Parasitic infections have a world-wide distribution with high prevalence in tropical settings. European 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 90 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 organized,
- ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course ESCMID/ASID Course on Infectious Diseases in Pregnant Women, Fetuses and Newborns, Sydney, Australia, September 16-18, 2018
- And presented on behalf of the Study Group at scientific meetings:
  - XXXVIII Turkish Microbiology Congress November 04-08, 2018, Antalya, Turkey. International Symposium on Migration, Travel & Infection; http://tmc2018.org/eng/?p=7kasim
  - Conference on antimicrobial resistance from bench to practice. 26 – 27 September 2018, Havana, Cuba; http://www.antimicrobialresistancecuba.com

Planned activities:
- VI International Congress in Congenital Toxoplasmosis, Matera, Italy, September, 2019
- Invited paper “Review about malaria in immune vs non-immune in imported malaria” to be submitted on CMR by February 2019
- Toxoplasma European Multicenter Project

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)

Papers published:
GENETIC DIVERSITY OF PLASMODIUM VIVAX METACASPASE 1 AND PLASMODIUM VIVAX MULTI-DRUG RESISTANCE 1 GENES OF FIELD ISOLATES FROM MAURITANIA, SUDAN AND OMAN. Sow et al. (published in Malaria Journal 2017 16:61)

ESCGP has 6 subgroups with the topics:
- Intestinal Parasites
- Malaria
- Leishmania
- Echinococcus
- Toxoplasma
- Trypanosoma cruzi

Join us and present your ideas! Please contact the secretary lc.ronnberg@gmail.com

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

Activities:
In 2019 (co-)organizes at ECCMID:
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam Educational Workshop: Update on travel vaccines and prophylaxis; co-arranged with: Trainees Association of ESCMID (TAE) and the ESCMID Study Group ESGITM
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam Symposium: Global health: Asian update
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam Symposium: Top papers in neglected tropical diseases and migrant health; co-arranged with: ESGCP and the ESGITM
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam MiniOral Flash sessions: Parasites on the move
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam Oral sessions: Treatment of parasitic infections
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam MiniOral ePoster sessions: Biomarker and molecular diagnosis of parasitic diseases
- ECCMID 2019 Amsterdam 2-hour Oral Session: Focus on malaria