

## WEEK 3-a,b

**Paper of the week:** <https://zookeys.pensoft.net/articles.php?id=10508> --



Continuing with the Phylum Protozoa or Protista

Class Kinetoplastida – have kinetoplast – a large darkly staining body in the mitochondrion. This is comprised of numerous small rings of interlocking DNA.

### Leishmania spp.

General Life Cycle.

Mammal-----→ Sand Fly (*Phlebotomus*)-----→Promastigotes-→Move into foregut (amastigotes)

Pump promastigotes into skin of mammal. -----→convert to amastigotes-  
→phagocytes take up→

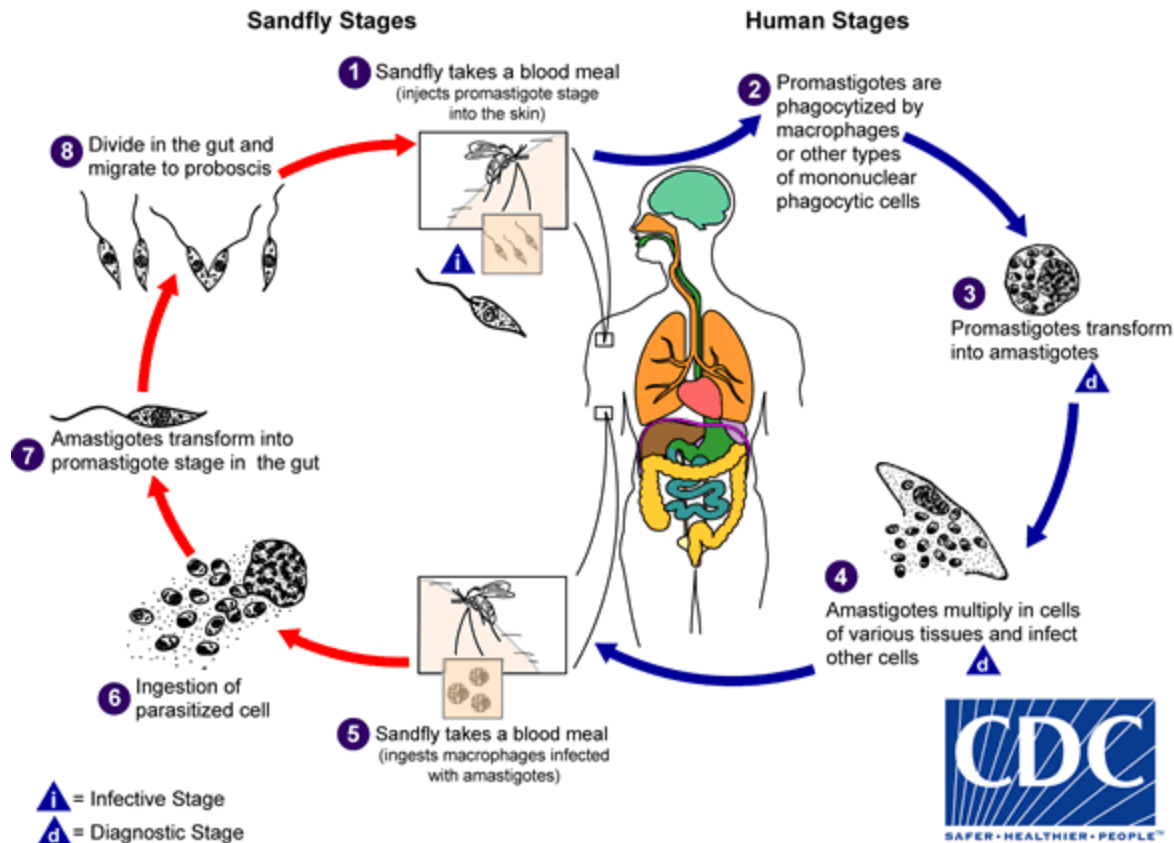
Amastigotes multiply within cell phagosomes.-----→ cell ruptures-→ continued cycles of phagocytosis and rupture.

Amastigotes free in blood or in blood cells (leucocytes).

Cutaneous, Mucocutaneous, Visceral.

Leishmania species	Vertebrate hosts	Disease	Insect vector	Distribution
<b>CUTANEOUS LEISHMANIASIS</b>				
<i>L. aethiopica</i>	humans, hyraxes	diffuse or dry cutaneous	<i>Phlebotomus</i>	Ethiopia, Kenya
<i>L. tropica minor</i>	humans, dogs, rodents	dry cutaneous	<i>Phlebotomus</i>	Mediterranean
<i>L. tropica major</i>	humans, dogs, rodents	wet cutaneous, oriental sore	<i>Phlebotomus</i>	Mediterranean
<i>L. peruviana</i>	humans, dogs	uta, cutaneous	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	Peru
<i>L. mexicana mexicana</i>	humans, rodents	chicleros ulcer, cutaneous	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	Central America, Mexico
<i>L. mexicana amazonensis</i>	humans, rodents	diffuse, cutaneous	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	South America
<i>L. mexicana pifanoi</i>	humans, rodents	cutaneous, mucocutaneous	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	Venezuela
<i>L. brazillensis</i>	humans, rodents, sloths	espundia, mucocutaneous	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	Mexico-Brazil
<b>VISCERAL LEISHMANIASIS</b>				
<i>L. donovani donovani</i>	humans, dogs, foxes	kala azar, dum-dum fever, Old World visceral	<i>Phlebotomus</i>	Mediterranean, South America

<i>L. donovani infantum</i>	humans, dogs	infantile, visceral	<i>Phlebotomus</i>	Mediterranean
<i>L. donovani chagasi</i>	humans, foxes, cats	New World visceral	<i>Lutzomyia</i>	South America



Major species of concern:  
Old World -

1. *Leishmania tropica* (occurs in more populated areas)
2. *L. major* (occurs in more rural areas)

--Both produce cutaneous ulcers. Cutaneous leishmaniasis.  
--Without infection by other organisms, sore heals in two to 12 months.  
--Even though the host shows immunity to new lesions, the parasite maintains low numerical density in the human host.

**Distribution:** West Central Africa, Middle East, SW Asia, and India.

**Diagnosis:** Discovery of amastigotes in smear of ulcer. Injection into hamsters that are completely susceptible is also a potential method for ID.

### 3. *Leishmania braziliensis*

--Produces mucocutaneous leishmaniasis.

--A sylvatic disease that occurs in wild mammals and is transmitted by sandflies of the genus *Lutzomyia*

**Distribution:** Central Mexico south to northern Argentina on the east slopes of the Andes mountains.

**Diagnosis:** Discovery of L-D bodies (amastigotes) in connective tissues of the host. Culturing and in vivo-infection in hamsters is also a good method of identification.

-Delay in mucocutaneous lesion formation from occult infection can occur as late as 24 years after initial infection.

### 4. *Leishmania mexicana*

--Mostly a cutaneous form preduces skin lesions but with three versions: **mucocutaneous, nasopharyngeal mucosal, and visceral.**

**Distribution:** Texas, Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Central America.

**Diagnosis:** LD bodies in the affected tissues.

### 4. *Leishmania donovani*

--Visceral leishmaniasis or Dum-Dum fever or Kala-azar.

**Distribution:** Both old and new world. Mostly tropical areas

**Diagnosis:** LD Bodies, ELISA and IFA (immune-fluorescent antibody). Cross reactivity occurs.

**Pathology:** Post-kalazar dermal leishmanoid form. Splenomegaly.

Hosts:

Work done by Donald Heyneman in defining the hosts, epidemiology, and transmission dynamics of *Leishmania* in the Sudan is a classic paper that we can read in class.

**Problems in Control of these parasites.**

-zoonotic, with reservoir hosts.

-rodents, sand flies, widely distributed.

-wars and poverty in the areas that these species cause the most problems.

Other Flagellates?