Special Issue

Molecular Surveillance and New Diagnostic Tests for Leishmaniasis

Message from the Guest Editors

The World Health Organization's defined road map (2021-2030) for control and/or elimination of NTDs and specific goals for leishmaniasis recognizes that diagnostics plays a central role in the achievement of such goals. The laboratory tests currently available for the diagnosis of TL and VL do not provide sufficient accuracy to be considered the gold standard. Among diagnostic tests, PCR techniques have been applied for leishmaniasis diagnosis with remarkable accuracy. However, generally, molecular tools require advanced laboratory facilities, making them difficult to implement in remote areas from high leishmaniasis-burden countries. The development or improvement of molecular tests is essential not only for the diagnosis of leishmaniasis but also for the implementation of molecular surveillance. There are still few initiatives for molecular surveillance of leishmaniasis. This Special Issue aims to publish original articles, reviews and minireviews, case reports, and short communications that are related to the development or improvement of molecular tests for the diagnosis of human and animal leishmaniasis and molecular surveillance of leishmaniasis.

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