

## Neglected Parasitic Diseases

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### Summary

The World Health Organisation lists six neglected tropical diseases, five of which are caused by parasites. But parasites are by no means confined to the tropics as, for example, leishmaniasis and cystic hydatid disease are both endemic to Europe and result in significant morbidity there. Thus, specialists in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases, wherever they work, need a sound working knowledge of clinical parasitology. In 2007, ESCMID formed the ESCMID Study Group for Clinical Parasitology (ESGCP) in order to improve awareness, research and teaching in this sub-speciality.

This presentation will discuss current issues in the diagnosis and management of cutaneous leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis, strongyloidiasis and cystic hydatid disease as seen in clinical and laboratory practice in Europe.

### Recommended reading

#### Cutaneous Leishmaniasis

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### **Strongyloidiasis**

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Sudarshi S, Stümpfle R, Armstrong M, Ellman T, Parton S, Krishnan P, Chiodini PL, Whitty CJ. Clinical presentation and diagnostic sensitivity of laboratory tests for *Strongyloides stercoralis* in travellers compared with immigrants in a non-endemic country. *Trop Med Int Health*. 2003; 8(8):728-32.

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Turner SA, Maclean JD, Fleckenstein L, Greenaway C. Parenteral administration of ivermectin in a patient with disseminated strongyloidiasis. *Am J Trop Med Hyg*. 2005;73(5):911-4.

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### **Hydatid Disease**

Junghanss T, Menezes Da Silva A, Horton J, Chiodini PL, Brunetti E. The Clinical Management of Cystic Echinococcosis: State Of The Art, Problems and Perspectives. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. In press.

WHO/OIE Manual on Echinococcosis in Humans and Animals: a Public Health Problem of Global Concern. Ed. Eckert J, Gemmell MA, Meslin FX and Pawlowski ZS. World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties) and World Health Organisation, 2001.

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