

UNITED IN CHALLENGING CHAGAS DISEASE

VIII Chagas Clinical Research Platform Meeting, November 2018

LOCATION: Centro de Formación de la Cooperación Española en Santa Cruz de la Sierra - AECID

Address: Calle Arenales # 583 entre Campero y, Avaroa, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

NOVEMBER 13TH, TUESDAY

CLOSED MEETING – Collaborative Data Platform for Chagas Disease (DNDi-IDDO)

TIME 02:00 PM – 06:00 PM

NOVEMBER 14TH, WEDNESDAY

WORKSHOP – Research priorities for Chagas disease

TIME 08:00 AM – 03:15 PM

COORDINATORS Javier Sancho (Chagas Coalition), Sergio Sosa-Estani (DNDi), Marina Certo (DNDi), Joaquim Gascón (ISGlobal)

SCHEDULE

08:00 AM – 8:30 AM- Greeting, reception

08:30 AM – 8:45 AM Welcoming remarks

Sergio Sosa-Estani (DNDi)

Javier Sancho (Chagas Coalition)

08:45 AM – 9:15 AM -Presentation of the Santa Cruz Letter - Michel Lotrowska and Sergio Sosa-Estani (DNDi)

09:15 AM – 9:30 AM - Goals, organization and structure of the group workshops - Colin Forsyth (DNDi)

Group Workshops: *At this juncture we will divide into three groups: 1) drug discovery and biomarkers, 2) clinical research, and 3) implementation/diagnostics. Each group will discuss goals, barriers, and opportunities for research in their respective areas.*

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM: Group workshops, Part 1

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM – Coffee break

10:45 AM – 01:00 PM – Group workshops, Part 2

01:00 PM – 02:00 PM – Lunch

02:00 PM – 03:00 PM – Presentation of outcomes of group discussions

02:00 PM – 02:20 PM - Group 1, Drug Discovery and Biomarkers

02:20 PM – 02:40 PM - Group 2, Clinical Research

02:40 PM – 03:00 PM - Group 3: Implementation/diagnostics

03:00 PM – 03:15 PM – Closure

Please be advised this schedule may be subject to change | 1

NOVEMBER 14TH, WEDNESDAY

WORKSHOP A - Can Neurohormonal Antagonism Prevent Chagas Cardiomyopathy?

TIME 3:30 PM – 05:30 PM

MODERATOR Juan Carlos Villar (Institute of Cardiology and Autonomous University of Bucaramanga, Colombia)

Description: Conceptual foundations and practical considerations for early treatment of cardiac pathophysiology.

WORKSHOP B - Information Technology to Improve Access to Chagas disease

TIME 3:30 PM – 05:30 PM

MODERATOR Marcelo Abril (Mundo Sano, Argentina)

Description: Community identification of geographic "hot spots" using information technology

CLOSED WORKSHOP – PCR Endpoint

TIME 3:30 PM – 05:30 PM

MODERATOR Eric Chatelain (DNDi, Switzerland)

Description: To review the state of the art of two tools to assess response of treatment (Molecular and immune-serological test) and discuss attributes and limitations to be used in a Phase 3 RCT for registration

CLOSED MEETING – BENDITA study

TIME 06:00 PM – 07:30 PM

NOVEMBER 15TH, THURSDAY – PLENARY SESSION

LOCATION: Centro de Formación de la Cooperación Española en Santa Cruz de la Sierra - AECID

Address: Calle Arenales # 583 entre Campero y, Avaroa, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

08:00 AM – 08:30 AM

Registration

08:30 AM **Opening**

– 9:00 AM

Sergio Sosa-Estani and Michel Lotrowska (DNDi)

Javier Sancho (Chagas Coalition, Spain)

Bolivia National Chagas Program and Programa Departamental de Chagas de Santa Cruz de la Sierra (TBC)

Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation – AECID (TBC)

09:00 AM **Session 1. New Horizons and Future Developments in Research and Drug Discovery for Chagas Disease**

– 10:30 AM

Speaker: John Kelly (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK)

Panelists: Carolina Borsoi Moraes (University of São Paulo, Brazil)

Frederick Buckner (University of Washington, USA)

Manu De Rycker (University of Dundee, UK)

Moderator: Jadel Kratz

Description: Benznidazole and nifurtimox are the only efficacious drugs available targeting *Trypanosoma cruzi*. These two old nitroheterocyclic drugs have serious side effects, and therefore there is a clear need for new and safer medications. But despite numerous drug discovery efforts in the last decade, the scientific community is still struggling to identify compounds suitable for parasitological cure, due to specific challenges associated with drug discovery for Chagas disease, such as the poor understanding of pathogen biology and presence of dormant parasite forms, lack of translation from enzymatic/cellular assays to animal models and afterwards to the clinic, and complex PK/PD. In this Session, we will consider these hurdles and present some of the recent developments in research and drug discovery for Chagas disease.

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Coffee break

10:45 AM **Session 2. Biomarkers for Chagas Disease: The Long Journey from Identification to Clinical Validation and Regulatory Acceptance**

– 11:45 AM

Speaker: Momar Ndao (McGill University, Canada)

Panelists: Eric Chatelain (DNDi, Switzerland)

Fernan Agüero (IIBIO – University of San Martín - CONICET, Argentina)

Maria-Jesus Pinazo (ISGlobal, Spain)

Moderator: Eric Chatelain

Description: Biomarkers for measuring treatment efficacy and predicting disease progression are a fundamental research need for Chagas disease. In this session, we will discuss the pros and cons of currently proposed biomarkers, highlighting what is available now and what is needed. It is clear that the Chagas community should unite in pursuit of viable biomarkers research; the question is what the next research priorities should be.

11:45 AM – Session 3. The Next Era of Clinical Trials in Chagas Disease

01:00 PM

Speaker: Israel Molina Romero (Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Spain)

Panelists: Juan Carlos Villar (Autonomous University of Bucaramanga, Colombia)

Marisa Fernandez (National Institute of Parasitology Dr. Mario Fatale Chaben, Argentina)

Faustino Torrico (CEADES, Bolivia)

Moderator: Fabiana Barreira (DNDi, Brazil)

Description: After providing an overview of the current state of clinical trials for Chagas disease, we discuss future initiatives and research directions. We will discuss the foundations of the study design for new trials evaluating new compounds as well as different regimens of benznidazole and nifurtimox. Finally, potential solutions to common challenges and needs, such as new tools for measuring efficacy and therapeutic response, will be assessed.

01:00 PM – 02:00 PM

Lunch

02:00 PM – Presenting a Collaborative Data Platform for Chagas Disease (DNDi-IDDO)

02:45 PM

02:45 PM – Session 4. New Solutions for Overcoming Access Barriers to Diagnosis of Chagas Disease

04:00 PM

Speaker: Juan Carlos Ramírez (Instituto Nacional de Parasitología “Dr. Mario Fatale Chaben”, Argentina)

Panelists: Astrid Carolina Florez Sanchez (Instituto Nacional de Salud, Colombia)

Ana Yecê das Neves Pinto (Fiocruz and Ministério da Saúde, Brazil)

Troy Leader (PATH, USA)

Moderator: Andrea Marchiol

Description: The vast majority of people with Chagas disease are undiagnosed, and diagnostic barriers represent one of the major challenges to advancing research and increasing healthcare access. This session will discuss current knowledge on PCR as a diagnostic tool, and the implications for research and clinical practice. The session will also highlight research priorities for ensuring greater access to diagnosis throughout health systems in affected countries.

04:00 PM – 04:15 PM

Coffee break

04:15 PM – Round Table: Improving the Future for People with Chagas Disease: Perspectives from Bolivia

5:00 PM

Panelists: Justo Chungara Monzon (National Chagas Program, Bolivia) - TBC

Roberto Vargas (Departmental Chagas Program, Santa Cruz and ASAAMUCH, Bolivia)

Faustino Torrico (CEADES, Bolivia)

Moderator: Cristina Alonso-Vega (DNDi, Bolivia)

05:00 PM – Presentation of the Santa Cruz Letter, Michel Lotrowska (DNDi) and Javier Sancho (Chagas Coalition)

06:00 PM

Concluding Remarks, Sergio Sosa-Estani (DNDi) and Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft (DNDi)

06:00 PM Closing cocktail