



Figure S1. Numbers of *L. major* parasites in inoculated ears evaluated by Q PCR (A) and flow cytometry (B). Data are presented as natural logarithms and are shown in box plot graphs where boxes display 25th-75th percentiles and horizontal line represent the median value; vertical lines represent minimum to maximum values and full circles outliers. Asterisks indicate significant difference between BALB/c mice set as reference and other species; * = $P < 0.05$; *** = $P < 0.001$.

Table S1. Weight gains in four rodent species inoculated with *L. major*.

CX, rodents inoculated with CDP; SX, rodents inoculated with SDP. *, animals dying before the end of the experiment.

P, significance of the difference between CDP and SDP groups.

Rodent species	Week p.i.	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
BALB/c mice	1	18	19	21	21	23	23	21	22	22	21	20	20
<i>P = 0.82</i>	2	18	19	21	22	22	24	22	22	21	22	20	21
	3	18	20	22	23	24	24	22	23	22	21	20	21
	4	18	21	21	23	25	23	23	23	23	21	21	22
	5	20	22	23	22	27	24	22	23	21	22	22	23
	6	20	22	23	23	25	23	23	24	22	23	23	23
	7	21	24	24	23	26	24	23	25	22	24	23	23
	8	21	23	23	23	26	24	23	24	22	21	20	21
	9	21	21	19	23	24	23	24	24	23	22	23	23
	10	22	22	22	23	24	24	24	24	24	23	22	23
	11	22	21	21	23	24	24	24	24	24	22	21	20
<i>C. griseus</i>		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8*	S1	S2	S3	S4
<i>P = 0.69</i>	1	26	32	27	26	30	27	28	27	26	26	20	26
	2	26	32	27	26	30	27	27	28	26	26	22	26
	3	26	32	27	27	29	28	28	27	25	26	22	25
	4	26	32	26	26	28	28	27	27	26	27	23	25
	5	28	33	27	27	28	29	28	27	26	26	25	23
	6	28	33	26	27	27	29	28	28	26	27	24	32
	7	29	34	26	27	27	29	28	x	26	27	24	24
	8	29	34	27	27	27	29	28	x	26	27	25	25
	9	30	35	28	26	25	30	29	x	27	28	25	26
	10	30	37	27	26	26	29	28	x	25	24	23	25
	11	28	35	25	27	27	27	26	x	26	25	26	24
	12	30	36	27	26	27	29	26	x	27	26	26	24
	13	31	37	27	27	26	29	26	x	27	28	25	26
	14	31	36	28	26	27	29	27	x	27	27	25	27
	15	30	36	27	27	27	29	27	x	27	26	26	25
<i>P. sungorus</i>		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6*
<i>P = 0.22</i>	1	35	32	38	33	29	32	30	32	30	45	26	24
	2	37	30	40	33	27	31	32	30	31	46	25	25
	3	37	32	43	30	28	30	34	33	34	45	26	26
	4	39	34	42	31	24	30	35	32	33	48	25	29
	5	41	37	44	30	21	29	37	34	32	48	23	x

6	43	36	46	29	22	28	39	36	31	48	25	x					
7	44	37	44	29	22	28	41	37	33	48	26	x					
8	45	35	46	28	20	27	43	38	32	49	25	x					
9	47	37	45	28	22	27	42	39	33	49	27	x					
10	50	37	45	27	21	27	41	43	33	48	28	x					
11	x	x	x	27	21	27	x	x	x	50	28	x					
<i>L. lagurus</i>	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	
P = 0.66	1	32	26	34	30	24	36	27	31	30	27	32	30	38	31	30	32
	2	33	27	33	31	25	37	27	30	32	25	32	31	38	31	29	33
	3	31	28	34	28	25	36	28	33	32	26	34	33	38	35	31	33
	4	30	29	33	26	26	39	29	33	31	27	33	35	39	34	33	35
	5	29	29	32	26	25	40	28	32	33	28	31	34	40	34	33	34
	6	29	28	35	26	26	40	27	34	35	28	33	33	41	33	35	34
	7	30	29	35	25	25	42	29	34	35	30	35	32	40	33	35	35
	8	30	27	34	25	25	41	29	35	34	33	37	31	39	32	36	34
	9	31	30	34	26	25	41	30	35	32	36	37	31	40	33	35	34
	10	30	32	34	26	26	40	31	36	33	39	36	32	40	33	36	34
	11	31	33	35	26	27	41	30	37	33	37	36	33	42	32	37	34
	12	33	35	34	37	25	43	30	38	35	35	36	34	44	32	39	33
	13	32	35	34	37	26	42	32	38	36	35	38	34	43	31	38	33
	14	33	34	33	36	26	41	31	39	38	34	39	33	44	31	39	34
	15	35	36	33	37	27	41	30	39	39	35	39	34	44	31	39	34

Table S2. Lesions diameters (mm) in animals inoculated with *L. major*.

Rodent species	Week p.i.	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6			
BALB/c mice	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
P = 0.97	2	0	0	0	3.9	2.3	2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	3	1	1	1	4.7	3.6	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	4	2.8	2.7	2.6	5.4	4.6	5.1	0	1	1	1	0	0			
	5	2.9	2.9	4.3	7	5.5	6	0	3.8	2.9	1	0	0			
	6	3.2	4.1	4.3	7.5	6.5	7	0	4.6	4.5	2.6	1	1			
	7	4	5	4.4	11	7.6	10	1.4	4	5.2	4.8	5.8	3			
	8	5	6.5	7.3	11	11	11	2.8	3.9	5.3	7.8	8	8			
	9	7.8	9.4	10	11	11	11	5.3	4.3	6	8	8.7	8.5			
	10	8	9.5	10	x	x	x	x	x	x	9	10	9.3			
	11	9.5	12	10.7	x	x	x	x	x	x	9.5	11.6	10			
<i>C. griseus</i>	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8*	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7*	S8*

P = 0.07	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	
	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	
	5	1.4	2.9	1.8	2.7	2.2	2.2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	
	6	2	3	2	3.5	3	3.7	2	3.8	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	
	7	2.4	3.7	2.7	5.4	3.6	4	2	x	1.2	0	0	1	0	1.8	x	0
	8	4	6.2	5.3	7	5	6	4.6	x	3	0	0	2.5	0	3	x	0
	9	4.5	5.2	4.6	10	4.3	5.5	5.6	x	2.6	0	0	2.3	1	2.5	x	1.9
	10	4.8	4.7	5	10	5	5	5.6	x	2	0	0	2	2.4	2.1	x	x
	11	6.5	5.5	5.3	10	10	7	6.5	x	2	1	0	2.5	6.5	3	x	x
	12	7	6	5.3	10	10	8.7	6.4	x	1.8	1.5	1	2.3	2.6	4.3	x	x
	13	8.5	6.7	5.7	9	8	9	8.3	x	1	3.7	1	2	1.8	4.9	x	x
	14	10	8.5	3	8.5	10	10	10	x	0	4	1	2	1	5.5	x	x
	15	11	8.7	2.3	9	11	10.3	11	x	0	5.5	0	2.1	0	6.7	x	x
P. sungorus		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6*				
P = 0.68	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	3	0	0	0	0	2.5	1	0	0	0	1	2	3				
	4	1	1	1	0	4	1.6	0	0	0	4	3.7	5.2				
	5	4.7	5.1	4	3	4.4	4.6	4.5	0	4.87	4	6.5	x				
	6	4.2	5.9	5.4	4.6	5	4.6	5.2	3.6	5.8	7.6	7.8	x				
	7	4	4.2	5.7	4.5	5.3	4.1	4.8	5	3.7	5.5	6.6	x				
	8	5.3	9	5.8	4.8	6	4.7	9	5	8	6	6.4	x				
	9	4.5	11	6	5.5	7	7	11	7	8	7.4	5	x				
	10	5.6	8.7	7	6.4	7.3	6.8	8	7.3	8.8	7	5.9	x				
	11	x	x	x	7	7.8	6.5	x	x	x	6.8	6.3	x				
L. lagurus		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8
P = 0.69	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3	0	0	0	5.3	5.6	4	3.7	4.5	0	0	0	4.6	3.8	4.1	4.3	5.6
	4	1	1	1	3.8	4.7	5.1	5.8	4.8	0	0	0	3.3	4	4	7	3.8
	5	3.16	4.3	4.5	4.1	3.3	4.1	4.6	2.3	3.3	3.2	0	3.2	4.1	5.5	6.2	4.3
	6	3	5	4.6	2.1	3.2	4.1	3.8	5.2	4.4	3.7	0	2.5	2.2	2	5.6	2.4
	7	4.2	4.2	5.7	3.5	1.6	4.7	2.7	2	4.1	3.3	3	2.2	3.6	4.5	6	2.8
	8	4.2	4.4	4.6	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.6	1.5	3.8	4	3.3	1.3	3.4	4.4	4.4	2.8
	9	4.5	5	4.2	1.5	1.5	2	1.9	1	6	6	0	0	1.8	4	4.5	2.6
	10	3.5	4.5	3.5	1.2	1.2	2	1.5	1.2	5.3	5	0	0	2	3.9	4.3	2.3
	11	3.4	4.3	3	1	1	1.2	1	1	5	4.3	0	0	1.5	3.8	4	2
	12	3.1	4.1	2.7	1	1	1	1	1	4.6	4	0	0	1	2.3	2.5	1
	13	3	4	2.1	1	0	0	0	0	4	3.5	0	0	0	2	2	1
	14	2.8	3.9	1.4	0	0	0	0	0	3	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

CX, rodents inoculated with CDP, SX, rodents inoculated with SDP. *, animals dying before the end of the experiment.
P, significance of the difference between CDP and SDP groups.

Table S3. *Leishmania* loads and distribution determined by qPCR in animals inoculated with *L. major*.

Rodent species	Tissues and organs	CDP						SDP						Tissues and organs						CDP						SDP						
		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5*	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	<i>C. griseus</i>	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8*	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7*	S8*		
BALB/c mice	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	IE	++	++	+	+++	++++	++	++	+	++	+++	++	++	IE	+++	+++	+++	++	0	++	++	0	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	
	CE	0	0	+	++	++	0	0	0	0	++	++	++	CE	++	++	0	++	0	++	+++	NA	++	++	+	++	+	+	0	0	0	
	LN-IE	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	++	LN-IE	+++	+++	+++	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	++	+++	+++	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
	LN-CE	0	0	+	0	++	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	LN-CE	++	++	++	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	++	++	0	NA	0	NA	NA	0
	FP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	FP	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	0	++	0	0	
	HP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HP	++	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	
	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	T	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	
	L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	L	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	
	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	S	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	++	0	0	
<i>P. sungorus</i>	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6*	<i>L. lagurus</i>	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	C7	C8			
	B	0	0	+	++	++	0	0	0	++	+	0	N A	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	IE	+++	++	+++	+++	++	+++	++	+++	+++	++	N A	IE	++	++	+++	+	+	+	+	+	++	+++	+++	++	++	+	+	+	++		
	CE	++	++	0	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	++	A	CE	+	++	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	
	LN-IE	++	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	++	N A	LN-IE	0	+++	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0		
	LN-CE	0	++	++	++	+	+	++	++	++	0	0	N A	LN-CE	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	FP	0	++	0	0	++	++	+	0	++	+++	++	N A	FP	+	++	+++	0	0	0	0	+	++	++	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	HP	0	+	0	++	++	++	0	++	+	++	++	N A	HP	++	0	+++	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	T	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	0	+	++	++	N A	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	L	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	N A	L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	S	++	0	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	0	0	A	S	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

CDP - Rodents inoculated with culture-derived parasites; SDP - rodents inoculated with sand fly-derived parasites. *: animals dying before the end of the experiment.

NA, not analyzed. IE, inoculated ear; CE, contralateral ear; LN-IE, draining lymph nodes of the inoculated ear; LN-CE, draining lymph nodes of the contralateral ear; FP, forepaws; HP, hindpaws; T, tail; L, liver; S, spleen; B, blood; +, < 10³ parasites; ++, ≥ 10³ and < 10⁵ parasites; +++, ≥ 10⁵ and < 10⁷ parasites; +++, ≥ 10⁷ parasites.

Table S4: Weight gains in four rodent species inoculated with *L.donovani*.

Rodent species	Week p.i.	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8
BALB/c mice	1	22	22	22	26	25	25	25	26	22	22	22	25	25	25	25	25
<i>P = 0.50</i>	2	22	23	22	26	26	26	26	26	22	23	22	26	26	26	26	26
	3	22	23	22	27	26	29	26	27	22	23	22	26	26	26	26	26
	4	23	23	23	27	26	27	26	27	23	23	23	25	26	26	27	25
	5	24	24	24	27	27	29	27	27	24	24	24	25	25	27	26	25
	6	24	24	25	27	28	30	28	27	24	24	25	26	27	27	27	26
	7	25	25	25	28	28	30	28	28	25	25	25	26	28	28	27	26
	8	25	25	26	28	29	31	28	28	25	25	26	27	28	28	28	27
	9	25	24	26	28	29	31	28	28	25	24	26	27	28	29	28	27
	10	24	26	25	28	29	31	27	28	24	26	25	27	28	29	28	27
	11	25	26	26	28	29	31	27	28	25	26	26	27	28	29	28	27
	12	25	26	26	28	29	31	28	28	25	26	26	27	28	29	28	27
	13	25	25	26	29	29	31	28	29	25	25	26	27	29	30	29	27
	14	25	26	27	29	29	31	28	29	25	26	27	27	29	30	29	27
	15	25	26	27	29	29	31	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	29	29	28
	16	x	x	x	29	29	31	27	29	x	x	x	27	27	29	29	27
	17	x	x	x	29	29	31	28	29	x	x	x	27	28	29	29	27
	18	x	x	x	29	29	31	29	29	x	x	x	27	28	30	28	27
	19	x	x	x	29	29	31	29	29	x	x	x	28	28	30	29	28
	20	x	x	x	29	29	31	29	29	x	x	x	28	28	30	29	28
	21	x	x	x	29	29	31	29	29	x	x	x	28	28	30	29	28
	22	x	x	x	29	29	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	28	30	29	28
	23	x	x	x	29	29	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	29	30	30	28
	24	x	x	x	29	29	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	29	31	30	28
	25	x	x	x	29	x	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	29	31	30	28
	26	x	x	x	29	x	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	29	31	30	28
	27	x	x	x	29	x	31	30	29	x	x	x	28	29	31	30	28
	28	x	x	x	29	x	31	x	29	x	x	x	28	30	31	30	28
	29	x	x	x	29	x	31	x	29	x	x	x	28	30	31	30	28
	30	x	x	x	29	x	31	x	29	x	x	x	28	30	31	30	28
Chinese hamsters		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8
<i>P = 0.70</i>	1	42	35	35	34	42	37	39	34	37	43	41	37	34	39	33	37
	2	42	35	36	34	42	37	40	34	37	43	41	38	36	39	34	38
	3	43	35	36	35	42	37	41	35	37	43	42	39	36	39	34	39
	4	42	36	37	36	42	37	40	36	36	43	42	38	37	38	34	38
	5	42	36	36	37	41	37	42	37	36	43	42	38	36	39	35	38
	6	42	36	38	37	42	37	42	37	36	43	43	38	36	39	36	38
	7	41	35	35	37	42	37	42	37	35	41	42	39	37	39	37	39
	8	42	36	37	38	42	37	42	38	36	43	43	39	37	39	37	39
	9	43	37	36	38	43	37	41	38	37	44	44	39	37	39	37	39

10	43	37	37	38	43	37	41	38	38	43	44	39	37	39	37	39
11	44	38	38	38	43	37	41	38	38	44	43	39	37	39	37	39
12	44	38	38	38	43	37	41	38	38	45	43	39	37	39	37	39
13	44	38	37	38	43	37	41	38	39	44	43	39	37	39	37	39
14	44	40	39	38	43	37	41	38	40	45	44	39	37	39	37	39
15	45	45	42	40	45	39	42	40	42	45	45	42	39	41	37	42
16	x	x	x	39	44	39	41	39	x	x	x	40	38	40	37	40
17	x	x	x	39	44	39	41	39	x	x	x	40	38	40	37	40
18	x	x	x	39	44	39	41	39	x	x	x	40	38	40	37	40
19	x	x	x	39	44	39	41	39	x	x	x	40	37	40	38	40
20	x	x	x	39	44	38	42	39	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
21	x	x	x	39	44	38	42	39	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
22	x	x	x	39	44	38	42	39	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
23	x	x	x	39	45	38	42	39	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
24	x	x	x	39	45	38	42	39	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
25	x	x	x	40	45	38	42	40	x	x	x	41	37	40	38	41
26	x	x	x	40	45	37	42	40	x	x	x	41	37	41	38	41
27	x	x	x	40	45	37	42	40	x	x	x	41	37	41	39	41
28	x	x	x	40	45	37	42	40	x	x	x	41	37	41	39	41
29	x	x	x	40	45	37	42	40	x	x	x	41	37	41	39	41
30	x	x	x	40	45	37	42	40	x	x	x	41	38	41	39	41
M. auratus	C1	C2	C3	C4*	C5*	C6*	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6				
P = 0.20	1	120	142	194	174	170	180	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	2	131	145	196	178	172	183	136	140	140	135	137	132			
	3	138	147	197	179	173	184	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	4	145	152	200	181	176	188	144	146	155	145	143	144			
	5	154	155	210	183	177	198	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	6	160	159	212	185	180	199	167	154	160	159	157	150			
	7	163	161	216	189	185	202	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	8	171	166	214	191	190	202	170	162	163	166	166	159			
	9	175	169	209	193	198	202	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	10	183	173	210	187	200	202	175	168	170	172	180	166			
	11	195	180	201	201	201	202	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	12	196	180	208	202	202	203	183	185	177	177	180	173			
	13	199	180	214	202	203	204	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	14	200	181	215	205	205	205	190	186	176	184	175	174			
	15	200	181	216	206	206	205	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	16	200	182	220	207	206	206	192	186	177	185	177	175			
	17	202	183	220	207	206	209	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	18	205	184	221	206	206	215	192	188	180	190	180	181			
	19	206	184	221	207	207	214	x	x	x	x	x	x			
	20	206	184	221	206	213	215	196	196	184	197	189	188			
	21	206	184	222	208	213	217	x	x	x	x	x	x			

22	210	186	221	209	213	220	200	197	189	201	192	189
23	211	187	221	210	213	220	x	x	x	x	x	x
24	214	187	222	213	213	220	200	198	189	201	194	190
25	214	187	222	215	213	220	x	x	x	x	x	x
26	214	187	222	215	213	220	200	202	190	200	192	190
27	214	190	222	217	215	220	x	x	x	x	x	x
28	214	190	222	218	216	220	200	202	198	200	196	194
29	214	193	222	219	219	220	x	x	x	x	x	x
30	214	192	222	221	221	220	206	202	198	200	196	194
L. lagurus	C1	C2	C3	C4*	C5*	C6*	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
P = 0.17	1	31	29	25	30	30	21	x	x	x	x	x
	2	32	31	25	31	33	23	22	24	23	22	26
	3	35	33	26	33	36	25	x	x	x	x	x
	4	36	36	27	34	39	26	26	29	28	26	30
	5	41	38	27	35	41	27	x	x	x	x	x
	6	38	39	29	34	40	33	32	30	34	33	35
	7	36	40	30	34	40	38	x	x	x	x	x
	8	39	42	33	35	40	40	30	32	34	35	37
	9	41	42	34	36	41	41	x	x	x	x	x
	10	42	42	34	36	41	42	33	35	35	39	39
	11	45	44	36	36	43	42	x	x	x	x	x
	12	45	44	36	38	43	42	39	38	36	40	35
	13	45	44	36	39	43	42	x	x	x	x	x
	14	45	44	36	40	43	42	40	38	37	40	35
	15	45	44	36	40	43	42	x	x	x	x	x
	16	45	45	36	42	43	42	44	38	40	39	35
	17	48	44	37	43	44	43	x	x	x	x	x
	18	49	43	38	44	46	43	43	39	40	40	37
	19	50	43	39	44	45	43	x	x	x	x	x
	20	50	45	38	44	45	43	42	38	40	40	38
	21	50	45	38	44	45	43	x	x	x	x	x
	22	50	44	38	44	45	43	46	39	40	40	38
	23	50	44	39	44	47	43	x	x	x	x	x
	24	50	44	39	44	46	44	46	39	40	41	37
	25	49	46	40	44	45	44	x	x	x	x	x
	26	49	46	40	44	47	44	47	44	41	43	40
	27	50	46	40	44	47	44	x	x	x	x	x
	28	50	46	40	44	46	44	46	44	42	45	41
	29	50	46	40	44	46	44	x	x	x	x	x
	30	50	46	40	44	46	44	47	45	43	45	40

CX, rodents inoculated with CDP, SX, rodents inoculated with SDP. *, animals inoculated with 10^5 parasites. P, significance of the difference between CDP and SDP groups in weight gains.

Table S5. *Leishmania* loads and distribution determined by qPCR in animals inoculated with *L. donovani*.

Rodent species	Tissues and organs		10 ⁷ CDP							SDP							Tissues and organs		10 ⁷ CDP							10 ⁵ CDP							SDP										
			C1	C2	C3	C4	C5*	C6	C7*	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7			C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6													
BALB/c mice <i>P</i> = 0.27	B	0	0	0	0	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>M. auratus</i> <i>P</i> = 1.00		B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	IE	+	0	+	+	NA	+	NA		+	+	0	+	0	+	0	IE		+	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			
	CE	0	0	0	+	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	+	CE		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
	LN-IE	0	0	+	+	NA	+	NA		+	0	0	0	0	0	+	LN-IE		0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	LN-CE	0	0	0	+	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	+	LN-CE		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	FP	0	0	0	+	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	FP		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	HP	0	0	0	+	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	+	HP		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	T	0	0	0	0	NA	0	NA		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	T		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	L	0	0	0	++	NA	+	NA		0	0	0	+	0	++	0	L		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	S	0	0	+	+	NA	+	NA		+	0	0	+	0	+	0	S		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>C griseus</i> <i>P</i> = 0.51	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7		S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	<i>L. lagurus</i> <i>P</i> = 0.21		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6														
	B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	B		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	IE	+	0	+	+	0	+++	+	+	+	+	+	++	+++	++	0	IE		+	+++	+++	+	0	0	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	
	CE	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	CE		+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	++	0	
	LN-IE	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	+	+	+	0	++	++	++	0	LN-IE		+	++	++	0	0	0	+	++	0	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++		
	LN-CE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	LN-CE		0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	
	FP	0	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	+	0	+	++	0	0	FP		+	++	++	+	0	0	++	+	+	0	0	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++		
	HP	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	HP		+	++	+++	0	0	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	++	++	0	++	++	0	++	++	0	++	++	0	
	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	T		0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	
	L	++	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	++	0	++	++	++	0	L		+	+++	++	+	0	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	
	S	+	+	++	0	0	0	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	+++	0	S		++	+++	+++	+	0	0	+++	++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	+++	+++	0	

10^7 CDP - Rodents inoculated with 10^7 culture-derived parasites, 10^5 CDP - Rodents inoculated with 10^5 culture-derived parasites, SDP - rodents inoculated with sand fly -derived parasites. *, animals dying before the end of the experiment. NA, not analyzed; IE, inoculated ear; CE, contralateral ear; LN-IE, draining lymph nodes of the inoculated ear; LN-CE, draining lymph nodes of the contralateral ear; FP, forepaws; HP, hindpaws; T, tail; L, liver; S, spleen; B, blood; +, $< 10^3$ parasites; ++, 10^3 - 10^4 parasites; +++, $> 10^4$ parasites. P, significance of the difference between CDP and 10^7 SDP groups.

