

CALL FOR PAPERS

Leishmaniasis is a protozoan zoonotic disease that is endemic in at least 88 countries worldwide. It is transmitted by Phlebotomine female sand flies of the genera *Phlebotomus* and *Lutzomyia* in the old and new world, respectively. More than 20 well-recognized *Leishmania* species are known to infect humans. Leishmaniasis is listed by World Health Organisation (WHO) on the Neglected Tropical Disease and is one of the major causes of death in underdeveloped countries, threatening approximately 350 million people in endemic areas. The geographic distribution of each *Leishmania* species affects the type of disease that occurs in each region, as well as its severity. The disease mainly affects poor people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and is associated with malnutrition, population migration, poor residency conditions, frail immune system, and lack of resources. Among the many other mammals that can be infected with *Leishmania* spp., dogs develop canine leishmaniasis (CanL), a disease inextricably linked to human health, as dogs are believed to be the main reservoir of the parasite transmitted to humans. Both in dogs and in humans, leishmaniasis is a complex disease with variable clinical spectrum ranging from focal cutaneous disease to disseminated visceral disease and in severity from nonsymptomatic to fatal. In humans, there are three main forms of leishmaniasis, namely, cutaneous, visceral or Kala-azar, and mucocutaneous. Knowledge on the interactions between host and parasite is essential to help understand disease pathogenesis and progression. Limited numbers of drug treatments against leishmaniasis are available and many of them have serious side effects, as well as increasing drug resistance issues. The perspective for leishmaniasis control is highly dependent upon research progress, on therapeutic manipulations of the immune system, and on vaccine development.

We invite investigators to contribute either original research as well as review articles that will contribute to stimulate the discussion about recent advances in the pathogenesis, diagnosis, monitoring, control, and therapy of the disease or that could be useful for evaluation of the response to treatment in naturally occurring leishmaniasis in both dogs and humans.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Advances in the pathogenesis of the disease
- ▶ Host-parasite cellular and molecular interaction
- ▶ Leishmania-sand fly interaction
- ▶ Epidemiology update
- ▶ Diagnosis methodology and control of disease
- ▶ Techniques of detecting parasites
- ▶ Diagnostic and prognostic markers in leishmaniasis
- ▶ Drug therapy and drug development, clinical and experimental therapy, and drug resistance
- ▶ Identification of selected biomarkers potentially useful for evaluating treatment-response
- ▶ Clinical and experimental vaccination
- ▶ Canine-human interaction of the disease

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/parasitology/leish/>.

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Manuscript Due

Friday, 26 May 2017

First Round of Reviews

Friday, 18 August 2017

Publication Date

Friday, 13 October 2017