



Blood & Tissue Flagellates

(Leishmania & Trypanosoma)

Presented by

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General Characters of Blood & Tissue Flagellates (*Leishmania* & *Trypanosoma*)

- 1) Live in blood and /or tissues.**
- 2) Move by one flagellum.**
- 3) Need vector for transmission.**
- 4) Require 2 hosts (vertebrate and invertebrate).**



Visceral Leishmaniasis

(Kala-azar, Dum dum fever, Black sickness)

Old world visceral leishmaniasis

New world visceral leishmaniasis

Leishmania donovani
Classic Kala-azar

Leishmania infantum
Infantile Kala-azar

Leishmania infantum
American infantile Kala-azar

India, China & East Africa (common in young adults of 10-25 years old).

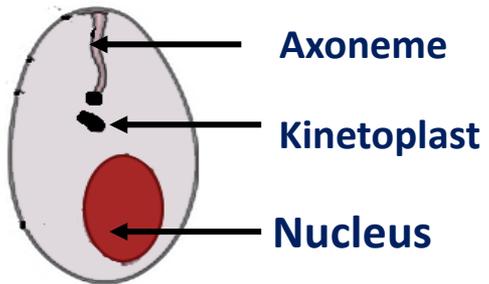
Mediterranean region, Middle East & Africa (common in children < 4 years).

South America (common in children < 4 years).



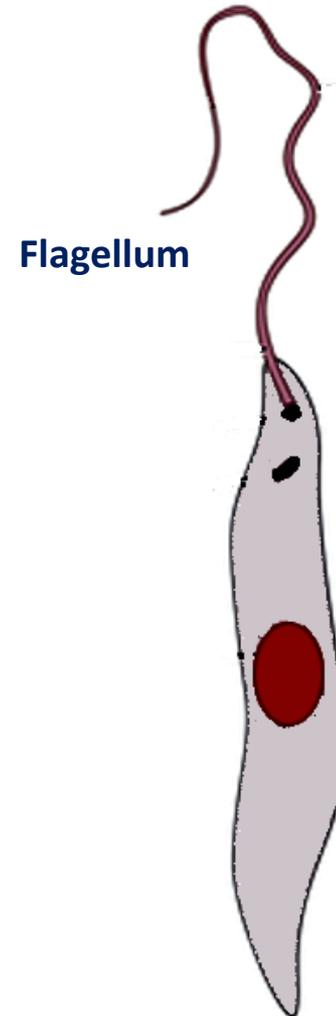
Forms of *Leishmania* species

Leishmanial or amastigote stage

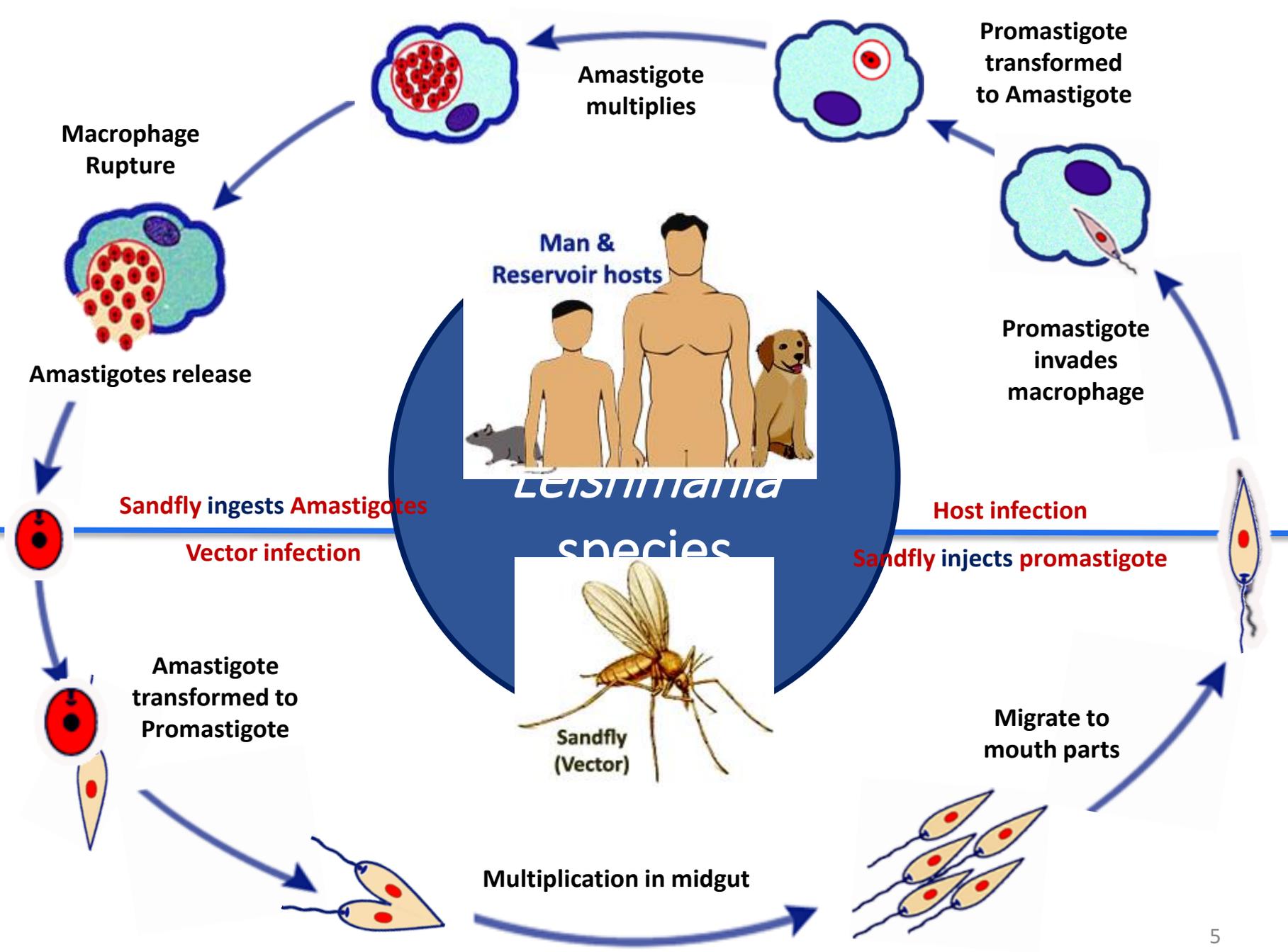


Round or oval
(2–4 μ m)

Leptomonad or promastigote stage



Spindle-shaped
(15-20 μ m)





- ❖ **Definitive host:** Man.
- ❖ **Reservoir host:** Dogs & rodents.
- ❖ **Vector:** Female sand fly (*Phlebotomus* for OWVL & *Lutzomyia* in NWVL)
- ❖ **Infective stage:** - Promastigote (when transmitted by sand fly)
 - Amastigote by other modes
- ❖ **Habitat:** Reticuloendothelial cells

Mode of transmission

- 1-Bite of infected sand fly (biological transmission)
- 2- Mechanical transmission (interrupted feeding of blood sucking arthropods)
- 3- Blood transfusion.
- 4- Congenital transmission.

Pathogenesis



Amastigotes multiply inside the macrophages → the cells rupture → the organisms pass to the blood and reach viscera → invade and multiply in different organs (ex. Spleen, liver, lymph nodes, & bone marrow) → hyperplasia and enlargement of the affected organs.



Clinical pictures

1) Local lesion (leishmanioma):
A small papule at the site of insect bite.

2) Systemic manifestations

1- Fever

↓
Intermittent with double or triple daily rise

2- Hepatomegaly, splenomegaly and lymph node enlargement

3- Diarrhoea or dysentery with ulceration of the intestine → malabsorption

4- Oedema & ascites due to liver affection (decrease albumin).

5- Loss of weight & cachexia especially in thorax & shoulder girdle



2) Systemic manifestations

6-Skin lesions

7-Congenital transmission
⇒ abortion

8-Pancytopenia:
Anaemia (aplastic),
leucopenia &
thrombocytopenia due
to invasion and
depression of bone
marrow.

Pigmented skin patches early in the disease ⇒ the skin turns dark (so the disease is called **Kala azar** or **black sickness**).

Macular, papular or nodular skin lesions on the face, trunk & extremities (**Post-kala azar dermal leishmanoid**) It appears after therapeutic cure & without other systemic signs. Its nodules may be mistaken for **lepromatous leprosy**.



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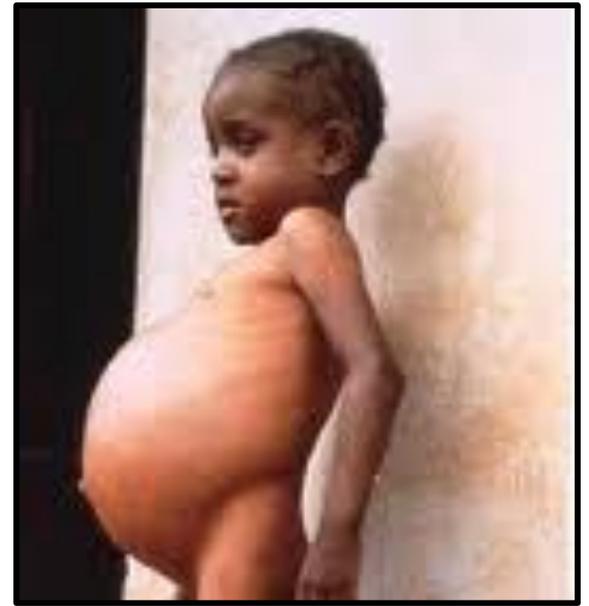
❖ **Death occurs in untreated severe cases due to:**

➤ **Organ failure and wasting.**

➤ **Secondary bacterial infection as pneumonia, tuberculosis due to suppression of the cellular immunity by the parasite.**

➤ **Septicemia, severe anaemia and haemorrhage.**

N.B. Visceral leishmaniasis is followed by lifelong immunity.





Laboratory diagnosis

Direct methods

Examination of blood, biopsy from (liver, spleen, LNs) or bone marrow puncture for detection of the parasite by:

- 1- Smear to detect amastigotes**
- 2- Culture on N.N.N medium** → for 2-3 weeks → **motile promastigotes.**
- 3- Animal inoculation:** Intraperitoneal inoculation of the specimen into hamster. Amastigotes are detected in smears from a splenic aspiration.

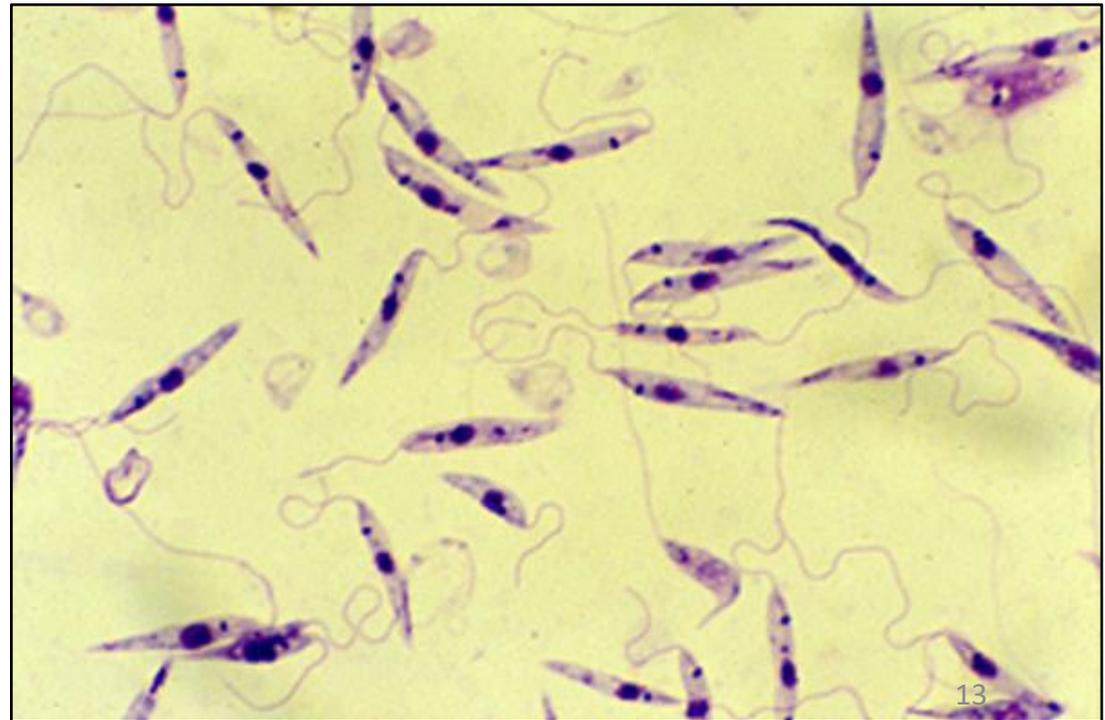
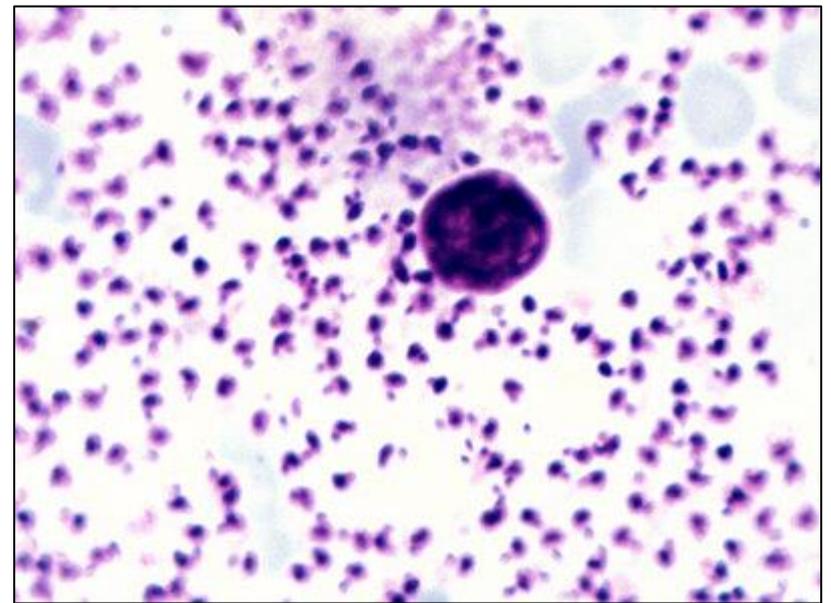
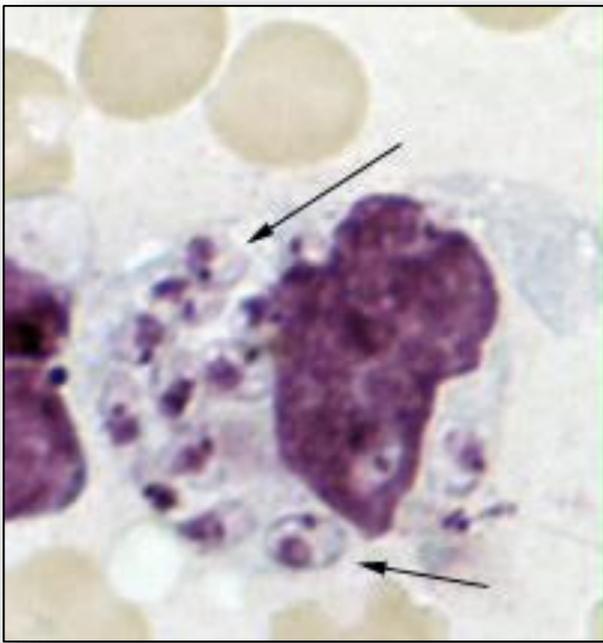
Indirect methods

Specific tests (immunodiagnosis)

- **leishmanin or Montenegro test (IDT):** -ve due to suppression of T.cells & +ve after recovery .
- **Serological tests:** CFT, IHAT, ELISA, IFAT → to detect anti-leishmania antibodies.
- **PCR**

Blood picture

Anaemia, leucopenia & thromocytopenia





Treatment

General (supported treatment)

- Proper diet rich in proteins, vitamins and iron.
- Blood transfusion for severe anaemia.
- Splenectomy.
- Antibiotics for secondary infection.

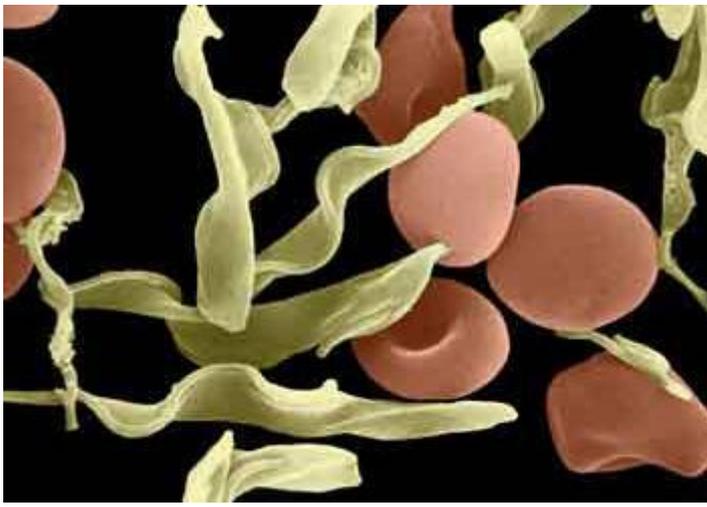
Specific treatment

Parenteral therapy

- **Pentostam**
- Pentamidine,
- Amphotericin B
- Paromomycin

Oral therapy

Miltefosine



African trypanosomes





African Trypanosomiasis

(Polymorphic trypanosomes)

Trypanosoma brucei
gambiense

Chronic West African
sleeping sickness
(Gambian trypanosomiasis)

Transmitted by
Glossina palpalis
(both male and female)

Trypanosoma brucei
rhodesiense

Acute East African
sleeping sickness
(Rodesian trypanosomiasis)

Transmitted by
Glossina morsitans
(both male and female)

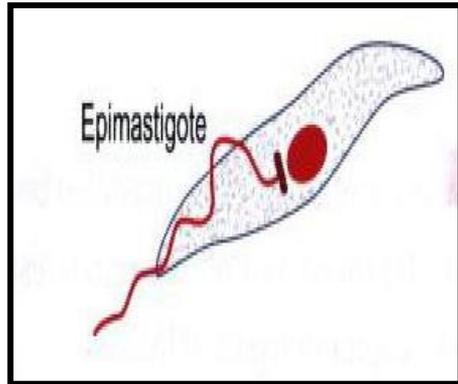
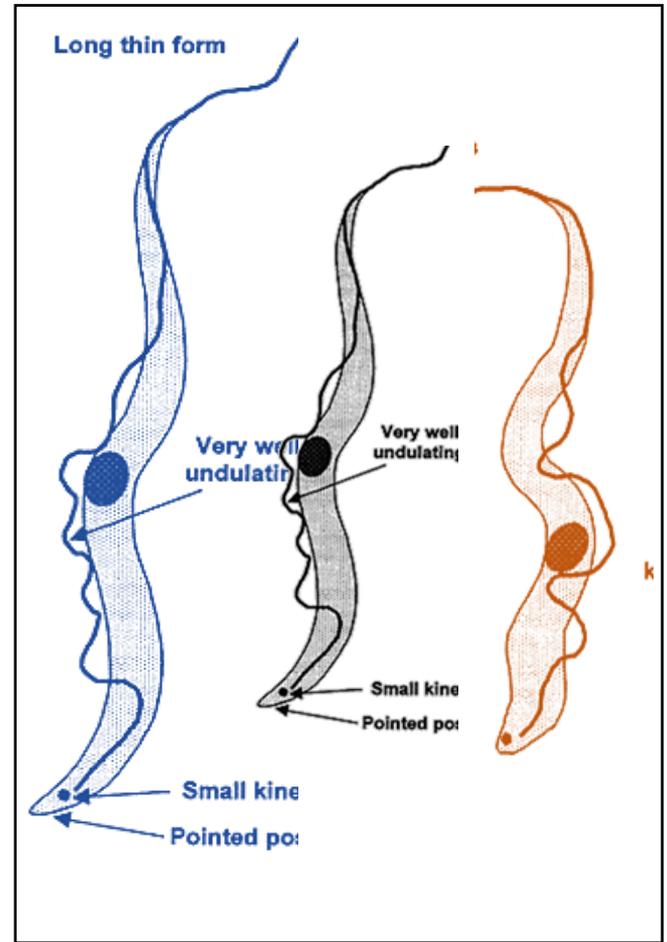
Glossina= Tse-tse fly

Morphology:

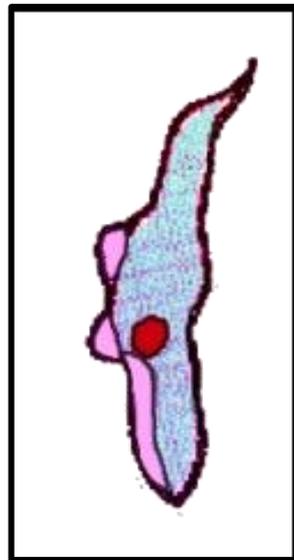
Vertebrate host
(man)

Trypomastigotes

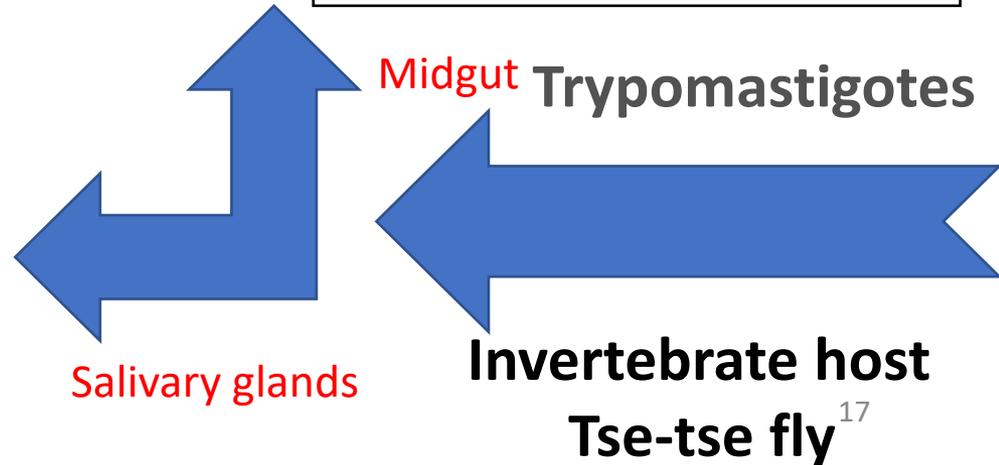
Long: 30 x 1-2 μ m
Intermediate: 20 μ m
Short stumpy: 15 μ m



Epimastigotes

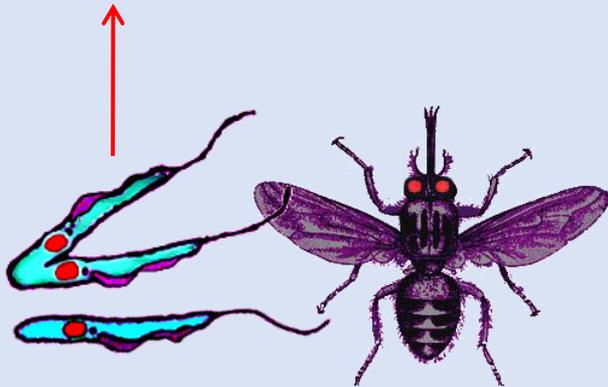


Metacyclic



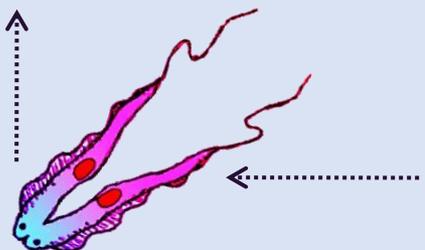
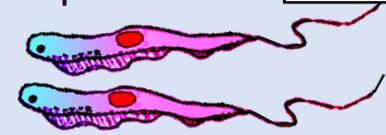
Inver. Hosts

Metacyclic trypomastigote
Infective stage



Migrate to salivary glands
→ Epimastigotes & multiply

Tsetse ingests TM

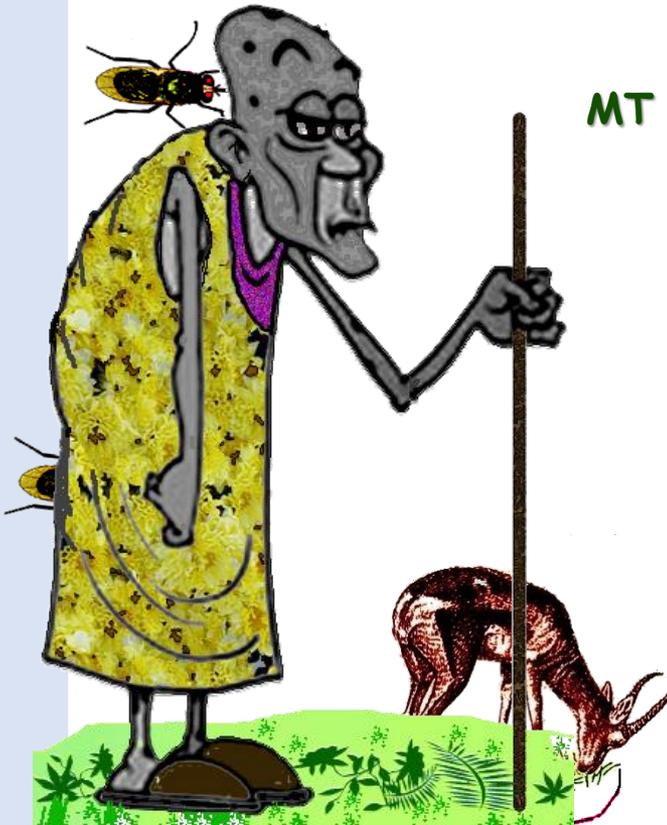


Multiplication in midgut

HOSTS

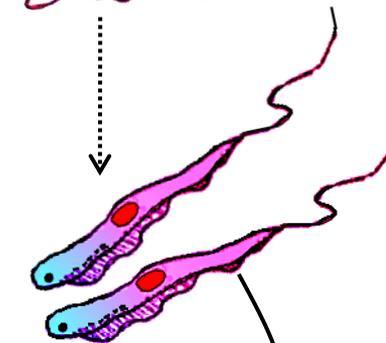
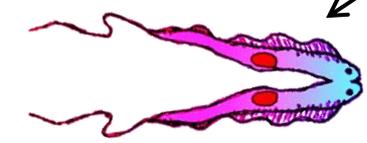
Ver. Hosts

Tsetse inoculates
MT into the bite wound



MT → Trypomastigotes

Multiplication



TM invade blood, lymph and CNS & multiply

Mode of transmission



- Bite of infected *Glossina* (Tsetse fly).
- Blood transfusion.
- Congenital transmission.
- Sexual transmission may be possible.

N.B. Infective stage: **Metacyclic trypomastigotes** in salivary glands of the vector and trypomastigotes in other modes.

Trypanosoma gambiense

G.D:

West and Central Africa

D.H:

Man

R.H:

No reservoir host

Trypanosoma rhodesiense

Eastern parts of Africa

Man

Wild game animals

Pathogenesis and symptomatology of gambian trypanosomiasis



The disease has 3 stages



1-Chancer
(primary lesion at the site of bite)

- Firm painful and tender nodule with regional lymphadenitis.
- After 3 weeks the parasite invades the lymphatic system and blood.



2-Haemolympathatic stage



Invasion of the blood

➤ Fever, headache, joint pains, muscle pain, malaise and itching (skin rash).

➤ Toxic depression of bone marrow ⇒ **anaemia** (hypoplastic), **leukopenia** & **thrombocytopenia.**



Invasion of lymphatic system

➤ LNs enlargement especially cervical lymph nodes in the posterior triangle of the neck (**Winterbottom's sign**).

➤ Hyperplasia of REC ⇒ hepatomegaly & splenomegaly.

➤ Hypersplenism ⇒ anaemia and thrombocytopenia



3-Neurological stage (Sleeping sickness syndrome)

The parasite invades the CNS after one year or more by passing through the blood brain barrier → multiply there → vasculitis and petechial haemorrhage → ischemia and pressure atrophy of nerve cells → chronic meningoencephalitis

Manifested by

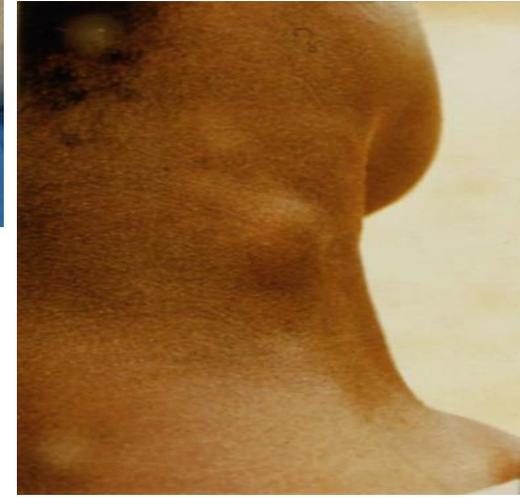


Fever, severe headache, nausea, vomiting, neck rigidity, mental dullness, apathy, reduced coordination, convulsion, paralysis and all day and night sleeping (**sleep regulating center affection**).

Without treatment, the disease is fatal with progressive mental deterioration leading to **coma and death** either from the disease or from intercurrent secondary infections as malaria & pneumonia

N.B. Damage caused in the neurological stage is irreversible.

**African
trypanosomiasis**



Laboratory diagnosis



Direct methods

Detection of trypomastigotes in blood, lymph nodes aspiration, fluid aspirated from chancre, bone marrow puncture (sternum) and CSF by:

- 1- **Microscopic examination of stained and unstained films.**
- 2- **Culture on NNN medium** → epimastigotes.
- 3- **Animal inoculation:** susceptible to *T. rhodesiense*

Indirect methods

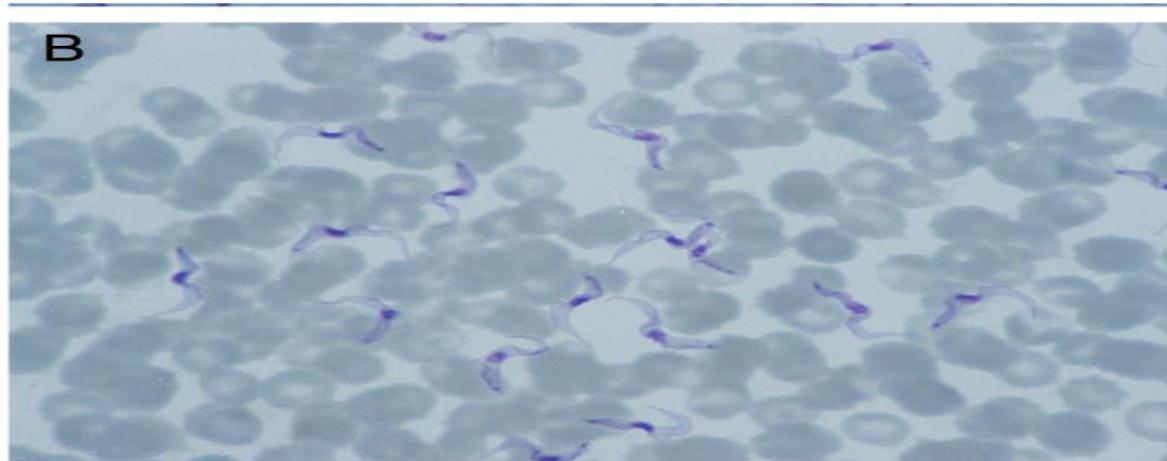
- **Serological tests: IFAT & ELISA.**
- **Serum IgM:** Always elevated in the blood and CSF due to antigenic variation of the trypanosome (changing its antigenic coat) to escape from host immune response (**evasion**).
- **Blood examination:** Anaemia, leucopenia and thrombocytopenia



Polymorphic trypanosomes



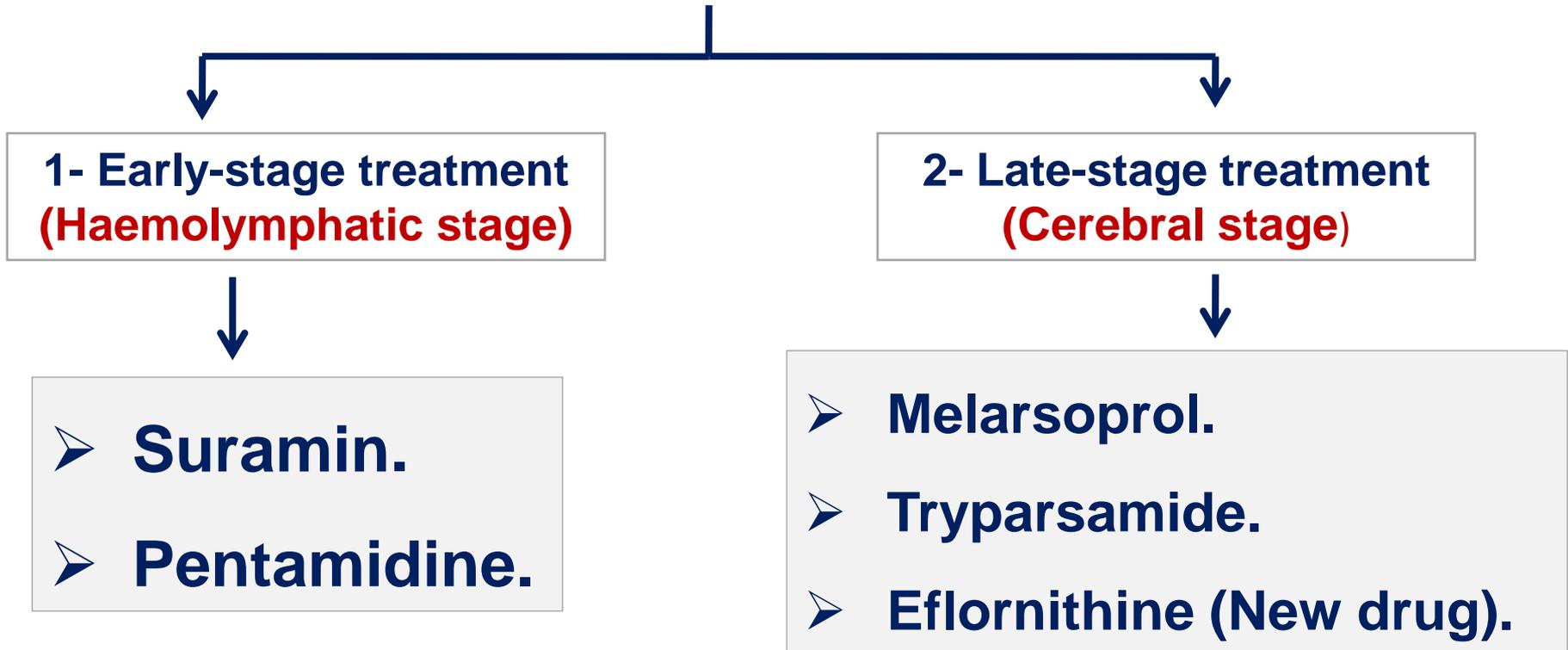
Chancer



T. rhodesinse



Treatment



N.B. *T. rhodesiense* is more resistant to treatment



Case 1

- **A 24-year-old- male from Pakistan, presented to the emergency hospital suffering from fever, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. He complained of sudden loss of weight and physical examination revealed hepatosplenomegaly, lymphadenopathy and dark pigmented areas of the skin on the forehead and around the mouth.**

Case 2

- **A 20-year-old male from West Africa who presented to the hospital suffering from severe myalgia, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhea. Physical examination revealed tender, indurated erythematous lesion on his left forearm with enlargement of the posterior cervical lymph nodes**