A researcher identifies the parasites responsible for Chagas and Leishmaniasis epidemics

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A researcher identifies the parasites responsible for Chagas and Leishmaniasis epidemics



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Parasite :: A researcher identifies the parasites responsible for Chagas and Leishmania: epidemics

Parasites must be correctly identified before the correct treatment is introduced. To do so, we need a cheap technique that enables us to obtain the necessary results in our studies, especially in under d countries where there are no proper infrastructures.

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The Department of Parasitology of University of Granada, and the researcher Isabel Rodríguez Gonzá submitted a thesis that analyses for the first time new isolated parasites: Leishmania and Trypanosoma Mexico and Spain. These parasites are responsible for diseases such as Chagas – which affects at least 1 people in South America – and Leishmaniasis – which affects around 12 million people throughout the w World Health Organization has recognised these diseases as a public health problem.

This study has compared these parasites with reference strains, by using biochemical and molecular tec Thanks to these techniques, the researcher was able to identify which groups these isolated parasites bel

No medical treatment

The researcher pointed out: "There is no specific treatment yet. Medicines that are used may have consequences. Their efficiency varies, because they are long and expensive treatments often associa toxic effects." Some species of these parasites need no treatment, others do.

"If we want to find a specific treatment, the first step we have to take is to correctly identify these speci is also of epidemiological value to understand parasite distribution, and is aimed at discovering specifi measures.

Another important feature of the study is the usefulness of one of the techniques used: PCR (Polymera Reaction). It is a relatively simple technique, cheap in comparison with others. PCR makes it possible to the isolated parasites in field studies.

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(Last updated on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, and first posted on Monday, June 4, 2007)