

# AGENDA

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# LEISHMANIASIS: COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

This interdisciplinary research conference, supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health (NIH/NIAID), United States Department of Health and Human Services, will bring together regional and international scientists to discuss research opportunities on the vector biology, parasitology, immunology, epidemiology, animal reservoirs, clinical manifestations, treatment, and prevention of leishmaniasis in North Africa and the Middle East.

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## AGENDA

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### SUNDAY, 21 JUNE

14:00 – 17:00      Registration and Information Desk Open  
                                  \* For guests of the Golden Tulip only

### MONDAY, 22 JUNE

#### INSTITUT PASTEUR TUNIS MINI-SYMPOSIUM and LABORATORY VISITS

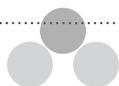
07:00                      Registration and Information Desk Open at the Golden Tulip Hotel  
(Note: a bus will depart from the Golden Tulip Hotel entrance at 08:15 a.m.)

09:30 – 12:30          Institut Pasteur de Tunis Visit and Tour of the Laboratories  
                                  Dr. Hechmi Louzir, Director  
                                  Institut Pasteur Laboratories /Leishmaniasis Work Group Team Leaders

- Dr. Afif Ben Salah (Epidemiology)
- Dr. Ikram Guizani (Molecular Tools, Population Genetics)
- Dr. Hechmi Louzir (Immunology)
- Dr. Aida Bouratbine (Diagnostic and Epidemiology)
- Dr. Lamia Guizani (Host-pathogen Interaction, Innate Immunity)
- Dr. Ali Bouatour (Entomology)
- Dr. Alia ben Kahla (Bioinformatics and Mathematical Modeling)

Participants will receive an overview of Institut Pasteur de Tunis from Dr. Hechmi Louzir, Director and a brief overview from each Leishmaniasis work group team leader followed by a visit to their respective laboratories.

12:30 – 13:30          LUNCH

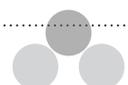


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## WORKSHOP ON FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES and CDC RESOURCES

### LARGE AUDITORIUM, INSTITUT PASTEUR

- 13:30 – 14:00      Welcome and Overview of NIH and NIAID Global Research  
*Steven T. Smith, Director of the Office of Global Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, Maryland, USA*
- 14:00 – 14:30      HHS/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Activities in the Middle East and North Africa Region  
*Barbara Herwaldt, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Parasitology, Atlanta, Georgia, USA*
- 14:30 – 15:00      NIAID Research Opportunities Related to Leishmaniasis  
*Adriana Costero, Program Officer, Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, USA*
- 15:00 – 16:00      Funding Opportunities  
*Milton Hernandez, Division of Extramural Activities, NIAID, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, USA*  
Where to Look-  
NIH Application: Submission Process and Resources  
  
The Process-  
Priority Score  
New Investigators Guidance and Resources
- 16:00 – 16:30      Fogarty International Center (FIC)  
*Barbara Sina, Division of Training and Research, Fogarty International Center, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, USA*
- 16:30 – 17:00      The Tropical Medicine Research Center of Tunis: Perspectives of an NIH/NIAID Grantee  
*Afif Ben Salah, Head of Epidemiology, Institut Pasteur de Tunis*
- 17:00 – 17:30      Additional Funding Opportunities: U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF)  
*Stuart Politi, Senior Program Manager, CRDF, Arlington, Virginia, USA*
- 17:30 – 18:30      Wrap-up All Speakers  
*Questions and Answers*
- 18:30                  Bus will depart for Golden Tulip Hotel.



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## TUESDAY, 23 JUNE

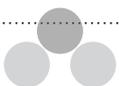
### THREE DAY SCIENTIFIC MEETING

#### GOLDEN TULIP CARTHAGE HOTEL

- 08:00 – 19:00 Registration and Information Desk Open
- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 10:00 Welcome and Opening  
*Steven Smith, Director, Office of Global Research, NIH, NIAID*  
*Hechmi Lauzir, Director, Institut Pasteur de Tunis*  
*WHO Representative*  
*Robert F. Godec, U.S. Ambassador to Tunisia*  
*His Excellency Mondher Zenaïdi, Minister of Public Health of Tunisia*
- 10:00 – 10:30 Break
- 10:30 – 11:00 Plenary Session  
**Advances in Our Understanding of Leishmaniasis as a Vector-Borne Disease**  
*David Sacks, Chief, Intracellular Parasite Biology Section*  
*Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

#### EPIDEMIOLOGY OF LEISHMANIASIS - I

- CHAIR:** Barbara Herwaldt, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
- RAPPORTEUR:** Leonard Munstermann, Yale University, School of Public Health, New Haven, Connecticut, USA
- 11:00 – 11:15 Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Tunisia: Lessons and New Challenges  
*Afif Ben-Salah, Team Leader for the Epidemiology of Leishmaniasis, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia*
- 11:15 – 11:30 Current Epidemic of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in a New Focus along the “Silk Road” in Northeastern Iran  
*Mohammad-Reza Yaghoobi-Ershadi, Professor, Tebran University of Medical Sciences, Tebran, Iran*
- 11:30 – 11:45 Expansion of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Jordan: Proper Identification and Control Concerns  
*Nawal Hijjawi, Assistant Professor, Hashemite University, Zarqa, Jordan*
- 11:45 – 12:00 Discussion
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch



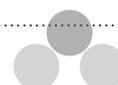
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## EPIDEMIOLOGY OF LEISHMANIASIS - II

- CHAIR:** Afif Ben-Salah, Department Head, Institute Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia  
**RAPPORTEUR:** Jeff Villinski, Head of the Molecular Biology Section, U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit # 3 (NAMRU-3), Cairo, Egypt
- 13:30 – 13:45 Risk Factors and Prevalence of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Kabul City, Afghanistan  
*Jamal Abdul Nasir Yaqubi, Leishmania and Malaria Control Program, Ministry of Health, Kabul, Afghanistan*
- 13:45 – 14:00 Epidemiology of Leishmaniasis in Libya  
*Badereddin Annajar, General Coordinator of the National Clinical Program for Leishmaniasis, National Centre for Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control, Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamabiriya*
- 14:00 – 14:15 Visceral Leishmaniasis in Tunisia: Spatial Distribution and Association with Climatic Factors  
*Aida Bouratbine, Head, research LR 05SP03, Lab of Parasitology, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia*
- 14:15 – 14:30 Overview and Future Perspectives of Leishmaniasis and Sand Fly Research in Turkey  
*Yusef Ozbel, Professor, Ege University Medical School Department of Parasitology, Bornova, Izmir, Turkey*
- 14:30 – 15:00 Discussion

## VECTORS and RESERVOIRS of LEISHMANIASIS

- CHAIR:** Mary Ann McDowell, Assistant Professor, Eck Institute for Global Health, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA  
**RAPPORTEUR:** Gregory Lanzaro, Professor, University of California, Davis, California, USA
- 15:00 – 15:15 Canine Leishmaniasis in Northern Morocco  
*Meryem Lemrani, Researcher, Institut Pasteur du Maroc, Casablanca, Morocco*
- 15:15 – 15:30 Visceral Leishmaniasis in Eastern Sudan  
*Omran Osman, Associate Professor, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan*
- 15:30 – 15:45 Genetic Diversity of *Phlebotomus orientalis* the Vector of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Sudan  
*Mo'awia Mukhtar Hassan, Assistant research Professor, Tropical Medicine Research Institute, Khartoum, Sudan*
- 15:45 – 16:00 Morphological and Taxonomical Study of Leishmaniasis Vectors in the Coastal Region of Syria  
*Samar Al Nabhas, Professor, Damascus University, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Animal Biology, Damascus, Syria*
- 16:00 – 16:15 Discussion
- 16:15 – 16:30 Break



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## TREATMENT of LEISHMANIASIS

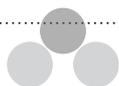
- CHAIR:** K.P. Chang, Professor, Chicago Medical School/RFUMS, North Chicago, Illinois, USA
- RAPPORTEUR:** Peter Melby, Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, USA
- 16:30 – 16:45 Emergence of Antimony-Resistant Strains of *Leishmania major* and *Leishmania killicki* in Algeria  
*Zoubir Harrat, Head of the Laboratory of Eco-epidemiologie Parasitaire, Institut Pasteur d'Algerie, Algiers, Algeria*
- 16:45 – 17:00 Comparison Between Local and Systemic Treatment in Anthroponotic Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (ACL)  
*Mohammad Reza Shirzadi, Director of the Zoonoses Department, Ministry of Health of Iran, Tehran, Iran*
- 17:00 – 17:15 *Leishmania* Myo-Inositol Transporter (MIT): Drug Delivery and Novel Therapeutic Target  
*Andreas Seyfang, Assistant Professor, University of South Florida College of Medicine, Tampa, Florida, USA*
- 17:15 – 17:30 Discussion
- 17:30 – 19:00 Poster Viewing
- 19:00 Poster Viewing and Reception

## WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE

- 08:00 – 18:00 Registration and Information Desk Open

## DIAGNOSTICS OF LEISHMANIASIS

- CHAIR:** Sima Rafati, Professor and Head of the Molecular Immunology and Vaccine Research Lab, Pasteur Institute of Iran, Tehran, Iran
- RAPPORTEUR:** Hira Nakhas, Director, Division of Emerging and Transfusion Transmitted Diseases, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- 09:00 – 09:15 Genomic Applications to Develop *Leishmania* Diagnostics and to Select *Leishmania* Candidate Targets for Control Strategies  
*Ikram Guizani, Senior Investigator and Laboratory Head, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia*
- 09:15 – 09:30 Recent Advances in Molecular Diagnostics (Leishmaniasis)  
*Abdelmajeed Nasereddin, PhD Student, Al-Quds University, East Jerusalem, Palestinian Authority*

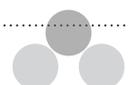


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09:30 – 09:45	Molecular Approaches to Augment Field Studies of Vector Borne Diseases <i>Jeffrey Villinski, Head of the Molecular Biology Section, Vector Biology Research Program, U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit-III, Cairo, Egypt</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Evaluation of RK39 Strip Test for the Diagnosis of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Tunisia. <i>Moncef Ben Said, Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Parasitology, Farhat Hached Hospital, Sousse, Tunisia</i>
10:15 – 10:30	Discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Break

## PATHOGENESIS and GENETICS of LEISHMANIASIS

<b>CHAIR:</b>	Stephen Beverley, Professor and Head of Molecular Microbiology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri, USA
<b>RAPPORTEUR:</b>	Mary-Ann McDowell, Assistant Professor, Eck Institute for Global Health, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, USA
11:00 – 11:15	Elucidation of Parasitic Mechanisms from Laboratory to Clinic: Epidemiologically Relevant <i>Leishmania</i> for Developing Effective Prophylactic/Therapeutic Strategies Against Leishmaniasis <i>Kwang Poo Chang, Professor, Chicago Medical School/RFUMS, North Chicago, Illinois, USA</i>
11:15 – 11:30	<i>Leishmania</i> -induced Immunomodulation of Macrophages by the Inhibition of Several Non-Coding RNA (ncRNA) Biosynthesis <i>Gautam Chaudhuri, Professor, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee, USA</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Murine Visceral Leishmaniasis: IgM and Polyclonal B Cell Activation Lead to Disease Exacerbation <i>Diane McMahon-Pratt, Professor, Yale University School of Public Health, New Haven, Connecticut, USA</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Malnutrition and Visceral Leishmaniasis <i>Peter Melby, Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas</i>
12:00 – 12:15	Genetics of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Sudan <i>Hiba Mohamed, Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan</i>
12:15 – 12:30	Sudanese <i>Leishmania donovani</i> : One Parasite, Different Diseases <i>Maowia Mukhtar, Professor, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch



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## SYSTEMATICS, POPULATION GENETICS and BIOLOGY of SAND FLIES

**CHAIR:** Richard Titus, Professor, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA  
**RAPPORTEUR:** Marcelo Ramalho-Ortigao, Assistant Professor, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA

- 14:30 – 14:45 Systematics of New World Phlebotomines: Molecular Phylogenetics Clarify Evolutionary Relationships  
*Leonard Munstermann, Senior Research Scientist, Yale University, School of Public Health, New Haven, Connecticut, USA*
- 14:45 – 15:00 Population Structure and Geographical Subdivision of the *Leishmania major* Vector *Phlebotomus papatasi* (Diptera:Psychodidae) as Revealed by Microsatellite Variation  
*Omar Hamarsheh, Assistant Professor and Research Scientist, Al-Quds University, Department of Biology, East Jerusalem, Palestinian Authority*
- 15:00 – 15:15 Sand Fly Population and Molecular Genetics  
*Gregory Lanzaro, Professor, University of California, Davis, California*
- 15:15 – 15:30 Discussion
- 15:30 – 16:00 Break

## LEISHMANIA-SAND FLY HOST INTERACTIONS

**CHAIR:** David Sacks, Chief, Intracellular Parasite Biology Section, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, NIH, NIAID, Bethesda, Maryland, USA  
**RAPPORTEUR:** Jesus Valenzuela, Chief, Vector Molecular Biology Unit, Division of Intramural Research, NIH, NIAID, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

- 16:00 – 16:15 Demonstration of a *Leishmania* Sexual Cycle in the Sand Fly Vector  
*Stephen Beverly, Professor and Head of Molecular Microbiology, University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri, USA*
- 16:15 – 16:30 Sand Fly-Leishmania Midgut Interactions  
*Marcelo Ramalho-Ortigao, Assistant Professor, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA*
- 16:30 – 16:45 The Role of Sand Flies in Leishmaniasis  
*Richard Titus, Professor, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA*
- 16:45 – 17:00 Human cellular immune response against *Phlebotomus papatasi* saliva is mediated by CD8+ T lymphocytes with Tc2 phenotype.  
*Maha Abdeladhim, Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia*
- 17:00 – 17:15 Discussion
- 18:00 Depart for Evening Tunisia Event - (Optional)  
(Participants who choose to participate in this optional event are responsible for their own costs.)

