BELIZE

BASIC COUNTRY DATA

Total Population: 344,700
Population 0-14 years: 35%
Rural population: 47%
Population living under USD 1.25 a day: 13.4%
Population living under the national poverty line: no data
Income status: Lower middle income economy
Ranking: High human development (ranking 93)
Per capita total expenditure on health at average exchange rate (US dollar): 223
Life expectancy at birth (years): 76
Healthy life expectancy at birth (years): 60

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

VL has never been reported, but CL by *L. mexicana* is a well known disease in the northern area of the country [1]. In 1984, *L. braziliensis* was reported for the first time among British military personnel, infected in the southern part of Belize [2]. The infection frequency among soldiers is rising and suggests that the vector is a highly anthropophilic species, such as *Lu. ovallesi* or *Lu. Crucifera* [1].

Cutaneous leishmaniasis is an emerging health problem among travelers to Belize [3]. The nearby area in Mexico, Quintana Roo, is one of Mexico's most important endemic areas.

PARASITOLOGICAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leishmania species</th>
<th>Clinical form</th>
<th>Vector species</th>
<th>Reservoirs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>L. braziliensis</em></td>
<td>ZCL</td>
<td><em>Lu. ovallesi</em></td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>L. mexicana</em></td>
<td>ZCL</td>
<td><em>Lu. olmeca olmeca</em></td>
<td><em>Heteromys sp.</em>, <em>Nyctomys sp.</em>, <em>Ototylomys sp.</em>, <em>Sigmodon sp.</em>, <em>Oryzomys sp.</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, MAPS AND TRENDS

Data not available

ACCESS TO DRUGS

The antimonials Pentostam, GSK (SSG) and Glucantime, Sanofi (meglumine antimoniate) are not registered.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

