GAMBIA

BASIC COUNTRY DATA

Total Population: 1,728,394
Population 0-14 years: 44%
Rural population: 42%
Population living under USD 1.25 a day: no data
Population living under the national poverty line: no data
Income status: Low income economy
Ranking: Low human development (ranking 168)
Per capita total expenditure on health at average exchange rate (US dollar): 26
Life expectancy at birth (years): 58
Healthy life expectancy at birth (years): 50

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Leishmaniasis is uncommon in Gambia. No recent cases of either VL or CL have been reported. Only 3 human cases of VL have been described in 1949, 1980 and 1982 [1,2]. In 1980, a positive dog was found in the same compound as the human case [3]. This strongly suggests that dogs could be a reservoir of this infection in this area.

For CL, only 10 cases have been reported, 3 before 1980, one in 1980, and 6 in 1982 [1]. No further cases of VL and CL have been documented. As Gambia is part of a proposed CL endemicity belt running across West Africa, cases may occur regularly but remain unreported. P. duboscqi, the proven vector in Senegal, has also been found in the Gambia region [1].

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>L. infantum</td>
<td>ZVL</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Canis familiaris</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MAPS AND TRENDS, CONTROL, DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, ACCESS TO CARE, ACCESS TO DRUGS

No antimonials are registered.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

