Current Situation: Leishmaniasis in Africa

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Current situation of African Leishmaniasis is a product of great changes in patients access to treatment, improved diagnosis/management and the use of modern epidemiological tools.
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These great changes took place in the last fifteen years.

We have been there in the flesh!!!!
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• Epidemiology of Leishmaniasis:

  – Innovative tools:
    • Remote Sensing & Geographical Information system
    • Rapid Assessment of Patterns *Leishmania donovani* Infections: application of Geographic Information System
    • Re-purposing of tools like the Leishmanin skin test
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• Epidemiology of Leishmaniasis
  – New Leishmaniasis Foci
    • White Nile State, Central Sudan
    • Fashir Area, Western Sudan
  – New modernized Treatment Centers
    • Gondor, Arba Minch, Kimalel, Amodat, Katchaleba, Prof Elhassan Centre, Um Elkhier
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• Diagnosis of Leishmaniasis:
  – Guidelines for diagnosis were developed/implemented
  – Improved diagnostic tools
    • Serological [DAT, RDT]
    • Leishmania Antigen detection tests
    • Leishmanin Skin Test [LST]
    • Molecular techniques [PCR, qPCR, LAMP]
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- Epidemiology of Leishmaniasis
  - Cases detection and treatment
  - Impregnated bed nets
- Leishmanisis Vaccines [Wealth of knowledge]
  - Preventive Vaccines
  - Therapeutic Vaccines
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– Treatment of Leishmaniasis:
  • From SSG alone to
  • Combination Treatment
  • Liposomal Amphotericin B [Ambisome]
  • Oral treatment
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- The improved current situation of African Leishmaniasis is a product of:
  - Team Work >> Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform [vs Individual Researchers/Research Groups, Universities & Institutes].
Conclusion

Current Situation of Leishmaniasis in Africa
With improved Access to Treatments is a product of working together and through Partnerships between Leishmaniasis Control Programs, Academia and NGOs

PEOPLE IN LEISHMANIASIS ENDEMIC AREAS!!!!!