Parasitic infections have a worldwide distribution with high prevalence in tropical settings. Europe clinicians have to deal with both endemic parasitic infections in Europe and imported parasitic diseases. In daily practice diagnostics and treatment of intestinal parasites, malaria and toxoplasmosis are of main importance. Immunosuppression and changes of prevalence of parasites due to different factors, like global warming, increased the awareness of parasites and this process with probably continue.

The ESCMID study group for clinical parasitology has been founded in 2007 and has now more than 75 members from all European countries.

The study group aims to provide information and shed light on the following subjects:

1. Provide information about the prevalence of parasitic infections in different parts of Europe;
2. Provide information on clinical policies and practices within Europe;
3. Provide comparisons of diagnostic performances of different assays including quality control
4. Provide information on parasitic infections in immuno-compromised patients

Activities:
In 2018 ESGCP organizes,

- ESCMID course: ESCMID/ASID Course on Infectious Diseases in Pregnant Women, Fetuses and Newborns. Sydney, Australia, 6 - 8 September 2018; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Clinical Parasitology - ESGCP

- In 2018 (co-)organizes at ECCMID:
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Educational Workshop (2 hours) (Accepted); Syndromic approach to returning travellers; co-arranged with: ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology, ESGITM - ESCMID SG for Infections in Travellers and Migrants.
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Educational Workshop (2 hours) (Accepted); Zoonoses - current and future concerns; co-arranged with: ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology.
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Meet-the-Expert (Accepted): How to adapt malaria prevention guidelines for travellers in an era of falling cases; co-arranged with: ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology.
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (1 hour) (Accepted); Top papers in neglected tropical diseases; co-arranged with: ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology.
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Accepted); Emerging and reemerging water-borne pathogens; co-arranged with: EFWSG - ESCMID Food- and Water-borne Infections SG, ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology, ESGMYC - ESCMID SG for Mycobacterial Infections, Société Française de Microbiologie, ESGLI - ESCMID SG for Legionella Infections.
  - ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Accepted); News in malaria treatment and control; co-arranged with: ESGCP - ESCMID SG for Clinical Parasitology, TAE

Funded research projects:

- Leishmania Project (P307-1) Improving and harmonising Leishmania molecular diagnostics in Europe (project and publication completed)
- Toxoplasma Project: Reviewing prevention measures and evaluating the burden of toxoplasmosis in transplant patients in European countries.
- Malaria Project (9982): Molecular epidemiology of Plasmodium vivax in the Sultanate of Oman (planned to run until Jan 2019)

Participants PGEC course Al Ain, March 2016

For more information about the studygroup www.escmid.org/esgcp