

TEXAS CHAGAS TASKFORCE

Monthly Newsletter | April 2021

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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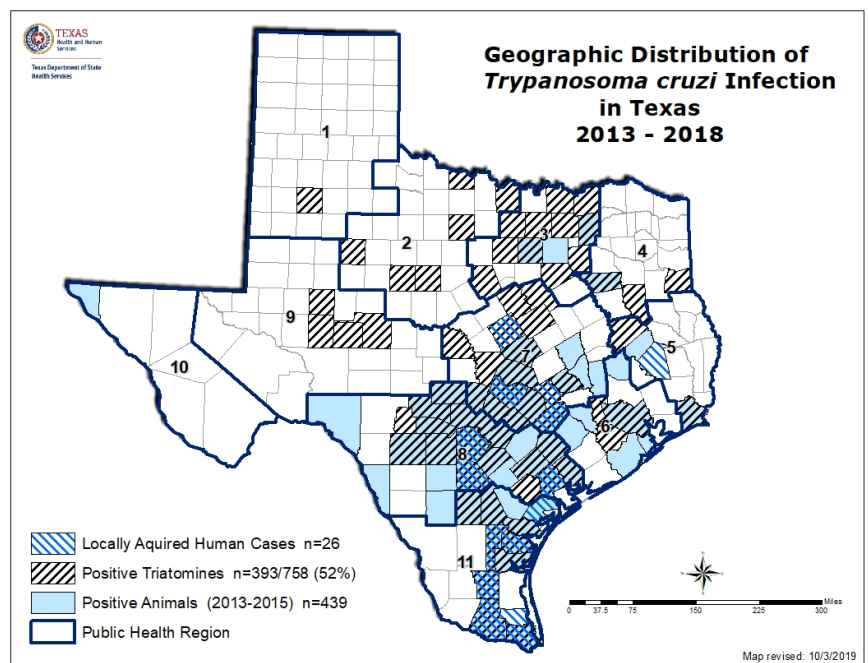
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Photos provided via courtesy of
the Texas Department of
Health and Human Services



Task Force Updates:

Here are some of the key items for this update:

1. **April 14th is World Chagas Day!** Keep your eye out for different reports, webinars and activities using this day to help spread awareness. We will be using social media to post facts and info about Chagas disease throughout the week leading up to April 14th. Please follow us on social media!
2. Boston University will be doing an online symposium on Immigrant health and **Dr. Natasha Hochberg** will be discussing Chagas disease! This is for CME and is on April 14th at 9:30am CDT to 11am CDT. To register or for more information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/immigrant-health-symposium-in-honor-of-world-chagas-day-tickets-145944328415>
3. Einstein College will be putting on a Congenital Chagas Disease presentation with **Dr. Morven Edwards!** The online presentation is also for CME and will happen on June 3rd at 7:00am-8:00am CDT. To register or for more info: <https://einsteinmed.org/education/md-program/faculty-development/event-details.aspx?eventid=699>
4. **Chagas ECHOs are back!!!** We are hoping to kick off our first in a monthly series of ECHO sessions on Chagas disease at the end of April or first of May. We are finalizing speakers and getting in our applications for CME credits now. We will be sending out lots more information on this effort in the coming days/weeks. Meanwhile, check out the **Chagas ECHO website** for more information: <https://wp.uthscsa.edu/echo/echo-programs/chagas-disease/>
5. The **Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health** has put out their 2nd quarterly e-newsletter on Chagas Disease. I have attached it as a PDF to the email along with this newsletter!
6. Our **DOD surveillance project** is scheduled to kick off in May with Mr. Walter Roachell from US Army Public Health Command at Fort Sam in San Antonio heading to California to help train Navy personnel on triatomine collection.
7. The **newborn pilot study** is kicking into high gear with the validation piece of our work. We will be validating the Weiner 3.0 test kits with dried blood spots this month. Stay tuned for more information about the study coming soon.
8. If you know of any health care provider groups that would benefit from an online presentation or grand rounds on Chagas please contact Paula at psgranados@txstate.edu
9. **The next Texas Chagas Taskforce quarterly meeting will be on June 3rd @11am. We will send out a Zoom link and agenda in advance of the meeting.**
10. We are trying to be proactive in spreading info via our social media sites, so if you have important info you would like to share via our networks, we would be happy to send out or share. Please send to either Paula, Elizabeth, or Camryn and we will get it posted. You can check us out at:

**Twitter: @ChagasTexas @PaulaSGranados | Facebook: @TexasChagasTaskforce
Instagram: @Tx_Chagas**

Chagas Around the Web:

The following is a list of recently published stories or updates. We have not vetted each individual link, but this is to gauge the level of interest/research going on related to Chagas disease, as captured by Google Alerts.

1. Overcoming neglect: Finding ways to manage and control NTDs
<https://www.msf.org/overcoming-neglect-report-ntds>
2. PLOS Papers on LDL Uptake, Chagas Disease Diversity, Mitochondrial Mutations in AMD
<https://www.genomeweb.com/scan/plos-papers-ldl-uptake-chagas-disease-diversity-mitochondrial-mutations-amd#.YBwMS-hKiUk>
3. Paraguay's First Satellite Deployed From the International Space Station
https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/news/birds-4-paraguays-first-satellite
4. Pandemic hits efforts to stop Mexico's 'silent' killer
<https://news.trust.org/item/20210322065617-htbys/>

Recent and Key Peer-Reviewed Articles:

The following is a list of recently published articles. We have not vetted each individual article, but this is to gauge the level of interest/research going on related to Chagas disease, as captured by Google Scholar.

1. "You Don't Have a Normal Life": Coping with Chagas Disease in Los Angeles, California
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/01459740.2021.1894559>
2. Chagas Disease in the United States: A Perspective on Diagnostic Testing Limitations
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MPWvxYUsqT8oinKbxSV8VsnhgpBpAv5C/view?usp=sharing>
3. Comparative Performance of Latest -Generation and FDA -Cleared Serology Tests for the Diagnosis of Chagas Disease
<https://jcm.asm.org/content/jcm/early/2021/03/23/JCM.00158-21.full.pdf>
4. A Review on Chagas Disease
<https://www.pharmatutor.org/articles/review-chagas-disease>
5. The Case for the Development of a Chagas Disease Vaccine/ Why? How? When?
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-mp8BYwjsbq1WhZuFkWLQOy3yFrNW1q1/view?usp=sharing>
6. Prophylaxis for Chagas Disease Reactivation: Is It Necessary?
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053249821006859>
7. Chagas disease is an independent predictor of stroke and death in a cohort of heart failure patients.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1f4lhZwkaZKpQPIIZJm-qY3-WYyWxe-7R/view?usp=sharing>
8. Potentials of marine natural products against malaria, leishmaniasis, and trypanosomiasis parasites: a review of recent articles
<https://idpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40249-021-00796-6>
9. Quantitative imagery analysis of spot patterns for the three-haplogroup classification of *Triatoma dimidiata* (Latreille, 1811) (Hemiptera: Reduviidae), an important vector of Chagas disease
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lcCdeSXQqVwv7MzXhikiZxN1Eg2AAlu_/view?usp=sharing
10. Quantum computational investigations and molecular docking studies on amentoflavone
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pgHy8-KP3fJviBETztn8mmE_Cm-X3Alg/view?usp=sharing
11. Exploring the links between research demand and supply: The case of Chagas
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pgHy8-KP3fJviBETztn8mmE_Cm-X3Alg/view?usp=sharing
12. Correlation between Cardiomegaly on Chest X-Ray and Left Ventricular Diameter on Echocardiography in Patients with Chagas Disease
<http://abccardiol.org/en/article/correlation-between-cardiomegaly-on-chest-x-ray-and-left-ventricular-diameter-on-echocardiography-in-patients-with-chagas-disease/>
13. Case report: Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator prevents sudden death in patients with Chagas cardiomyopathy in the Brazilian Amazon
<https://www.sbmt.org.br/portal/relato-de-caso-cardioversor-desfibrilador-implantavel-previne-morte-subita-em-pacientes-com-cardiomiopatia-chagasica-na-amazonia-brasileira/?locale=en-US&lang=en>
14. Collateral motion saliency-based model for *Trypanosoma cruzi* detection in dye-free blood microscopy
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iM-2GB_nHU7neUZASa_iqMZs2v13EaFp/view?usp=sharing
15. Synergistic effect and ultrastructural changes in *Trypanosoma cruzi* caused by isobutyl lactone A in short exposure of time
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17SKszOSKRJXkGAIstfEu44kng-AIWkN/view?usp=sharing>
16. Preliminary chemical characterization of ethanolic extracts from Colombian plants with promising anti-*Trypanosoma cruzi* activity
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MU1DoOliBOr28WIMOGrmjsH07OW6yDdQ/view?usp=sharing>

17. Synthesis, Characterization and Antichagasic Evaluation of Thiosemicarbazones Prepared from Chalcones and Dibenzalacetones
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BUk1QqMoJRVzeVoBAvJZcustV74wMUv6/view?usp=sharing>
18. *Rhodnius micki*, a new species of Triatominae (Hemiptera, Reduviidae) from Bolivia
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12nZTYgii5gz5Cdx7JxoAStVSxvLuyZHE/view?usp=sharing>
19. Chagas Disease/ seroprevalence and effectiveness of antiparasitic treatment
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Wu_CiU9u8m9h56XMwg2IE2pxsUbfjZ2P/view?usp=sharing
20. Rare Pathogenic Variants in Mitochondrial and Inflammation-Associated Genes May Lead to Inflammatory Cardiomyopathy in Chagas Disease
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10875-021-01000-y>
21. Benznidazole Therapy Post-Heart Transplant and Surveillance *Trypanosoma cruzi* Testing with Donor Specific Antibodies
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053249821020192>
22. Furan derivatives impair proliferation and affect ultrastructural organization of *Trypanosoma cruzi* and *Leishmania amazonensis*
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0014489421000370>
23. Zoledronate repositioning as a potential trypanocidal drug. *Trypanosoma cruzi* HPRT an alternative target to be considered
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pgXljiMdXsuqJzMvN1NMBecWqld-FBC9x/view?usp=sharing>
24. Review on Experimental Treatment Strategies Against *Trypanosoma cruzi*
<https://www.dovepress.com/review-on-experimental-treatment-strategies-against-trypanosoma-cruzi-peer-reviewed-fulltext-article-JEP>

Upcoming Presentations/Conferences Year: 2021

Conference	Website	Date	Location	Abstract
Immigrant Health Symposium	Eventbrite link: https://bit.ly/3lsXOQR	April 14, 9:30am- 11:00am CDT	Virtual	-
James Steele Conference on Diseases in Nature Transmissible to Man (DIN)	https://sites.google.com/site/diseasesinnature/home/2021-conference	TBD	Virtual	TBD
10 th World Congress on Public Health, Nutrition, & Epidemiology	https://publichealth.conferenceseries.com/	July 26-27	Webinar	April 28 for early registration
Infectious Disease Week	https://idweek.org/	September 29- October 3	Virtual	June 9
American Public Health Association	https://www.apha.org/annual-meeting	October 23-27	Denver, CO and Virtual	Expired
American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene 69 th Annual Meeting	https://www.astmh.org/annual-meeting/future-meetings	November 17- 21	Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center National Harbor, Maryland	April 21
Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. 130 th Annual Meeting	https://www.amsus.org/events/calendar-of-amsus-events/	February 7-11, 2022 (No longer in November/December)	Virtual and face-to-face hybrid at Gaylord National Resort & Conference Center National Harbor, Maryland	TBD

If you have any information you would like to send to share via the monthly newsletter, please contact Elizabeth at eflores@txstate.edu or Camryn at ccc175@txstate.edu.

