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## Clinical presentation and epidemiology of neurocysticercosis in Qatar and the region

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Neurocysticercosis (NCC) is the parasitic infection of the central nervous system by the larval stage of the tapeworm *Taenia solium*, through fecal oral infestation. It is endemic to many developing countries, with high prevalence noted in Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, and South East Asia. Pigs are the intermediate hosts for this parasite; therefore historically the disease was non-existent in Muslim countries where raising or consuming pork is unlikely. However, clinical experience from the neurology service at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Doha, Qatar identifies NCC as a common reason for neurological consultation. The resurgence of this disease in Qatar and other countries in the Arabian Peninsula is related most likely to immigration from endemic countries. The present study describes the clinical presentation of NCC as well as its epidemiology aspects in Qatar and the region and the financial burden of NCC on the society overall.

### Biography

Dr Boulenouar Mesraoua is consultant neurologist at Hamad General Hospital and also associate Prof. clinical neurology at weill Cornell Medical College, Qatar. After a medical graduation from the university of Oran in Algeria, he moved to Belgium, the city of liege, for a residency in Internal Medicine and Neurology; after getting the Belgian Board of Neurology, he went to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Queen Square, London, UK, for a fellowship in clinical neurophysiology, under Prof. Willison; he had also further training in Epilepsy and Continuous EEG Monitoring in the Neurophysiology department of Zurich, Switzerland, under Prof. HG Wieser.

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