

Visceral Leishmaniasis Strategy

Kampala, 03rd October 2018

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*



Leishmaniasis: unmet medical needs

VL



- Disease of poverty
- Multiple manifestations
- Inadequate treatments
- Targeted by WHO and SDGs

Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL)

- 50,000 – 90,000 cases/year
- > 50% are children
- 82 countries worldwide
- 20,000 - 30,000 deaths/year
- 556 million at risk in high burden countries

CL

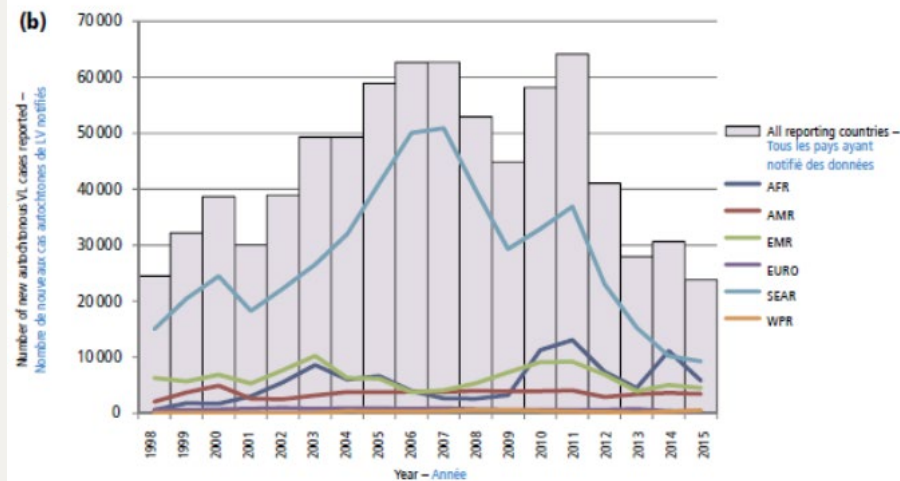
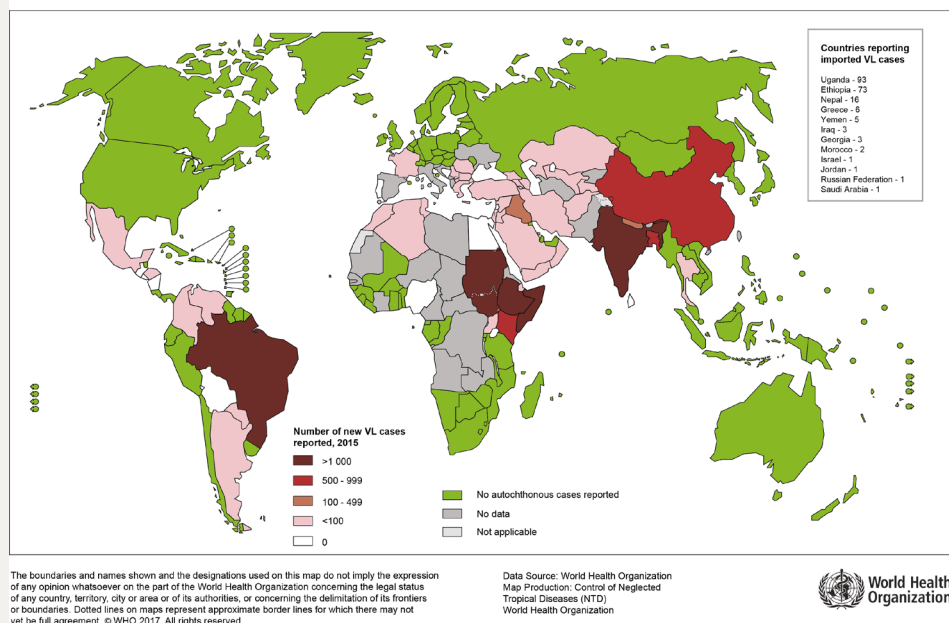


Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL)

- 900,000 –1,200,000 cases/year
- 91 countries worldwide
- 399 million at risk in high burden countries
- Social stigmatization

Three epidemiological hot-spots for VL

Status of endemicity of visceral leishmaniasis worldwide, 2015



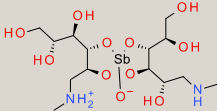
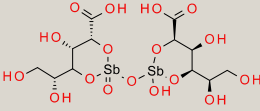
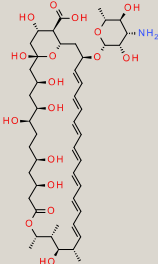
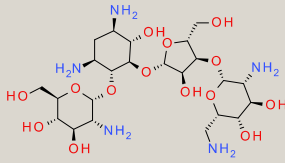
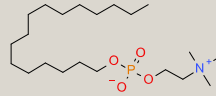
	WHO country profile, 2004-2008		WHO report, high-burden countries, 2014	
Region	Cases reported/year	Estimated annual	Cases reported/year	Estimated annual
Latin America	3,661	5,000 to 7,000	3,571	not informed
Eastern Africa	8,569	30,000 to 40,000	16,413	24,157 to 41,813
Indian subcontinent	42,619	160,000 to 320,000	10,311	12,373 to 13,015

Alvar et al, 2012; PLOS One 7(5): e35671

WHO WER (38) 2017, 92: 557-572

Current drugs for leishmaniasis

- Variable efficacy, serious toxicities, only one is oral & rest are painful iv/im
- Urgent need for new effective, safe, and convenient treatments

				
MW 525, clogP -3.8	MW 664, clogP -4.2	MW 924, clogP -2.3	MW 616, clogP -6.1	MW 409, clogP +1.3
Meglumine antimoniate	Sodium Stibogluconate (SSG)	Liposomal Amphotericin B	Paromomycin sulfate	Miltefosine
Slow iv or im infusion	Slow iv or im infusion	2h iv infusion	im	po
20mg/kg/day, 30 days	20mg/kg/day, 30 days	10-30mg/kg total, 1-10 days	15-20mg/kg/day, 21D	1.5-2.0mg/kg/day, 28D
35-95% depending on area, resistance in India	35-95% depending on area, resistance in India	>95% efficacy in India, variable response in Africa	93-95% India 64-85% Africa	94-97% India 60-80% Africa
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • painful injections • cardiotoxicity • hepatotoxicity • Pancreatitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • painful injections • cardiotoxicity • hepatotoxicity • Pancreatitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rigor & chills • nephrotoxicity • hypokalemia • Anaphylaxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • painful injections • nephrotoxicity • hepatotoxicity • Ototoxicity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teratogenic • gastrointestinal toxicity • hepatotoxicity

Current treatments/region

Efficacy at 6 months post-treatment is indicated

90% in just 7 countries:
Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya, India, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan

BRAZIL

- *1st line treatment:* Glucantime (77.5%)
- *2nd line treatment:* AmBisome® (87.2%)

SOUTH ASIA

- *1st line treatment:* Single dose AmBisome® (91.4%)
- *2nd line treatment:* PM+MF (96.9%)

EAST AFRICA

- *1st line treatment:* SSG&PM (91.4%)
- *2nd line treatment:* AmBisome® (85%) or SSG (93.9%)

Large variations in efficacy of the same treatment from region to region

	Monotherapies					Combination therapies				
	SSG or MA	LAB (20-21 mg/Kg)	LAB (SD, 10 mg/Kg)	MF (2.5mg/Kg/d x 28 days)	PM (15mg/Kg/d x 21 days)	SSG-PM	LAB + SSG or LAB+MA	LAB + MF	PM + MF	LAB + MF
Asia	35 - 95%	> 95%	≥ 95%	90-94%	94.6%	NA	NA	> 97%	> 97%	> 97%
Eastern Africa	93.7%	85% (71-100%)	58% (33-100%)	72%	63.8% (14 - 96%)	91%	87%	77%	Phase III trial ongoing	NA
Latin America	77.5%	87.2%	NA	43% (67% for 42d)	NA	NA	83.9%	NA	NA	NA

SSG: sodium stibogluconate

MA: meglumine antimoniate

LAB: liposomal amphotericin B

PM: paromomycin

MF: miltefosine





DNDi R&D Portfolio, Leishmaniasis — June 2018

Long-term strategy:

Development of new field-adapted oral combination treatments with NCEs

Short-term strategy:

Improving treatments with existing tools

 Research				 Translation		 Development		 Implementation
Screen	Hit to Lead	Lead Opt.	Pre-clinical	Phase I	Phase IIa/PoC	Phase IIb/III	Registration	Access
Screening	Leish H2L	DNDI-5421 ★ DNDI-5610	DNDI-6148 ★			New Treatments for HIV/VL		SSG&PM Africa
	Booster H2L	Amino pyrazoles ★	DNDI-0690 ★			New Treatments for PKDL		
	Daiichi-Sankyo LH2L	CGH VL Series 1 ★ Leish L205 Series ★	GSK3186899 ★ DDD853651 ★ GSK3494245 ★ DDD1305143 ★ CpG-D35 (CL) ★		New CL Combination	MF/Paromomycin Combo for Africa	New VL Treatments Latin America	New VL Treatments Asia

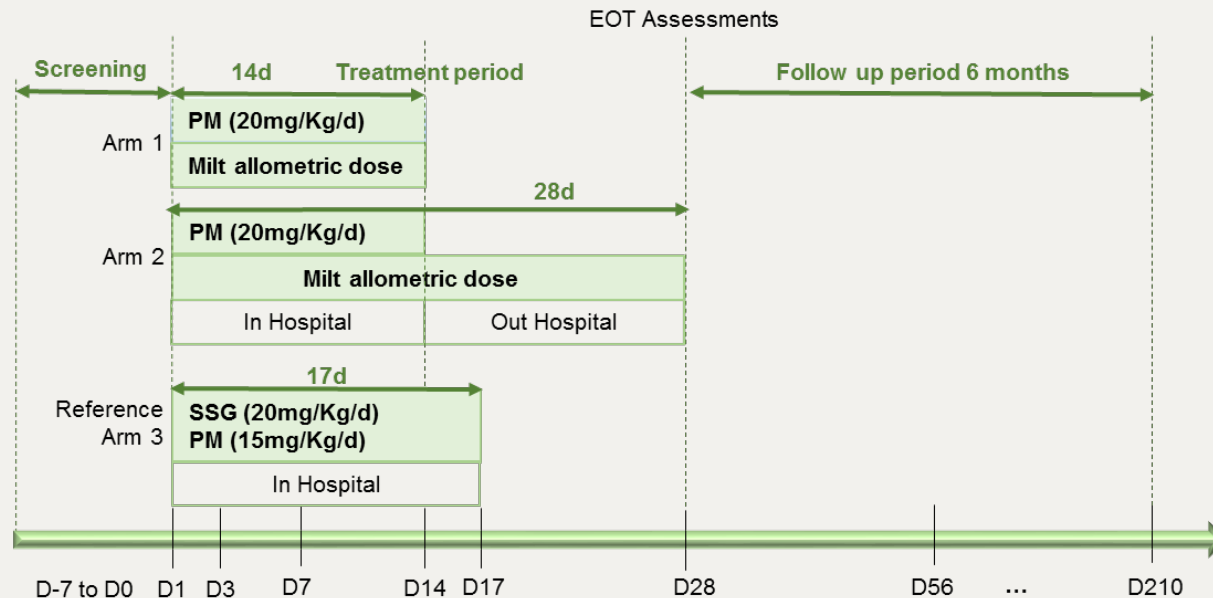
To develop a safe, efficacious and field-adapted combination therapy for VL in eastern Africa by 2020

Phase III MF/PM clinical trial:

An Open Label, Phase III, Randomized Controlled, Multicentre Non-Inferiority Trial to Compare Efficacy and Safety of Miltefosine and Paromomycin with SSG and PM Combination for Treatment of Primary Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL) Patients in Eastern Africa

Secondary objectives: safety, PK, PD, compliance to oral treatment in outpatient settings

- Countries: Ethiopia (1), Kenya (2), Sudan (2) and Uganda (1); 6 sites + 2 MSF sites
- Patient population: confirmed primary VL patients 4-50y old, HIV neg, signed ICF
- Sample size: 192/arm, total of 576 VL patients



PKDL clinical trial in Sudan

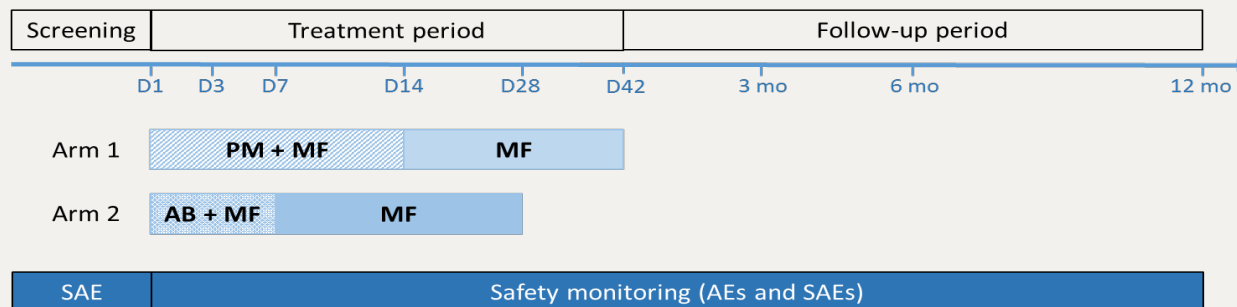
Open label, non-comparative, randomised, multicentre phase II clinical trial to assess new regimens for PKDL Rx in Sudan

Target population: Confirmed PKDL case by clinical presentation and demonstration of parasites by microscopy in a skin smear or by PCR, with documented stable or progressive disease for at least 6 months or grade 3 PKDL



Objectives:

- to assess safety, efficacy of the 2 regimens MF/PM and Amb/MF
- To assess PK, parasitological and immunological parameters before and after treatment



Infectivity studies in Bangladesh showed PKDL is a reservoir of the disease. Study to be replicated in Sudan.

DNDi's leishmaniasis program goal

- *To deliver a combination of two co-administered, orally acting drugs for the treatment of both visceral and cutaneous leishmaniasis by 2026/7*

Anticipated public health impact

- Sustainable elimination of VL in Asia; disease control in Africa and Latin America
- Control of CL
- Support WHO's VL Elimination Framework & WHO's objective of detection and treatment of CL patients



Target Product Profile for VL Combination Therapy

	Optimal Target Profile	Minimal Target Profile
Target Label	VL and PKDL	Primary VL
Species	All species	<i>L. donovani</i>
Distribution	All areas	Eastern Africa
Target Population	Immunocompetent and immunosuppressed	Immunocompetent
Clinical Efficacy	≥ 95%	≥ 90%
Safety and Tolerability	No AEs requiring monitoring	1 monitoring visit in mid/end - point OR Baseline assessment to exclude high risk groups (dependent on the profile of the drug) and self-report if AEs
Contraindications	None	Pregnancy/lactation
Interactions	No interactions between the drugs to be combined for VL Rx, and also for other common co-morbidities (malaria, TB, ART)	No interactions between the drugs to be combined for VL Rx
Formulation	Oral / oral	Oral / IM IV could be acceptable
Treatment Regimen	Single dose Rx or fixed combo tablet/paed formulation up to 7 days	Bid for ≤ 28 days po; and IM injections over ≤ 14 days Oral NCEs: 14 days
Stability	3 years in zone 4	2 years in zone 4
Cost	To be defined	To be defined

TPP is focused on IMPACT for leishmaniasis patients



Current treatments

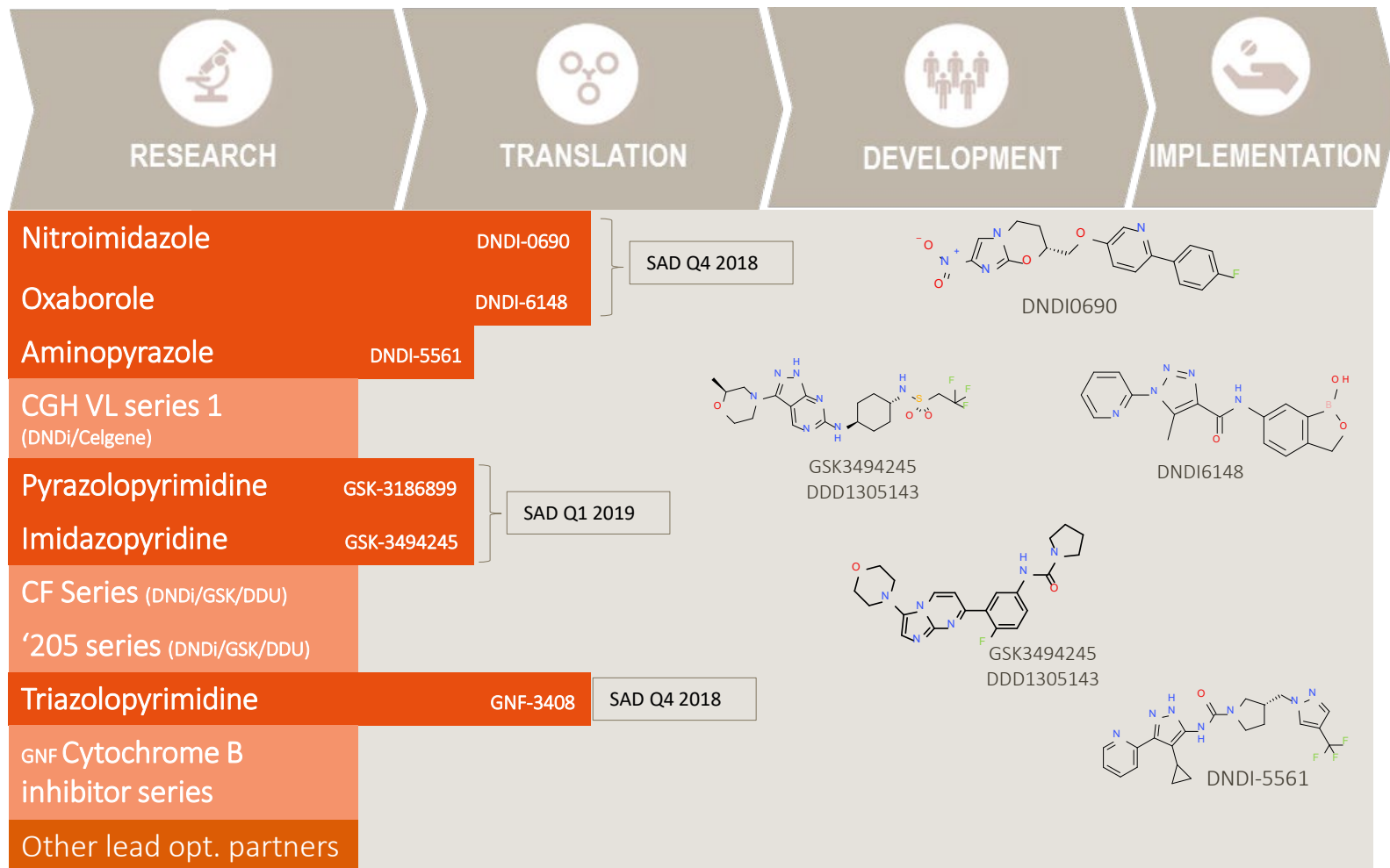
- Largely injectable
- With some toxicity
- Variable efficacy
- Limited spectrum
- Hospitalization, cold chain
- Expensive

**New oral
short-course
combination
treatment**

New combination(s)

- Oral
- Well tolerated
- Improved efficacy
- Wide spectrum
- Lower level health systems
- Affordable

Turning innovation into impact





Thank You

Leishmaniasis



THE PARASITE: Leishmaniasis is caused by a protozoa parasite
>20 *Leishmania* species



THE VECTOR: Transmitted to humans by the bite of infected female **phlebotomine sandflies**
> 90 sandfly species are known to transmit *Leishmania* parasite



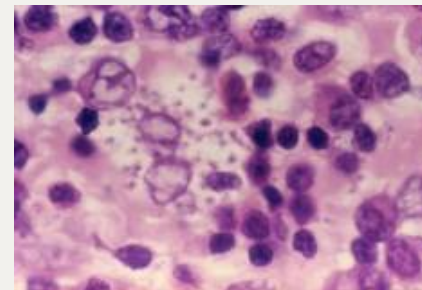
THE DISEASE: An estimated 900,000–1.3 million new cases yearly. 3 main forms of the disease (visceral, cutaneous, mucocutaneous)



1 in 7 people

worldwide live in leishmaniasis endemic areas
at risk of infection

> 616 million for visceral leishmaniasis (VL)
> 431 million for cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL)



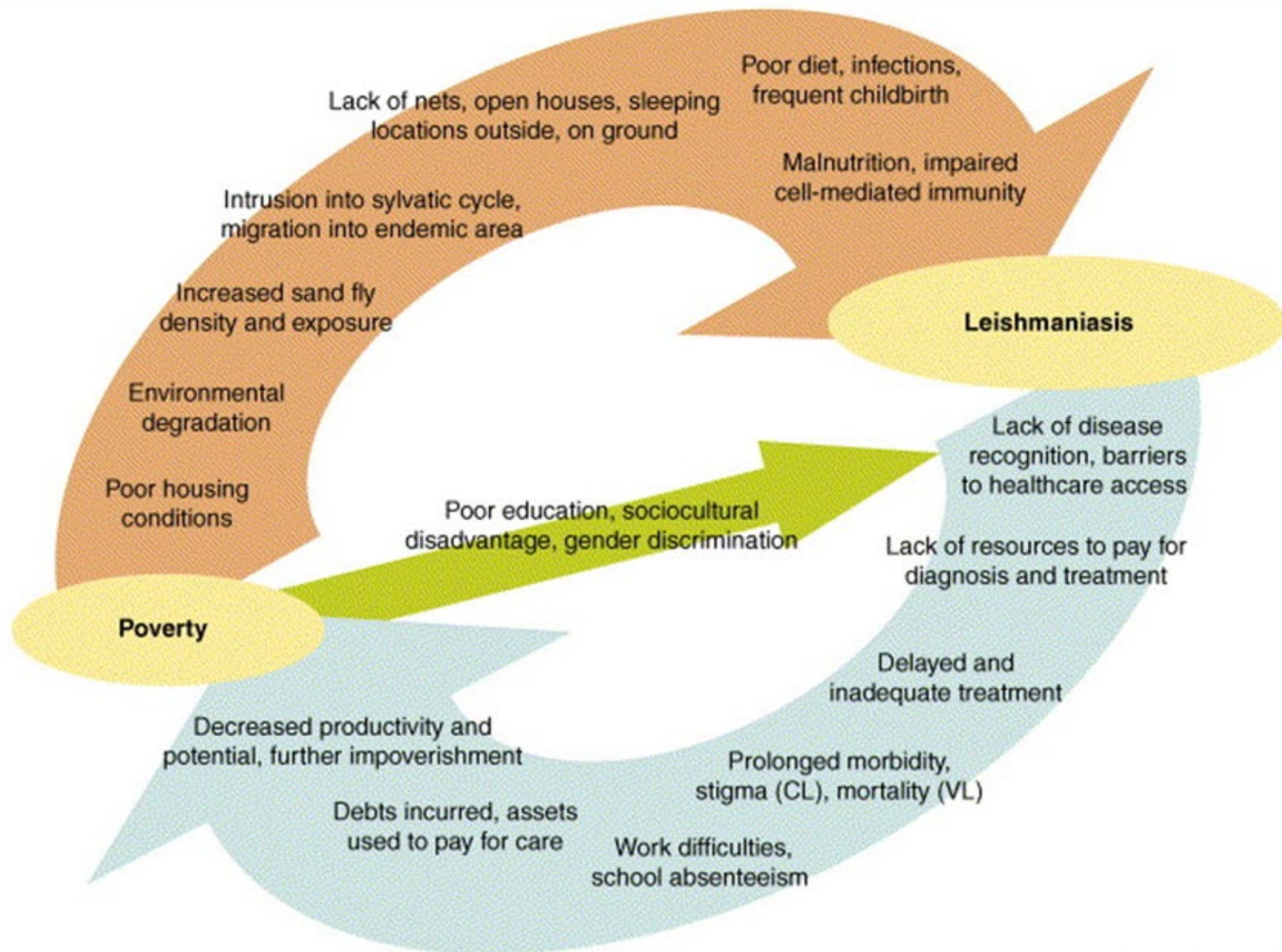
The disease: *kala-azar*

- The parasite multiplies within macrophages throughout the reticuloendothelial system; it affects the spleen, liver, bone marrow and lymph nodes.
- The typical manifestations of VL include:
 - fever for more than 2 weeks
 - weight loss (cachexia; wasting)
 - hepatosplenomegaly
 - pancytopenia—i.e., anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia
 - a high total protein level and a low albumin level, with hypergammaglobulinemia
 - Lymphadenopathy may be noted, particularly in some geographic regions, such as Sudan
- Poor prognosis: signs of bleeding, jaundice, oedema, co-morbidities, HIV co-infection

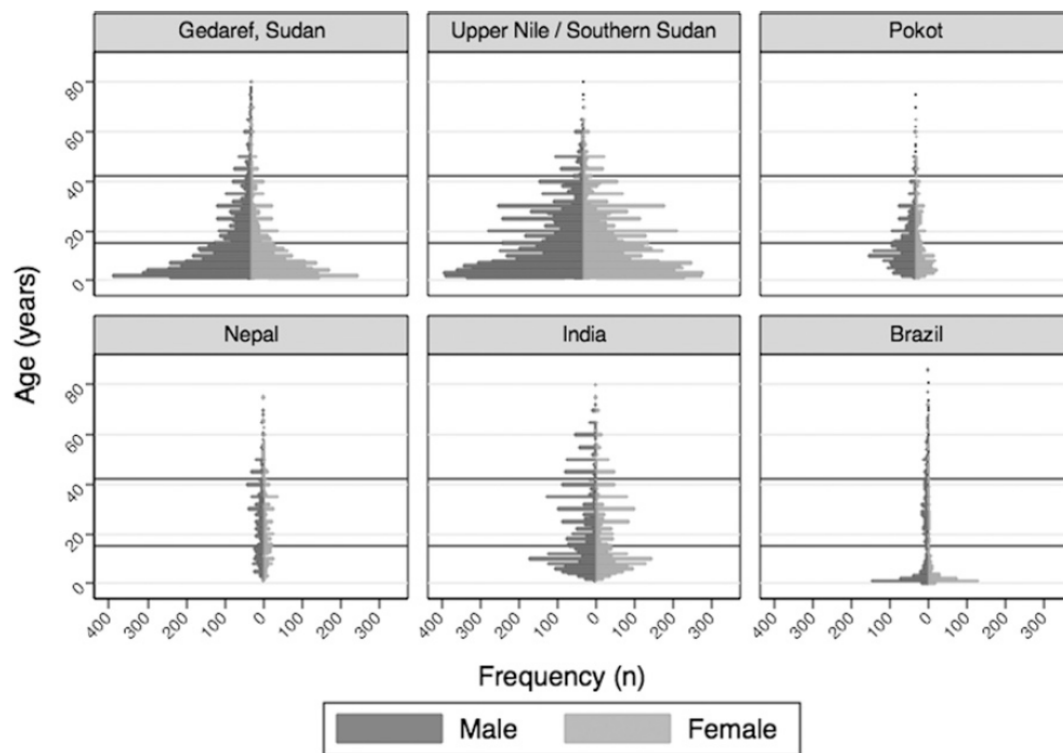


Kala-azar is fatal if untreated → 20,000-30,000 deaths/year

The vicious cycle of leishmaniasis



Who is a typical VL patient?



Harhay *et al*, 2011. *AJTMH* 84 (4): 543-550. doi:10.4269/ajtmh.2011.10-0321

Majority of patients are children living in rural areas

- **At least 50% of VL cases are < children 15years**

- Males predominate (ratio male:female 1.2 – 2.2)

~ 6 to 18% are women in reproductive age

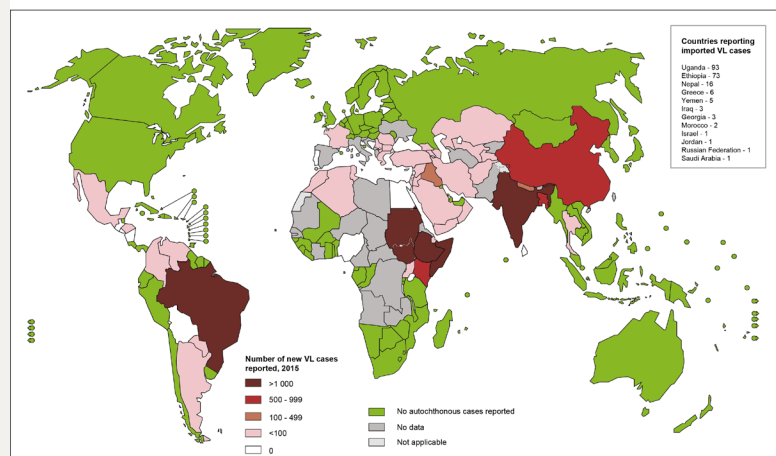


The need: an efficacious, safe, field adapted treatment to be deployed in remote areas where VL affects the rural communities.

Endemic countries for VL and CL, 2015

- 75 countries are endemic for VL
 - 14 are 'high-burden countries' (> 100 cases in 2013)
 - 54 countries reported to WHO with data from 2015 (low reporting from Africa)
- 87 countries are endemic for CL
 - 12 are 'high-burden countries' (> 2,500 cases in 2013)
 - 57 countries reported to WHO with data from 2015

Status of endemicity of visceral leishmaniasis worldwide, 2015



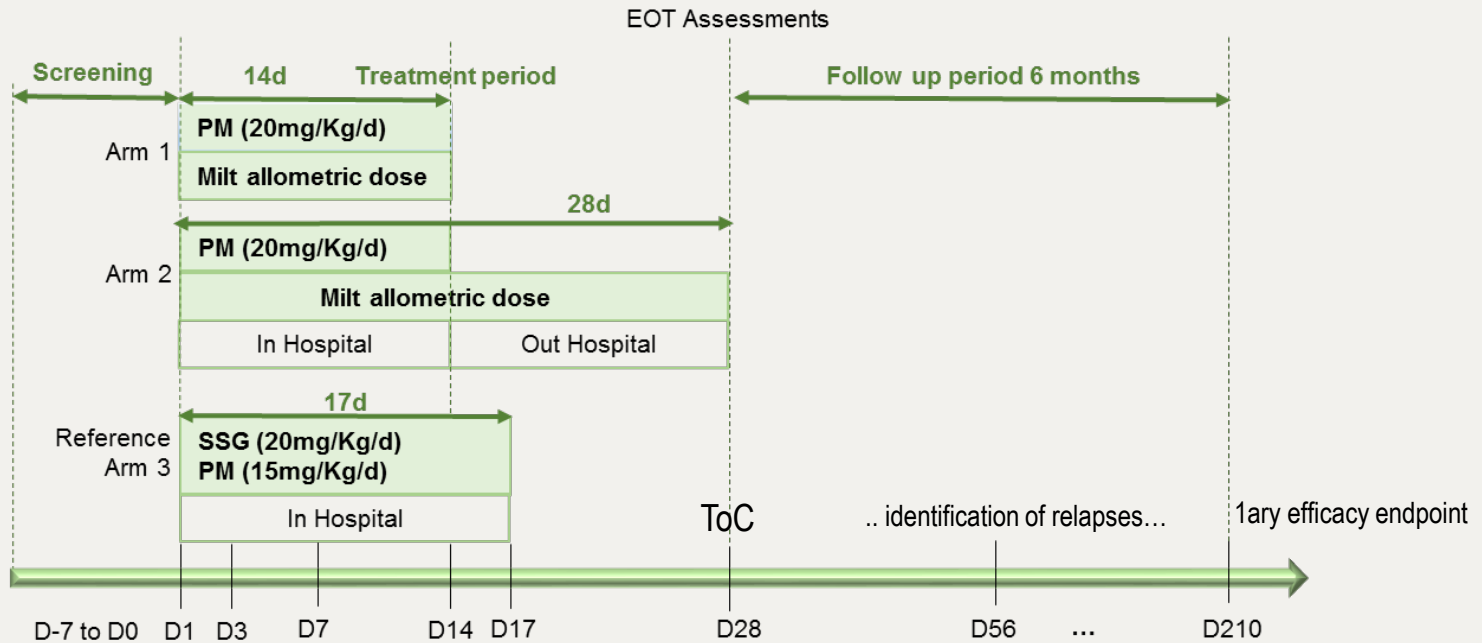
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. © WHO 2017. All rights reserved

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: Control of Neglected
Tropical Diseases (CNTD)
World Health Organization

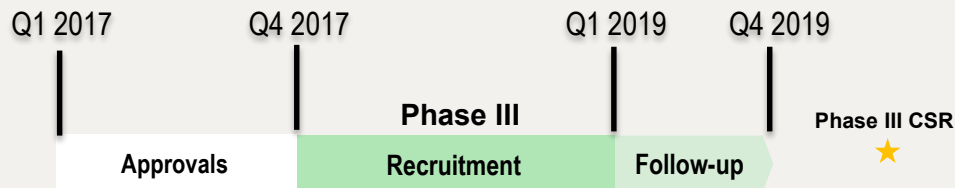


WHO WER, 2017. 38 (92): 557-572

MF/PM phase III clinical trial



Study Timelines:



- Submissions ongoing in the 4 countries
- Joint regulatory and national EC review through WHO/AVAREF

Leishmaniasis treatment: Oral NCEs required to move away from old drugs & their limitations



> 13 years ago : SSG

Treatment limitations:

- Toxic
- Painful
- Resistance
- Expensive
- Long duration
- Not field adapted



Since 2010
SSG & PM
for VL in
Africa



Since 2011
**SD Ambisome[®],
and Paromomycin
+ Miltefosine**
combination for VL
in Asia



2018
A new first-line
treatment for VL
in **Latin America**

**AmBisome[®] +
miltefosine**
combination for
HIV/VL



2025/6

**New oral
combination
treatment for
leishmaniases**



Patients' needs for cutaneous leishmaniasis



- ✓ A safe, topical or oral well tolerated, and affordable treatment
- ✓ which could cure the lesions quickly without leaving deep scar
- ✓ can be deployed within primary healthcare systems for self-treatment without requiring follow up by health workers.



Target product profile for CL

ATTRIBUTE	TARGET (IDEAL)	MINIMALLY ACCEPTABLE	COMMENTS
Target Species	All Leishmania species	<i>L. tropica</i> or <i>L. braziliensis</i>	Speciation not required for treatment
Safety monitoring requirement	None	PHC. No major safety concerns.	No supervision for at least 60% of the pop.
Tolerability	Well tolerated; All AR's < grade 1	Systemic AR > grade 2 in <5%. Local AR ≤ grade 2 in <30%. No Tx mortality	
Contra-indications	None	Lactation, Pregnancy Cat B	
Efficacy (3M)	>95% patients	60% for <i>L. tropica</i> , 70% for <i>L. braziliensis</i>	Natural cure rates: 10-20 M, or +
Improved scar formation	Minimal scar	No worse than natural healing	Young female facial scars of highest impact
Prevention of relapse and recidivans	No relapse or recidivans/ML	<5% rate of relapse or recidivans/ML at 1 year	Natural relapse and recidivans rate 2-8%; ML 2-5%
Route of administration	Topical / oral	Non-parenteral, or few doses, if parenteral	Combination can be considered
Topical	14 days	28 days	
Oral	< 7 days	Oral: bid for 28 days	
Parenteral	No	3 injections	
Age / Gender	No restrictions	> 9 months of age	With a good safety profile: <9 M
Use in Pregnancy	Yes	No	Any risk to fetus should disqualify Tx
Efficacy in immuno-compromised patients	Yes	No	Immune stimulation may be applicable under certain conditions.
Stability	No cold chain, at least 3 years at 37°C	2 years at 4-8°C	

Current therapies for Post Kala-azar Dermal Leishmaniasis (PKDL)

- PKDL patient is 'healthy' other than the skin rash



macular



nodular



papular

South Asia

- Predominantly macular lesions
- It does not self-heal
- All patients are treated, but it may take long time for patient to reach service in a specialized treatment center
- Rx: miltefosine 2.5mg/Kg/day for 12w; Ambisome 30mg/Kg/d total dose

Eastern Africa (mainly Sudan)

- Predominantly papular lesions
- ~ 40-50% will develop PKDL within 6 months, but 85% self-heals
- Only grade 3, severe grade 2 and chronic patients (> 6mo) are treated
- Rx: SSG 20mg/Kg/d for 40-60d; Ambisome 50mg/Kg total dose

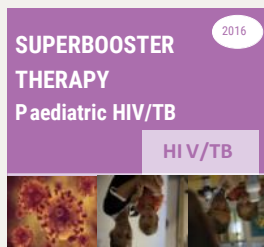
PKDL Target Product Profile

	Target (ideal) Profile	Minimally Acceptable Target Profile
Target Species		
<i>L. donovani</i>	One treatment for all PKDL patients	PKDL treatment regimen adapted by region (Asia or Africa)
Safety		
Safety monitoring requirement	None	No major safety concerns Acceptable for patient to come for 1 follow-up visit during treatment
Tolerability (CTCAE v4.3)	Well tolerated All AR's \leq grade 1	Well tolerated in > 90% of patients treated. Systemic AR > grade 2 in < 5%. No treatment induced mortality. No irreversible AEs.
Contraindications	None	Assessed by qualified person at PHC/DH, as per local context
Efficacy		
Complete clinical cure: - 100% disappearance of papules or nodules by 12 weeks - 80% improvement in macular lesions with re-pigmentation by 12 months	$\geq 90\%$ efficacy <i>[PK of the NCEs: penetration in the skin should also favor development for PKDL]</i>	$\geq 80\%$ efficacy

	Target (ideal) Profile	Minimally Acceptable Target Profile
Drug / treatment schedule		
Route of administration	Oral	Oral or combo oral-parenteral
<i>Oral</i>	≤ 4 weeks treatment OD	BID for up to 6 weeks (regardless of PKDL presentation)
<i>Parenteral</i>	None	Up to 2 weeks if IM Up to 7 injections if IV
Target population		
PKDL type	All	All in South Asia Persistent (> 6mo) or grade 3 PKDL in Eastern Africa + grade 2 severe presentation
Use in pregnancy	Yes (delay treatment after delivery)	No studies done in the population
Efficacy in immuno-compromised patients (especially HIV co-infected patients)	Yes	Yes, with regimen adapted for this population
Product characteristics		
Stability	At least 3 years in zone 4 (hot and humid)	2 years in 4-8°C Stable under storage at ≤ 30° C in case of self-administered
Cost		
Cost of products/procedures per treatment	≤ 60 Euros	≤ 100 Euros for treatment (MoH) (minimal price for the manufacturer) Africa: cheaper than SSG treatment (100 – 140 Eu for 40-60d) Asia: cheaper than MF treatment preferential price (160 – 270 Eu for 12w)

DNDi has a track record in developing drug combinations

7 new treatments delivered, of which 6 are combinations, and 2 for VL

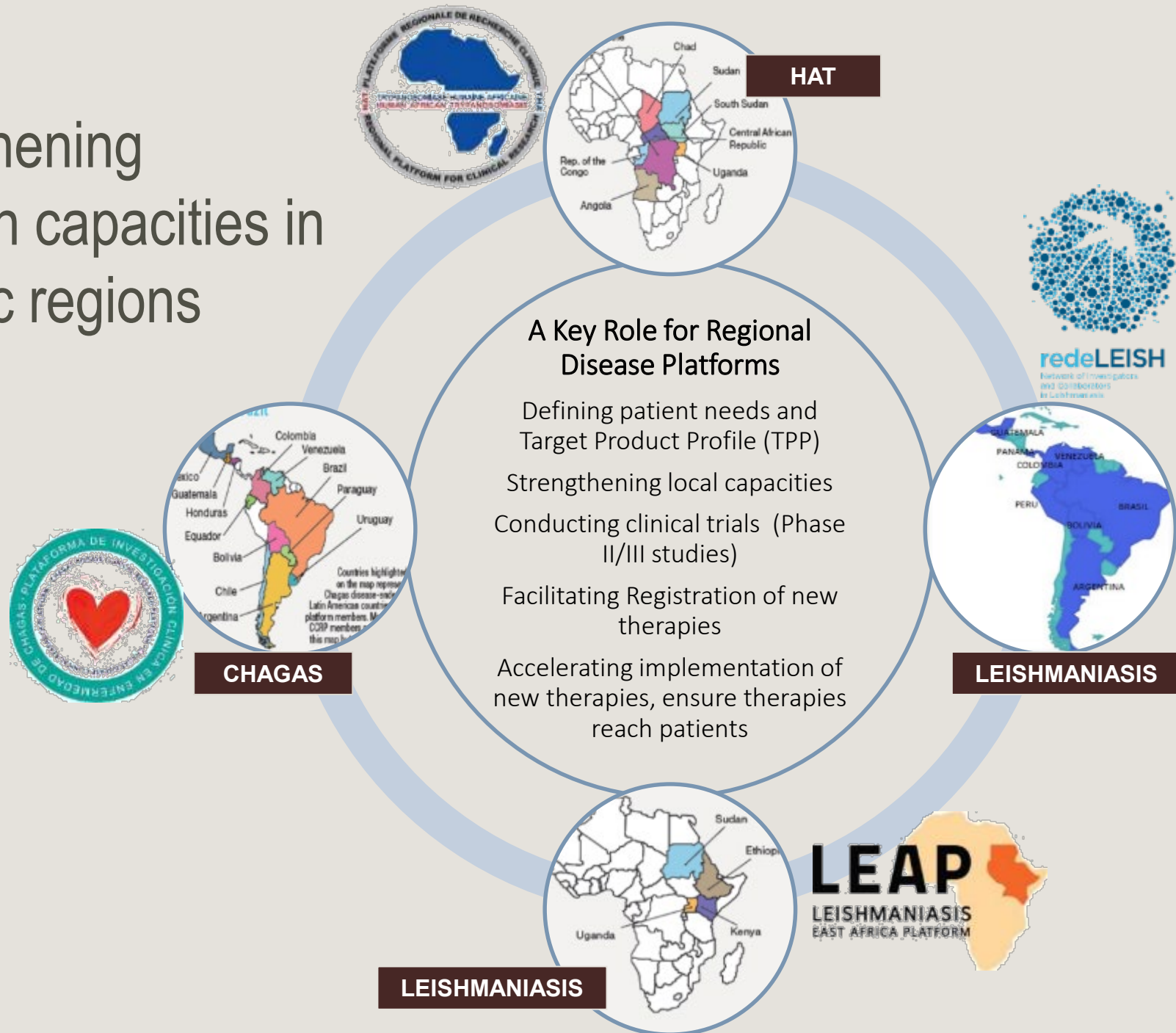


- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Affordable
- ✓ Field-adapted

- Sleeping sickness
 - NECT - improved combination therapy since 2009
 - Fexinidazole – NCE short-course oral treatment
 - Acoziborole – NCE single dose oral treatment
- Leishmaniasis
 - SSG & PM approved for VL in E. Africa
 - 2 treatments approved for VL in Asia
 - Specific clinical trial platforms/ networks
 - LEAP (VL)
 - redeLEISH (CL) platforms
 - Defined TCPs, TPPs
 - Network of industrial and academic partners
 - Regulatory experience

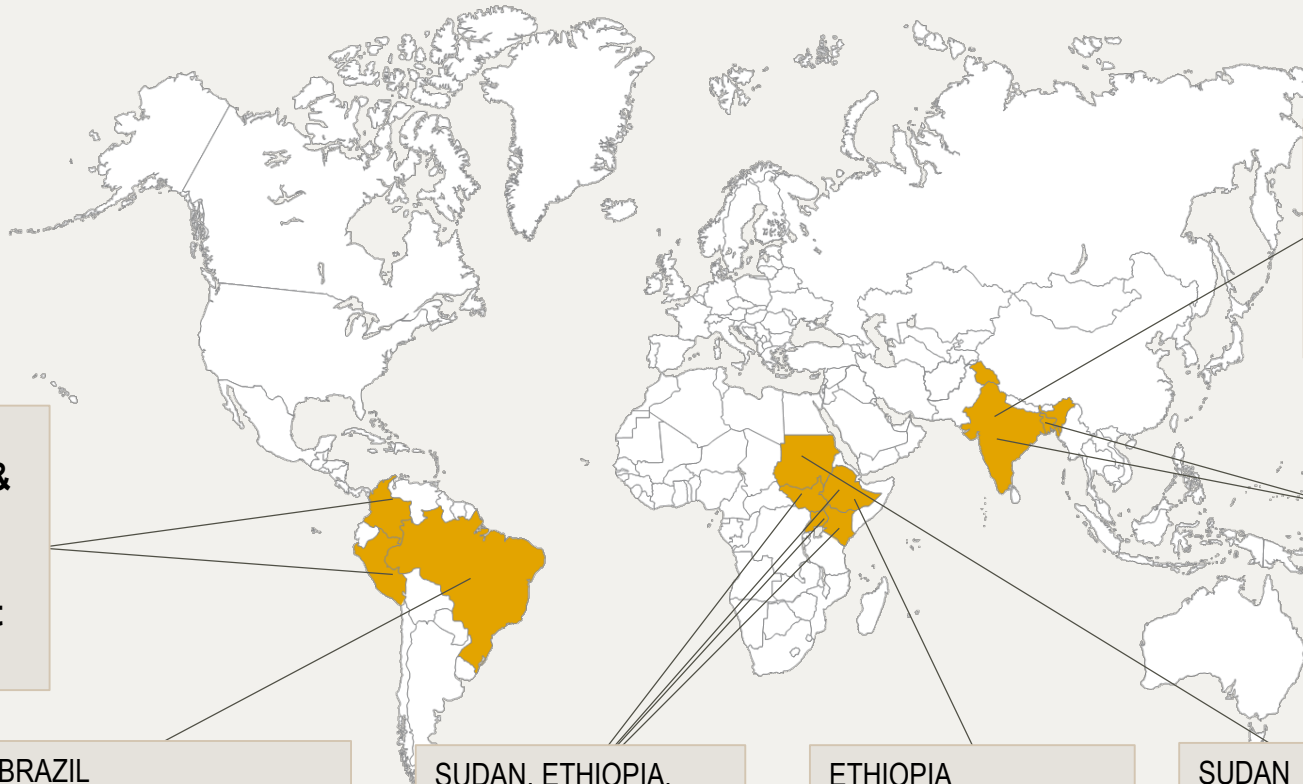


Using & Strengthening research capacities in endemic regions





DNDi clinical trial and capacity building for leishmaniasis



PERU + COLOMBIA
Thermotherapy & miltefosine combination proof-of-concept (Phase II) for CL

BRAZIL
Created **5 research sites for VL** providing data evidence for policy change

SUDAN, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, UGANDA
Non-inferiority trial of miltefosine & paromomicin (Phase III) for VL

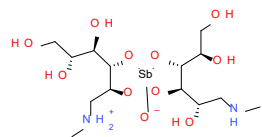
ETHIOPIA
New treatments for HIV/VL co-infection (Phase III) for VLC

SUDAN
PKDL clinical trial (Phase II)

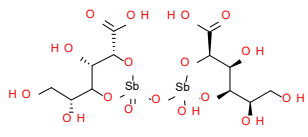
INDIA
Prevalence study of PKDL in VL patients (Phase IV)

INDIA + BANGLADESH
Infectivity studies for PKDL patients (Phase III)

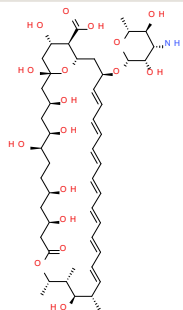
Replacing old therapies with modern treatments



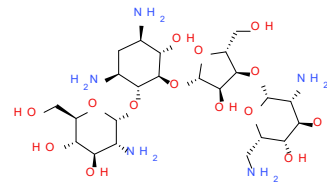
**Meglumine
antimoniate**



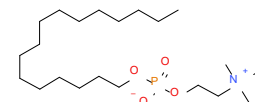
**Sodium
Stibogluconate (SSG)**



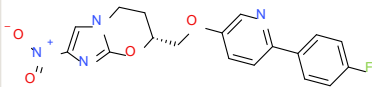
**Liposomal
Amphotericin B**



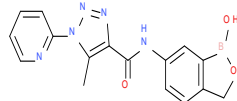
**Paromomycin
sulfate**



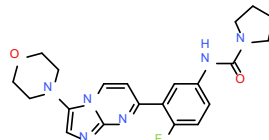
Miltefosine



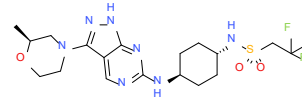
DNDI0690



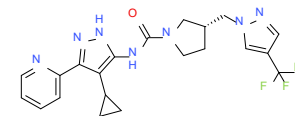
DNDI6148



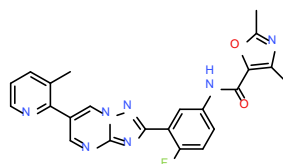
**GSK3494245
DDD1305143**



**DDD853651 /
GSK-3186899**



DNDI-5561

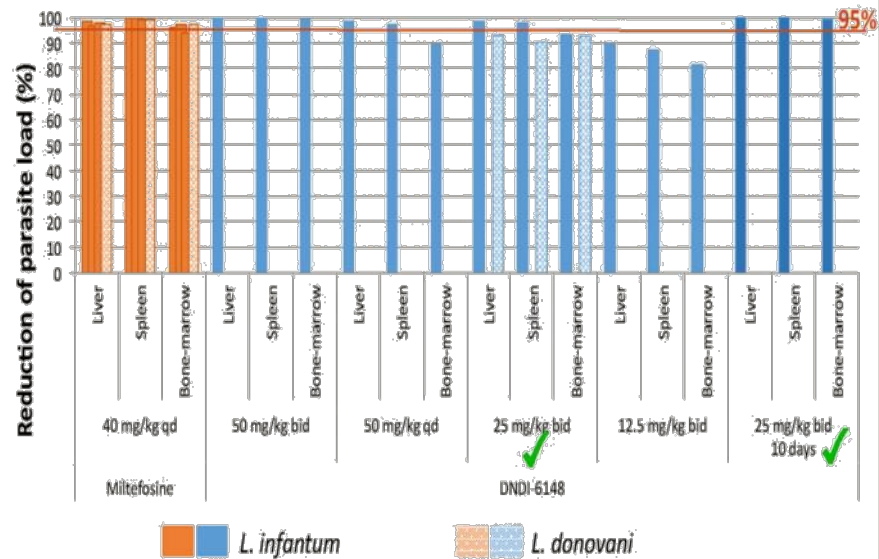


LXE408

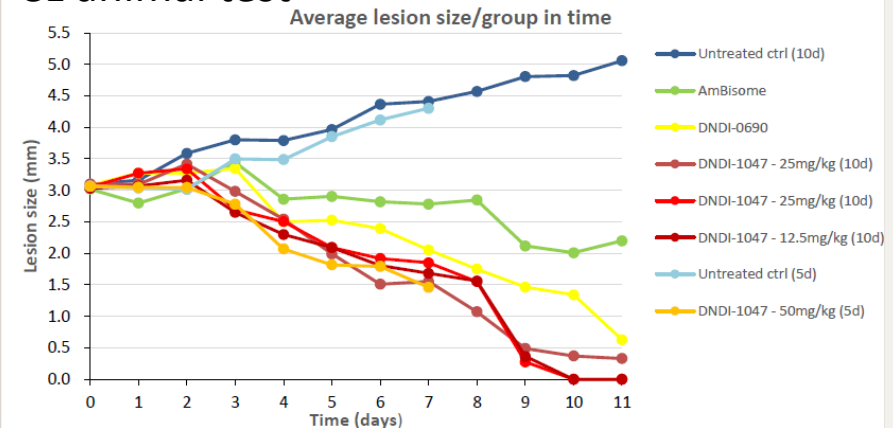
Portfolio of NCEs specially optimized for treatment of leishmaniasis

- Unprecedented numbers of developable NCEs
 - > 6 novel chemotypes entering Phase 1 in next 12 months
- NCEs designed to meet the TPP
 - Oral dosing, short course, affordable
 - Broad spectrum of action on leishmaniasis strains
- Cure in animal tests
 - Potent in VL tests
 - Lesion-resolving action in CL tests
- Options to overcome attrition in development

VL animal test



CL animal test



A strong case for oral combination treatments

Shorten treatment course & address potential for resistance

1. Maximize efficacy

- Faster parasitocidal effect & reduced risk of relapse
- Monotherapy has largely failed in patients (except Ambisome® in some regions), although more and more reports of reduced efficacy

2. Minimize treatment duration and dose

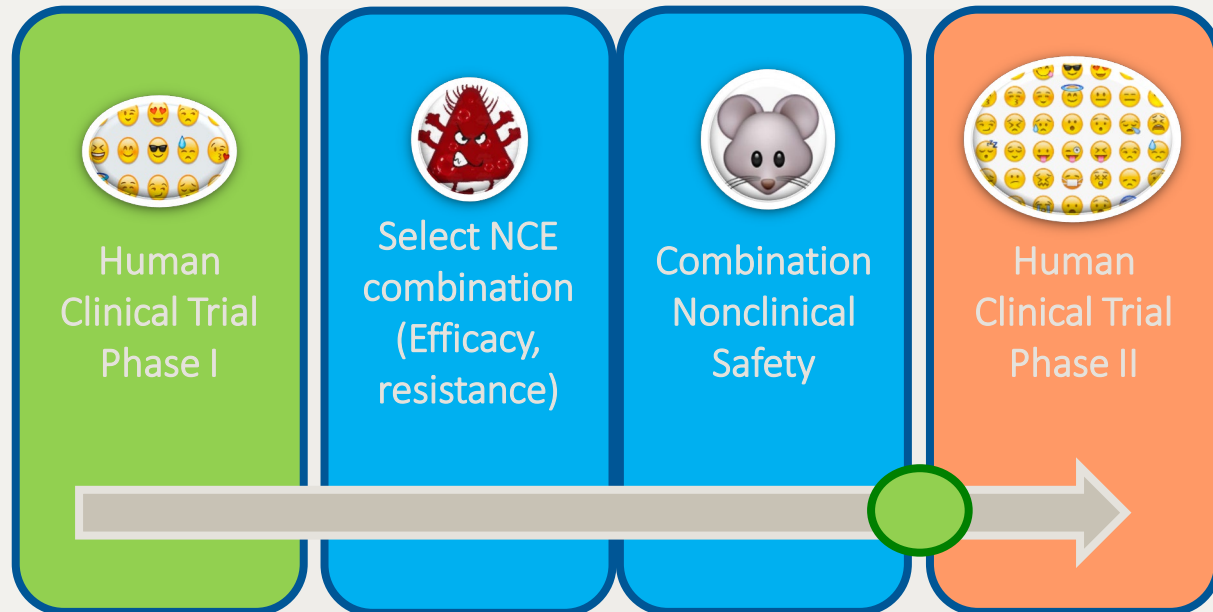
- Adapted for use in resource-poor settings
- Optimize safety

3. Long-term protection against resistance

- Avoid use of monotherapies

Development of NCE combinations

Research	
Screening	Hit to lead
	Lead Opt. Pre-clinical
Nitroimidazole	DNDI-0690
Oxaborole	DNDI-6148
Aminopyrazole	DNDI-5561
CRK12 inhibitor	GSK-3186899
Pyrazolopyrimidine	/ DDD853851
Proteasome inhibitor	GSK-3494245
Imidazopyridine	/ DDD1305143
Proteasome inhibitor	
Triazolopyrimidine	LXE-3408



Precinical data

- Efficacy in models
- Acceptable safety profile
- Dosing convenience
 - ✓ o.d. vs b.i.d.
- No cross resistance
- Affordability / CoG

In man data

- FIM, SAD, MAD, FE
- Pharmacokinetics
- Safety: AEs, ECGs, vital signs, clinical chemistry, coagulation, haematology
- DDI

In patient data

- Safety, tolerability
- Pharmacodynamics
- Pharmacokinetics
- Combo vs monotherapy (A+B vs A vs B)