


Chagas disease: A brief summary

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ABSTRACT

Chagas disease (CD) has existed for millions of years as an enzootic in wild animals that began to be transmitted to humans accidentally when it invaded wild ecotopes. However, the disease was described for the first time in 1909 by the Brazilian Carlos Ribeiro Justiniano Chagas (Carlos Chagas), who detected the parasite in a 2-year-old child in the city of Lassance, Minas Gerais. This fact was considered a milestone in the history of medicine due to the simultaneous discovery of the vector popularly known as kissing bug.

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INTRODUCTION

Chagas disease (CD) has existed for millions of years as an enzootic in wild animals that began to be transmitted to humans accidentally when it invaded wild ecotopes. However, the disease was described for the first time in 1909 by the Brazilian Carlos Ribeiro Justiniano Chagas (Carlos Chagas), who detected the parasite in a 2-year-old child in the city of Lassance, Minas Gerais. This fact was considered a milestone in the history of medicine due to the simultaneous discovery of the vector popularly known as kissing bug.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of this study was to demonstrate the importance of knowing Chagas disease.

METHODOLOGY

This is a literature review study on Chagas Disease.

RESULTS

The etiologic agent is the flagellate protozoan *Trypanosoma cruzi*. In vertebrate blood, it is present in the infective form trypomastigote and in tissues, in the amastigote form. In insects, on the other hand, several maturations occur, highlighting the infective form, which are the forms found in the feces and urine of the insect. Transmission is by the deposition of infected feces on the skin or mucous membrane of the man. The kissing bug emits feces at or shortly after sucking the vertebrate. The same kissing bug can eliminate a large number of trypanosomes every time it issues droppings following a rejection. Transmission can also occur through blood transfusion, oral ingestion of contaminated food, congenital transmission, and also through breast milk.

CONCLUSION

Chagas Disease is of paramount importance for Public Health and despite all the strategies formed to combat it, it is necessary to further increase the population's knowledge about the disease through campaigns, school education and thus avoid the transmissibility of the disease.



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