

TITLE: SURVEY OF THE USE AND QUALITY OF WELL WATER IN THE CITY OF SETE LAGOAS – MG

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ABSTRACT:

Due to lack or precarious access to safe water, the most disadvantaged and socially excluded population is a major target for waterborne diseases. In the city of Sete Lagoas – MG the probability that this type of water is consumed is greater due to the presence of a very shallow water table, facilitating the drilling of shallow wells by the population. The objective of this work was to survey the main characteristics of wells as well as the microbiological quality of the water withdrawn from the wells by the population of Sete Lagoas. Applications of questionnaires were carried out in 33 residences in the city of Sete Lagoas and the following information was collected: 50% of the wells were built over 10 years; 93.94% of the wells are capped; 87.87% of the people who draw water from the wells use a pump; 78.78% have domestic animals near the well; about 20% of people who use well water for direct consumption do not perform any previous treatment procedure. It was clear that the owners of the wells did not have the knowledge of how to carry out some procedures of sanitary control. We perform analyzes consisting of the detection and counting of the total coliforms and thermotolerant coliforms, using the sequence of tests: presumptive (for detection of total coliforms); confirmation (to confirm the detection of total coliforms); thermotolerance (to detect thermotolerant coliforms). The results of the analysis showed that the water of two of four wells may be considered inappropriate for human consumption. It was observed that after passing information and booklets with some recommendations, the owners of the wells began to take greater care before consuming the water from the well. The results highlight the importance of making the population aware of the care that must be taken in sanitizing and maintaining the shallow wells.

Keywords: water, coliforms, well

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