



Texas Chagas Taskforce

Bi-Weekly
Newsletter

September 20, 2017

For more information,
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Task Force Updates:

We apologize for the lack of updates through the conclusion of the summer; we have been busy with travel and preparing for the new semester. We hope that everyone is safe and healthy after the devastating weather over the last month or so. Our hearts are with the victims of these terrible disasters.

Here are some of the key items for this update:

- **The August and September meetings were canceled:** the next meeting will focus on both the Healthcare Providers and the Veterinarians/ Entomologists as a combined meeting

October 10th, 10:30am -- Noon CST

The phone number: 1(800) 299-7631

Participant code: 8069 750#

- We are scheduled for our first **Chagas Disease in Texas Workshop for CME credit!**
Date: October 26th, 9:00am -- 1:00pm CST

Locations:

UT SPH San Antonio will host

7411 John Smith Drive, 11th floor, Room 1134, San Antonio TX 78229

ITV will be provided for Houston participants. A room at the School of Public Health in the Medical Center will be announced soon!

Registration link: <https://is.gd/oIAfBV>

Please share this widely with your networks! We will be in contact with several of you individually to help disseminate the information.

- Our Taskforce was feature in a San Antonio, Texas Public Radio story; check it out here -- **Texas Chagas Taskforce tackles kissing bug disease:**
<http://tpr.org/post/texas-chagas-taskforce-tackles-kissing-bug-disease#stream/0>
- If you know of any health care provider groups that would benefit from a presentation or grand rounds on Chagas, please contact Jerry Pacheco at Gerardo.J.Pacheco@uth.tmc.edu

Chagas Around the Web:

The following is a list of recently published stories or updates. We have not vetted each individual link, but this is to gauge the level of interest/ research going on related to Chagas disease, as captured by Google Alerts.

1. FDA approves first U.S. treatment for Chagas disease:
<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm573942.htm>
2. NPR examines efforts to get Chagas disease treatment approved in the U.S.:
<http://www.kff.org/news-summary/npr-examines-efforts-to-get-chagas-disease-treatment-approved-in-u-s/>
3. After Martin Shkreli expressed interest in a rare drug for Chagas disease, doctors banded together to bring it to market:
<https://www.scpr.org/news/2017/09/10/75495/fda-approves-drug-for-chagas-disease-after-martin/>
4. Drug for 'Neglected' Chagas disease gains FDA approval amid price worries:
<http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/09/10/547351794/drug-for-neglected-chagas-disease-gains-fda-approval-amid-price-worries>
5. Slate examines how public-private partnership allowed Chagas disease treatment to become more affordable: <http://www.kff.org/news-summary/slate-examines-how-public-private-partnership-allowed-chagas-disease-treatment-to-become-more-affordable/>
6. KalosBios to change company name to Humanigen, Inc.
<http://www.nasdaq.com/press-release/kalobios-to-change-company-name-to-humanigen-inc-20170727-02230>

7. Specialty grand challenge in pediatric infectious diseases:
<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fped.2017.00185/full>
8. FDA approves first treatment for Chagas disease in children:
<http://us.blastingnews.com/news/2017/09/fda-approves-first-treatment-for-chagas-disease-in-children-001960697.html>
9. First treatment for Chagas disease gets FDA approval:
<http://www.empr.com/news/chagas-benznidazole-trypanosoma-cruzi-parasite-american-trypanosomiasis/article/685203/>
10. Science News at a Glance-Chagas disease in border dogs:
<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/357/6352/628/tab-pdf>
11. Chagas in the Americas for public health workers; 2017:
http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13568%3Achagas-in-the-americas-for-public-health-workers-2017&catid=6648%3Afact-sheets&Itemid=40721&lang=en
12. FDA approves first U.S. treatment for Chagas disease:
<http://www.jwatch.org/fw113272/2017/08/31/fda-approves-first-us-treatment-chagas-disease>
13. PAHO launches new initiative to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of four diseases:
http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13567%3Apaho-launches-new-initiative-to-eliminate-mother-to-child-transmission-of-four-diseases&catid=740%3Apress-releases&Itemid=1926&lang=en
14. Humanigen announces completion of benznidazole bioavailability study:
<https://globenewswire.com/news->

[release/2017/08/08/1081526/0/en/Humanigen-Announces-Completion-of-Benznidazole-Bioavailability-Study.html](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35815260/)

Recent and Key Peer-Reviewed Articles:

The following is a list of recently published articles. We have not vetted each individual article, but this is to gauge the level of interest/research going on related to Chagas disease, as captured by Google/ Google Scholar.

Key Articles

1. Webber, BJ (2017). Prevalence and seroprevalence of *T. cruzi* infection in a military population in Texas. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0RDU2RGpSVmZrQ3M>
2. Edwards, M (2017). Survey of Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society Members about congenital Chagas disease. *The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal*, no full text:
http://journals.lww.com/pidj/Abstract/publishahead/Survey_of_Pediatric_Infectious_Diseases_Society.96936.aspx
3. Navarro, M (2017). Hunting hidden parasites: Trypanosoma cruzi. *The Lancet*, 290: 10096. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0QIRNVzg1ZlplM3M>
4. Meyers, AC (2017). Widespread *T. cruzi* infection in government working dogs along the Texas-Mexico border: Discordant serology, parasite genotyping and associated vectors. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0UUs0ZVp4WXFRbmM>
5. Ramos, JM (2017). Chagas disease: Opportunities for internists. *European Journal of Internal Medicine*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0OTZMWGpfUXJ3cVE>

6. Lugo-Caballero, CI (2017). Knowledge of vector borne diseases (dengue, rickettsiosis, and Chagas disease) in physicians. *Gaceta Medica de Mexico*
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0bDIFX0pHVFJ6ejA>
7. de Souza Relli (2017). Automatic counting of trypanosomatid amastigotes in infected human cells. *Computer Biology and Medicine*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0WThkTUhKUXhSMW8>
8. Simoes-Silva, MR (2017). Drug repurposing strategy against *T. cruzi* infection: In vitro and in vivo assessment of the activity of the metronidazole in mono- and combined therapy. *Biochemical Pharmacology*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0WThkTUhKUXhSMW8>
9. Rowe, M (2017). An immunosignature test distinguishes *T. cruzi*, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and West Nile virus seropositivity among asymptomatic blood donors. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Disease*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0WThkTUhKUXhSMW8>
10. Cucunuba, ZM (2017). Modeling historical changes in the force-of-interaction of Chagas disease to inform control and elimination programmes: Application in Colombia. *BMJ Global Health*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0WThkTUhKUXhSMW8>
11. Pennington PM (2017). Towards Chagas disease elimination: Neonatal screening for congenital transmission in rural communities. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0U1BreHR0djZoR2s>
12. Conners EE (2017). Chagas disease infection among migrants at the Mexico/ Guatemala border. *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.
<https://ajtmh.org/content/journals/10.4269/ajtmh.16-0777> (no free text)
13. Gerog I (2017). Evolution of anti-Trypanosoma cruzi antibody production in patients with chronic Chagas disease: Correlation between antibody titers and development of cardiac disease severity. *Neglected Tropical Diseases*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=OB0qPldVXbCD0bGhpUDVTdWJuYnM>

14. Salvador F (2017). Strongyloides stercoralis infection increases the likelihood to detect *T. cruzi* DNA in peripheral blood in Chagas disease patients. *Tropical Medicine and International Health*. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.12970/full>
15. Bastos Carvalho A (2017). Cell therapies for Chagas disease. *Cytotherapy*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0SGdsa3FiZzRoU00>
16. Arce-Fonseca M (2017). Seropositivity for *T. cruzi* in domestic dogs from Sonora, Mexico. *Infectious Diseases of Poverty*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0SGdsa3FiZzRoU00>
17. Moreira, OC (2017). Development of conventional and real-time multiplex PCR-based assays for the estimation of natural infection rates and *T. cruzi* load in triatomine vectors. *Parasites and Vectors*, 10:404. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0NVFecDhJTXYVM2M>
18. Indacochea, A (2017). Short-range responses of the kissing bug *Triatoma rubida* (Hemiptera: Reduviidae) to carbon dioxide, moisture, and artificial light. *Insects*, 8:3. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0OVZvb2M3TEN4bFE>
19. Cielo, R (2017). Chagas disease by oral transmission: Cardiovascular manifestations. *Journal of Cardiology and Current Research*, 8:1. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0aWE1UmRtbFVoNjA>
20. de Paiva Bezerra (2017). Etiological classification of stroke patients with Chagas disease using TOAST, causative classification system TOAST, and ASCOD phenotyping *Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0Y0pKSVM4ekJXakk>
21. Sinha, RTK (2017). Blood groups and transfusion transmitted diseases- are they related? *Journal of Medical Sciences and Health*, 3:2. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0Q2JSS3R1N0IDQ3c>
22. Pinazo MJ (2017). A strategy for scaling up access to comprehensive care in adults with Chagas disease in endemic countries: the Bolivian Chagas Platform. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Disease*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qPldVXbCD0eFhBRnRHeENLZHc>

23. Branquinho, R (2017). Increased body exposure to new anti-trypanosomal through nanoencapsulation. *Scientific Reports*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0RGdITl6TWg2a1k>
24. Durrance, RJ (2017). Chagas cardiomyopathy presenting as symptomatic bradycardia: An underappreciated emerging public health problem in the U.S. *Case Reports in Cardiology*. <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0OE5kR0R4aFBYUXc>
25. Conteras, MEM (2017) Chagas disease: A parasitic infection with more than 100 years of discovery. *Advanced Techniques in Clinical Microbiology*, 1 (2).
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0SVpDUUgtQjBXWjA>
26. Rojo, G (2017). Within-host temporal fluctuations of *T cruzi* discrete typing units: the case of the wild reservoir rodent *Octodon degus*. *Parasites and Vectors*, 10:380.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0bFE4akdReWJSY28>

Additional Articles

1. Camargo-Ariza, WA (2017). P5477 cardiac resynchronization therapy in patients with chronic Chagas cardiomyopathy: Six months follow up. *European Heart Journal*, 8: Suppl 1-1. No full text found.
2. Amgheben, A (2017). Accuracy of a rapid diagnostic test (Cypress Chagas Quick Test®) for the diagnosis of chronic Chagas disease in a nonendemic area: A Retrospective longitudinal study. *The Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.
3. Amgheben, A (2017). Chagas disease in the Mediterranean. *Current Tropical Medicine Reports*.
4. Cardoso, CS (2017). P5411 Benznidazole treatment is associated with *T cruzi* blood PCR negativity and less cardiac lesions in Chagas disease: HIB SaMitrop Study. *European Heart Journal*. No full text found.
5. Salvador F (2017). Case report: Successful lung transplantation from a donor seropositive for *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection to a seronegative recipient. *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. No full text found.

6. Baldissera MD (2017). Relation between acetylcholinesterase and Na⁺, K⁺ -ATPase activities with impaired memory of mice experimentally infected with *Trypanosoma cruzi*. *Microbial Pathogenesis*, 111.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0ZXNqNzV2b2tHUDg>
7. Aristeu Da Rosa J (2017). Third record of *Rhodnius amazonicus* and comparative study with *R. pictipes* (Hemiptera, Reduviidae, Triatominae). *Acta Tropica*.
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0qP1dVXbCD0eWVpbUhIWWl1NEU>
8. Billing, EM (2017). Detecting and controlling insect vectors in urban environments: Novel Bayesian methods for complex spatial data. Dissertation. No full text found.
9. Clemons, KK (2017). Lack of efficacy of liposomal amphotericin B against acute and chronic *T. cruzi* infection in mice. *The Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. No full text.
10. Orantes, LC (2017). Assessing community dynamics and colonization patterns of *Triatoma dimidiata* and other biotic factors associated with Chagas disease prevalence in Central America. Dissertation

Upcoming Presentations/Conferences:

Conference Name	Web Link	Event Date	City	State	Abstract Deadline Submission
International SOVE (Society for Vector Ecology) Congress	http://www.sove.org/	1—7 Oct	Majorca	Spain	TBD
Infectious Diseases Week 2017	http://www.idweek.org/	4—8 Oct	San Diego	California	Closed
American Public Health Association [Veterinary Public Health SPIG]	https://apha.confex.com/apha/2017/oasys.epl	4 Nov—8 Nov	Atlanta	GA	Expired
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH)	www.astmh.org/annual-meeting	5—9 Nov	Baltimore	MD	Expired
Association of Military Surgeons of the US (AMSUS)	http://www.amsusmeetings.org/call-abstracts/	28 Nov—1 Dec	National Harbor	MD	Expired
South Texas Tropical Medicine & Vector Borne Disease Conference	https://sites.google.com/site/southtexastropmed/overview	14—16	South Padre Island	TX	TBD *Speaker nomination

		Feb (2018)			deadline: 1 July
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If you have any information you would like to send to share via the bi-weekly newsletter, please contact Jerry Pacheco at SPHChagasProject@uth.tmc.edu