

Poster 5

Oral transmission of Chagas disease, first reported outbreak in Bolivia

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Introduction: Chagas disease outbreak occurred in Bolivia in October 2010 in the Amazon region of Guayaramerin, Beni, Bolivia.

Objectives: Epidemiological study of the origin of the transmission and characterization of *Trypanosoma cruzi* strains.

Material and methods: Cases were diagnosed from thick and thin smears samples and confirmed by PCR after parasite cultivation.

Results: The epidemiological monitoring deduced that all cases were orally infected through the consumption of juice from the fruit of Majo palm tree (*Euterpe oleracea*) which was the only common element in all cases. All cases showed high parasitaemia, fever > 40° C, lymphocytosis, eosinophilia, elevated transaminase levels corresponding to a characteristic clinical profile of acute infection by *Trypanosoma cruzi*. At about day 20 after infection, specific treatment was initiated with benznidazole for 60 days. Serological and parasitological follow up showed the clearance of circulating parasites and rising titer of IgG antibodies to *Trypanosoma cruzi*. The monitoring continued until September 2011 (10 months) totalizing 8 controls and ending to the decrease of antibody titers and absence of specific DNA by PCR in all cases. Isolation of parasites was obtained from the first samples through in vitro culture from which was determined by PCR the presence of DTU IV in every case.

II

WORKSHOP INTERNACIONAL DE LA ENFERMEDAD DE CHAGAS, VECTORES TRIATOMINOS, *Trypanosoma cruzi* Y TRIATOMA VIRUS



LIBRO DE RESÚMENES

Del 17 al 20 de SEPTIEMBRE DEL 2012

COCHABAMBA - BOLIVIA

**II International Workshop on Chagas Disease,
triatomine vectors,
Trypanosoma cruzi, and Triatoma virus**



II International Workshop on Chagas Disease, triatomine vectors, *Trypanosoma cruzi*, and *Triatoma* virus

In memoriam of Dr François Noireau

Facultad de Medicina, IIBISMED-CUMETROP, Universidad Mayor de San Simón,
Cochabamba, Bolivia

September 17-20, 2012

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Official languages

- English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Sponsors

- Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Facultad de Medicina, Bolivia (UMSS); CYTED-RedTrV (Acción 209RT0364); Fundación Biofísica Bizkaia (FBB), CSIC I-COOP0080, Gobierno Vasco MV-2012-2-41, Spain; Instituto Pasteur Montevideo, Uruguay; Instituto de Investigaciones para el Desarrollo (IRD); France Coopération Internationale, Délégations Régionales de Coopération Cône Sud, Brésil, Pays Andins, France.

Workshop objectives

- To inform interested stakeholders about the current Chagas disease burden and control strategies.
- To discuss current and future methods and technologies oriented to control triatomines and other insect vectors.
- To get feedback from associations, industry sector, and research organizations about using *Triatoma* virus as biological control agent.
- To assess research needs and cooperation opportunities between scientists working on human and animal trypanosomiasis, insect vectors and viruses.

Acknowledgements: The Organizing Committee would like to thank the sponsoring organizations for their contributions in support of this symposium.