

Cutaneous leishmaniasis situation at present and the way of ahead

Cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL) as an important public health concern in many parts of the world (Africa, Indian subcontinent, eastern and southern west of Asia).^[1] The leishmaniasis is present in at least 98 countries and territories, with 1.2 million new cases per year, making it a worldwide concern.^[2] There are three forms of leishmaniasis: cutaneous, mucocutaneous, and visceral leishmaniasis. Among these, cutaneous leishmaniasis is more prevalent, particularly, in the tropical and semitropical parts of the world.^[3] The disease could be transmitted to human via different female sand flies, particularly *Phlebotomus papatasi* and *Phlebotomus sergenti*.^[4] Depending on the area and location, different animals are sources of infection, particularly dogs and rodents.^[5,6] Human-to-human transmission via female blood sucking is also possible. The disease has ancient history and different Islamic and Iranian physicians like Avicenna (described in the 10th century AD) have mentioned that in their books.^[7] Many researches have been focused in different aspects of the disease, particularly preparation of vaccine like KLM (kill leishmaniasis vaccine),^[8-14] vector control,^[15,16] and treatment.^[17]

Unfortunately, it should be emphasized that there is no good news from all researches for public yet. There is no effective candidate vaccine in spite of many works in different countries under supervision of WHO, and vector is very hard and costly and there is no 100% effective medicine for the patients at present. Still much works needs to be done and problems overcome. However, leishmanization (use of alive parasite under standard preparation) is only way used in different infected countries in order to control the infection. In our study, the program was effective nearly 86%.^[18-20] Its standard preparation needs to be improved to possibly increase its effective percentage too. It is good for international health organization to support the program at present time while other control measures become available.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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