

"Frontiers in Science on Neglected Diseases"



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#### Neglected Diseases (NDs) Landscape in Brazil and South America

**Jeffrey Shaw** 

São Paulo University Biomedical Sciences Institute jeffreyj@usp.br









## Of WHO's 17 listed NTDs 14 occur in South America

Virus Dengue/Severe dengue Rabies

#### Protozoa Chagas disease

Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) Leishmaniases

HelminthCysticercosis/Taeniasis<br/>Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease)<br/>Echinococcosis<br/>Foodborne trematodiases Fasciola hot spots andes & carribbean<br/>Lymphatic filariasis<br/>Onchocerciasis (river blindness)<br/>Schistosomiasis<br/>Soil-transmitted helminthiases

#### Bacteria Buruli ulcer??

Leprosy (Hansen disease) Trachoma Yaws??

# NDs are expanding and adapting in a changing world!



- 1. War Soldiers/Civilians
- 2. Social unrest Migration individuals seeking better financial climates
- 3. Human Behavior Food preparation and Drug addiction (contamination from shared syringes) HIV global epidemic
- 4. Environmental aggression Deforestation and Global warming
- 5. Globalization Rapid transportation of infections (Tourism)
- 6. Economic recession World wide reduction of funds for surveillance, prevention and research
- 7. Changing Medical Procedures Tissue implantation (blood, organs), medication (lowering of immune response)









# Chagas Disease & Leishmaniasis

# Both are **Zoonoses** so we can **never eliminate** them

Estimated that 8 million people are infected with *T.(S.) cruzi* of which around 4.5 million are from Brazil



Year of Death

Mortality Rate (per 100.000 inhabitants)

#### 19.4% of the children in Entre Rios, Bolivia have positive Chagas serology \*

Age group	% positive
<5	5
5 - 9	14.8
10 - 14	31.0
15 - 16	51.7

\* 1,475/7,618 -(2002-2007) Yun et al 2009 (MSF)

## Silvatic cycles involving many wild animals and bug species



Only about 20 triatomine species are responsible for transmitting *T.(S.)cruzi* to humans

Triatoma infestans A domesticated species Southern Cone Initiative 1991 Sustainability?







# In Brazil most cases now are due to oral transmission Açai and Sugar cane juice









Contamination with bugs during transportation











Contamination by bugs attracted to light





# Congenital transmission



Risk estimated as being between 1-7% \*\* but no good data available There may be differences between strains

In Argentina congenital transmission has surpassed vector-transmitted acute cases **tenfold**. \*\*\*

Beukens et al 2007
WHO Tech Rep 2002
Gürtler et al 2003

Are there differences between the parasites that cause Chagas Disease?

If so is it clinically significant?

# *T.(S.)cruzi* TcI population structure across the Americas Based on the multilocus microsatellite



### Differences in response to drugs \*

Region	Number of children Under 15 years old with positive Chagas serology	Conversions 18 months after treatment	Percentage seroconversion (+ve to -ve)	Predominant <i>T.cruzi</i> lineage
Central America	263	220	83.6%	<u>Tc</u> I
South America (Bolivia)	1,101	59	5.4%	<u>Tc</u> II

\* Yun et al 2009 (MSF) !st Benznidazole; 2nd Nifurtimox

# PREVENC Acesso a diagnóstico e tratamento já!



www.msf.org.br

## Man is not a reservoir of any South American Leishmania

#### 14 named Leishmania species in South America infect man



















Two distinct phylogenetic groups of *Leishmania* cause Leishmaniasis in man in South America

Subgenus (*Leishmania*) - Visceral and Cutaneous 4 species

Subgenus (*Viannia*) Cutaneous 10 species

#### Estimates of annual\* incidences of Leishmaniasis in South America

Country	Estimated a	annual VI	. Incidence
Argentina	20	to	30
Bolivia	0		0
Brazil	4,200	to	6,300
Colombia	70	to	110
Paraguay	100	to	200
Venezuela	50	to	70
Total	4,440	to	6,700



Country	Estimated a	nnual CL	Incidence
Argentina	730	to	1,200
Bolivia	7,400	to	12,200
Brazil	72,800	to	119,600
Colombia	48,800	to	80,100
French Guyana	650	to	1,100
Guyana	50	to	70
Paraguay	1,200	to	2,000
Peru	17,900	to	29,500
Suriname	8	to	14
Venezuela	6,900	to	11,400
Total	156,438	to	257,184







\* Years 2004-2008 Adapted from Alvar et al 2012

Visceral Leishmaniasis due *Leishmania* (*Leishmania*) *infantum chagasi* 





Domestic/Peridomestic Zoonotic cycle



# Visceral Leishmaniasis in Brazil 2009-2011 São Paulo State 1978 - 1st autochthonous case 1997 - 2nd autochthonous case

Between 1999 and 2013

2,204 cases with 192 deaths (7.9%)

1992 India 77,102 cases 1,049 deaths (1.4%)

An alarmingly fast expansion of the vector of visceral leishmaniasis followed by the spread of the disease in dogs then man

#### Recorded distribution of *Lu.longipalpis* in São Paulo before 1997



#### L. longipalpis found in Araçatuba 1997



#### 2 years later 1999



#### 5 yrs later 2002











Casanova et al in press

## The spread of canine VL in SP



## The spread of human VL in SP



The urbanization of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Brazil \*: Adaptation of the vector to the urban environment



Harhay et al 2011



# Cutaneous Leishmaniasis



## In South America it is caused by 13 different species

Some species are rare in man others are very common

## Clinical repercussions

Very many different clinical forms that respond differently to treatment

Bolivia has the highest incidence of cutaneous & mucocutaneous leishmaniasis in the Americas being twice that of Brazil

Pando



Based on 2008 Estimates Bolivia 75 /100,000 Brazil 37 /100,000 (Brazilian Amazonia 58 /100,000!)

85% L.(V.) braziliensis



20% Mucocutaneous





# Relationship of *Leishmania* species to treatment

# A comparison of Sodium Stiboglucanate (S) & Ketoconazole (K)\*.

Parasite	S	K	
L.(V.) braziliensis	96%	30%	
L.(L.) mexicana	57%	89%	

After Navin et al., 1992

#### *L (V.) braziliensis* infections of man occur in every South American country except Chile





# Discrimination of *L. (V.) braziliensis* \* strains using microsatellite



\* Oddone et al 2009

## Where are we now?

Control measures for Chagas Disease and the different forms of Leishmaniasis are ineffective

No vaccines for these diseases suitable for use in man will be available in the foreseeable future

Presently available drugs for these diseases cause undesirable side effects and are difficult to administer

The solution: new less toxic easily administered drugs