	None given	Very brief report many details not given. Can't read how many SEs and where took place and how recruited not explained
Bulut et al. Turkey, 1996 <sup>xi</sup>	6- 13 yrs	Comparison of 1d mebendazole; 7d mebendazole, MTZ 7 days, single dose ODZ	Total 60: 17, 17, 15, 11	RCT 1-	Group I: 41.7% (CI 6.2-77.2); II: 58.3% (CI 22.8-93.8); III: 92.6% (CI 74.4-100.0); IV: 100% (CI: 100)	See left	School children recruited rather than patients acutely presenting to health care services.
Escobedo et al. 2003 (A) Cuba <sup>xii</sup>	5- 15yrs	MBZ vs Secnidazole (SCZ)	N=146; 73 x 2	RCT 1+	MBZ 78.1%; SCZ 79.4%.	P> 0.05	
Rastegar-Lari et al Iran, 1996 <sup>xiii</sup>	3- 14 yrs	SCZ vs. MTZ	N=52 27 SCZ: 27 and MTZ: 25	RCT 1+	SCZ: 100% cure, MTZ: 96%	P = 0.41	Some asymptomatic carriers included.
Ortiz et al, Peru 2001 <sup>xiv</sup>	6- 11 yrs	Nitazoxanide (NZN) vs. MTZ	N=110: 55 in each arm.	RCT 1+	NZN: 71% and MTZ: 75%.	P>0.83 95% CI: -20.1%-12.6%	Intention to treat analysis included. Funded by Romark Laboratories, (inventors of Nitazoxanide).
Talari et al., 2006, Iran <sup>xv</sup>	5-12 yrs	MTZ vs. Furazolidone (FLD)	62 MTZ, 60 FLD (120 total)	RCT 1-	MTZ 87% , FLD 81.7% parasite free at 4 weeks	Not given	Concept of blinding never addressed.

<sup>i</sup> Hall A. and Nahar Q. Albendazole as a treatment for infections with Giardia duodenalis in children in Bangladesh Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (1993) 87, 84-86

<sup>ii</sup> Dutta A. K. et al. A Randomised Multicentre Study to Compare Safety and Efficacy of Albendazole and Metronidazole in the Treatment of Giardiasis in Children Indian J Pediatr 1994; 61 : 689-693

<sup>iii</sup> Misra, P. K., A. Kumar, V. Agarwal, and S. C. Jagota. 1995. A comparative trial of albendazole versus metronidazole in children with giardiasis. Indian Pediatr. 32:779-782

<sup>iv</sup> Yereli K., Balcioglu C., Ertan P., Limoncu E., Onag A. Albendazole as an alternative treatment for childhood giardiasis in Turkey Clinical Microbiology and Infection 10 (6), 527-529.

<sup>v</sup> Pengsaa et al. Single-dose therapy for giardiasis in school-age children. Southeast Asian J Trop Med Public Health. 2002 Dec;33(4):711-7.

<sup>vi</sup> Escobedo A.A. et al. Comparison of chloroquine, albendazole and tinidazole in the treatment of children with giardiasis. Annals of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology, Volume 97, Number 4, June 2003 , pp. 367-371(5)

<sup>vii</sup> Cañete R, Escobedo AA, González ME, Almirall P, Cantelar N. A randomized, controlled, open-label trial of a single day of mebendazole versus a single dose of tinidazole in the treatment of giardiasis in children. Curr Med Res Opin. 2006 Nov;22(11):2131-6.

<sup>viii</sup> Canete R, Escobedo A. A., Gonzalez M. E. Almirall P. Randomized clinical study of five days' therapy with mebendazole compared to quinacrine in the treatment of symptomatic giardiasis in children. World J. Gastroenterol 2006 October 21; 12 (39); 6366-6370

<sup>ix</sup> Sadjjadi S. M., Alborzi A. W. and Mostovfi H. Comparative Clinical Trial of Mebendazole and Metronidazole in Giardiasis of Children Journal of Tropical Pediatrics 2001 47(3):176-178; doi:10.1093/tropej/47.3.176

<sup>x</sup> Al-Waili, N. S. D., and N. U. Hasan. 1992. Mebendazole in giardial infections: a comparative study with metronidazole. J. Infect. Dis. 165:1170-1171

<sup>xi</sup> Bulut, B. U., S. B. Gulnar, and D. Aysev. 1996. Alternative treatment protocols in giardiasis: a pilot study. Scand. J. Infect. Dis. 28:493-495

<sup>xii</sup> Escobedo A.A.; Cañete R.; Gonzalez M.E.; Pareja A.; Cimerman S.; Almirall P. A randomized trial comparing mebendazole and secnidazole for the treatment of giardiasis Annals of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology, Volume 97, Number 5, July 2003 , pp. 499-504(6)

<sup>xiii</sup> Rastegar-Lari A, Salek-Moghaddam A. Single-dose secnidazole versus 10-day metronidazole therapy of giardiasis in Iranian children. J Trop Pediatr. 1996 Jun;42(3):184-5

<sup>xiv</sup> Ortiz JJ, Ayoub A, Gargala G, Cheghe NL, Favennec L. Randomized clinical study of nitazoxanide compared to metronidazole in the treatment of symptomatic giardiasis in children from Northern Peru. Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2001 Sep;15(9):1409-15.

<sup>xv</sup> Talari S.A., Momtazmanesh N., Talebian A., Khorshidi A., Taghavi A., Fakharian E., Talari M.R., Mokhtari Z. Comparison of Metronidazole and Furazolidone Against Giardia lamblia in Children J. Med. Sci 6 (3): 378-381 2006