



**NOVEMBER, 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

09h00 – 16h00 | **SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**READING ROOM**

O Expresso Chagas XXI  
**IOC- Fiocruz-RJ**

10h00 | **PRE-CONGRESS**

**ROOM A**

**Meeting on South American Livestock Trypanosomes**

Topics:

- Recent advances with *Trypanosoma vivax*
- Status of livestock trypanosomosis in South America
- Gaps in knowledge/capabilities, and opportunities for collaboration

Co-Ordinators: Bill Wickstead, Cat Gadelha (University of Nottingham), Mike Barrett (University of Glasgow), Liam Morrison, Pieter Steketee (Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh), Ariel M. Silber (University of Sao Paulo), and Edmundo Grisard (Federal University of Santa Catarina)

16h30 – 17h00 | **OPENING CEREMONY**

**Room A**

17h00 – 18h00 | **OPENING CONFERENCE  
SAMUEL PESSOA AWARD**

**ROOM A**

Chair: Marcia Cristina Paes

Feast or Poison? How Blood-Feeding Arthropods Tame the Toxicity of Massive Meals

**Pedro Lagerblad** (*UFRJ – RJ – Brazil*)

18h00 – 19h00 | **BRAINSTORM**

**ROOM A**

Chair: Narcisa Cunha e Silva

**A spotlight on Early Career Researchers**

19h30 – 20h30 | **DINNER**

20h30 – 22h30 | **POSTER SESSION – ODD/ÍMPARES**

**GYMNASIUM**

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**09h00 – 18h00 | SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES****READING ROOM**

O Expresso Chagas XXI  
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Innovations in Parasitology Outreach and Inclusion – The Work of LICIPP  
**Danusa Pinheiro Bastos Garcia de Mattos, Daniela Leles de Souza and Patricia Riddell Millar Goulart (UFF, Brazil)**

**09h00 – 11h00 | ORAL PRESENTATION - OP.01****ROOM A**

Chairs: Marcelo Santos Silva and Fabrício Machado

**TB001** – Tackling cutaneous Leishmaniasis: repurposing human kinase inhibitors.  
**VICTOR DE SOUSA AGOSTINO (IB-Unicamp, Brazil)**

**HP.001** – Elucidating the role of Golgin-63 (TcG63) in Golgi structure and function in *Trypanosoma cruzi*.  
**GIOVANNA HENRIQUES DE SOUZA (UFRJ, Brazil)**

**HP.002** – Re-expression of Trans-sialidase activity in knockout mutants confirms its essential role as virulence factors during *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection.  
**MARINA FERREIRA BATISTA ZAULI (UFMG, Brazil)**

**PV. 001**– Understanding the mechanism underlying oocyst division.  
**RIBOT NATHAN (Institut Pasteur, France)**

**HP.003** – Development of RNA vaccines for *Chagas disease* based on sequences from *Trypanosoma cruzi* trans-sialidases.  
**CARLOS ROBERTO DE ALMEIDA JÚNIOR (UGMG, Brazil)**

**HP.004** – Impact of Congenital Toxoplasmosis on retinal vascular development in mice.  
**CAROLINA MOREIRA DOS SANTOS (FIOCRUZ, Brazil)**

**PV.002** – TcMK1, TcMK2 and TcMK3: *Trypanosoma cruzi* Specific Protein Kinases Essential for Metacyclogenesis.  
**PRISCILLA DE ARAUJO LIMA SMELTZER (UFRJ, Brazil)**

**TB.002** – Cyclic peptide Li1 blocks macrophage invasion by metacyclic *Leishmania amazonensis* and reduces parasite burden in mice.  
**TÚLIO CUSTÓDIO REIS (Unesp, Brazil)**

**09h00 – 11h00 | ORAL PRESENTATION - OP.02****ROOM B**

Chairs: Renata R. Tonelli and Janaina F. Nascimento

**PV.003** – Functional analysis of IP6K in *Trypanosoma cruzi*: establishing genotoxic stress baselines to guide future DNA damage studies in IP6K-mutant lineages.  
**BRYAN ETINDI ABUCHERY** (IQ-USP, *Brazil*)

**PV.004** – Detection of phlebotomine transmitted viral connections in dogs with visceral leishmaniasis in Brazil.  
**DANIEL MARCOS JÚLIO AGOSTINHO** (UFRJ, *Brazil*)

**HP.005** – Integration of knock sideways and BioID to elucidate the role and interactors of the transcription factor AP2-O in *Plasmodium falciparum*.  
**GERHARD WUNDERLICH** (ICB-USP, *Brazil*)

**HP.006** – Comparative genomics and functional analysis of mucin-like and TASV-like glycoproteins in *Trypanosoma rangeli*: Impact on parasite infectivity in the mammalian host.  
**ADRIANA CORREA DA SILVA** (UFSC, *Brazil*)

**HP.007** – High incidence of chronic Chagas' disease in the human population of an Amazon settlement with a silent *T. cruzi* blood circulation.  
**MARCIA APARECIDA SPERANCA** (UFABC, *Brazil*)

**PV.005** – Mitochondrial RNA editing in Arcellinida (Amoebozoa).  
**JOÃO PEDRO ALCINO BARBOSA** (IB-USP, *Brazil*)

**PV.006** – EXO1 Facilitates Efficient DNA End Resection and Damage Signaling during Double-Strand Break Repair in *Trypanosoma brucei*.  
**RICARDO OBONAGA GOMEZ** (Butantan Institut, *Brazil*)

**11h00 – 11h30 | COFFEE BREAK****11h30 – 12h00 | CONFERENCE 01****ROOM A**

Chair: Silvia Boscardin

A novel type of Plasmodium oocyst division  
**Rogério Amino** (*Institut Pasteur – France*)

**12h30 – 14h30 | LUNCH****13h30 – 14h30 | SBPZ COUNCIL MEETING**

**14h30 – 16h30 | ROUND-TABLE****ROOM A****RT.01 – RECENT ADVANCES TOWARDS VACCINE DEVELOPMENT FOR MALARIA, LEISHMANIOSE AND CHAGAS DISEASE**

Chair: Santuza M. Teixeira

RT01.01 – A new chimeric recombinant vaccine combining repetitive T cell epitopes for Visceral Leishmaniasis

**Ana Paula Fernandes** (*UFMG – MG – Brazil*)

RT01.02 – Advancing towards a vaccine for Chagas disease using distinct strategies based on Trans-sialidases sequences

**Santuza M. Teixeira** (*UFMG – MG – Brazil*)

RT01.03 – Immunotherapy of Trypanosoma cruzi chronic infection with a therapeutic vaccine

**Eric Dummonteil** (*Tulane University – USA*)

RT01.04 – Preclinical evaluation of a multi-allelic CSP-based vaccine candidate against Plasmodium vivax.

**Irene Soares** (*USP – SP – Brazil*)**14h30 – 16h30 | ROUND-TABLE****ROOM B****RT.02 – DIVERSITY, ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION OF FREE-LIVING PROTISTS AND THEIR VIRUSES**

Chair: Daniel Lahr

RT.02.01 – Mosaics of convergent evolution: understanding the natural history of Hypotricha (Ciliophora: Spirotrichea)

**Thiago da Silva Paiva** (*UFRJ – RJ – Brazil*)

RT.02.02 – Bromeliad Phytotelmata as Natural Microcosms: Exploring the Diversity and Roles of Ciliates

**Roberto Júnio Pedroso Dias** (*UFJF – MG – Brazil*)

RT.02.03 – Novel insights into Arcellinida genomic evolution

**Daniel Lahr** (*USP – SP – Brazil*)

RT.02.04 – The viral factory of Nucleocytoviricota (Giant-Viruses) and their peculiarities

**Otávio Thiemann** (*USP – São Carlos – Brazil*)**16h30 – 17h00 | COFFEE BREAK****17h00 – 17h30 | CONFERENCE 02****ROOM A**

Chair: Angela Kaysel Cruz

The Leishmania virome and its impact on virulence

**Stephen Berveley** (*Washington University of St Louis – USA*)



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17h00 – 17h30 | **CONFERENCE 03**

**ROOM B**

Chair: Narcisa Cunha e Silva

Why Eat? Elucidating the Purpose of Endocytosis in *Trypanosoma cruzi*  
**Ronald Drew Etheridge** (*University of Georgia – USA*)

17h30 – 18h00 | **CONFERENCE 04**

**ROOM A**

Chair: Julia Pinheiro C da Cunha

Transcriptomic and proteomic analysis of quiescent *Trypanosoma cruzi* epimastigotes:  
a resource for investigating persistence

**John Kelly** (*The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK*)

17h30 – 18h00 | **CONFERENCE 05**

**ROOM B**

Chair: Elvira Saraiva

The conundrum of persistent Leishmania infection and exacerbated inflammation, how  
do these co-exist?

**María Adelaida Gómez** (*CIDEI – Colombia*)

18h30 – 19h30 | **PLENARY SBPZ – ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ROOM B**

19h30 – 20h30 | **DINNER**

20h30 – 22h30 | **POSTER SESSION – EVEN/PARES**

**GYMNASIUM**

**09h00 – 18h00 | SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES****READING ROOM**

O Expresso Chagas XXI  
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**09h00 – 11h00 | ROUND-TABLE****ROOM A****RT.03 – HOST DEFENSES AGAINST PROTOZOA**

Chair: Tiago Mineo

RT.03.01 – Directing the Plasmodium vivax 19kDa merozoite surface protein (MSP1 19) to two distinct dendritic cell subpopulations through prime-boost vaccination strategies.

**Silvia Boscardin** (*USP – SP – Brazil*)

RT.03.02 – Single-cell RNA sequencing reveals subset-specific immune signatures and unusual immune-cell populations differentiating asymptomatic and cardiac *Chagas disease* patients

**Walderez Dutra** (*UFMG – MG – Brazil*)

RT.03.03 – Gut microbes are associated with immune and metabolic responses to Plasmodium vivax malaria

**Luiz Gustavo Gardinassi** (*USP – MG – Brazil*)

RT.03.04 – CRISPR/Cas9 genomic edition in the context of the Neospora caninum-host relationship

**Tiago Mineo** (*UFU – MG – Brazil*)

**09h00 – 11h00 | ROUND-TABLE****ROOM B****RT.04 – VECTORS**

Chair: Yara Traub-Csekö

RT.04.01 – Lipid Flow from Vectors to Parasites: An Unexplored Cascade of Biochemical Mechanisms

**Georgia Atella** (*UFRJ – RJ – Brazil*)

RT.04.02 – Dissection of Leishmania parasite adhesion in the sand fly vector

**Jack Sunter** (*Oxford Brookes University – UK*)

RT.04.03 – Leishmania transmission is disrupted in sandflies colonized by Delftia tsuruhatensis TC1 bacteria (**Remote**)

**Pedro Cecílio** (*NIAID-NIH – USA*)

RT.04.04 – Heme as a player in the control of hemoglobin digestion in Rhodnius prolixus

**José Roberto da Silva** (*UFRJ – RJ – Brazil*)

**11h00 – 11h30 | COFFEE BREAK**

**11h30 – 12h00 | CONFERENCE 06****ROOM A**

Chair: Ariel M. Silber

Defining the role of cAMP compartments in the specificity of cellular responses in *Trypanosoma* *cruzi*

**Noelia Lander** (*University of Cincinnati – USA*)

**11h30 – 12h00 | CONFERENCES 07****ROOM B**

Chair: Beatriz S. Stolf

Altered Monocyte Recruitment Following Challenge Infection with Non-Healing Strains of *Leishmania* Abrogates Protective Th1 Immunity

**Nathan Peters** (*University of Calgary – Canada*)

**12h00 – 12h30 | CONFERENCES 08****ROOM A**

Chair: Rogerio Amino

*Plasmodium simium*: birth and evolution of a zoonotic malaria parasite species

**Marcelo Urbano** (*USP – SP – Brazil*)

**12h30 – 14h30 | Lunch****14h30 – 16h30 | ROUND-TABLE****ROOM A****RT.05 – HOST-PROTOZOA INTERACTION**

Chair: Elvira M. Saraiva

RT.05.01 – Genome-scale profiling of gene function in African trypanosomes in culture, models and host

**Catarina Gadelha** (*University of Nottingham – UK*)

RT.05.02 – DNA traps and extracellular vesicles: double-edged swords of neutrophil immunity during confrontation with *Entamoeba histolytica*.

**Julio César Carrero** (*Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas – UNAM – MEX*)

RT.05.03 – Two Keys to the Engine: Methylation Control of Gliding Initiation in Apicomplexa

**Elena Jimenez** (*LMU München – Germany*)

RT.05.04 – Detection of *Leishmania* and sand fly borne viruses coinfection in dogs and studies of the role of the phlebovirus Non-structural protein N (NSs) in *Leishmania* infection.

**Ulisses Lopes** (*UFRJ – RJ – Brazil*)

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**14h30 – 16h30 | ROUND-TABLE** **ROOM B**  
**RT.06 – DRUG DEVELOPMENT AND RESISTANCE**

Chair: Ariel M. Silber

RT.06.01 – The metabolic basis of amphotericin B resistance in Leishmania  
**Michael Barrett** (*University of Glasgow – UK*)

RT.06.02 – Validation and characterisation of a cell surface transporter that mediates phenanthridine resistance in African trypanosomes  
**Pieter Steketee** (*Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh – UK*)

RT.06.03 – From Mechanism to Resistance: Lessons from a Metal-Based Compound in Leishmaniasis Drug Discovery  
**Marcia Graminha** (*UNESP Araraquara – Brazil*)

RT.06.04 – Preclinical research of novel therapeutic options for toxoplasmosis: from in silico screening to animal testing  
**Juliana Quero Reimão** (*Faculdade de Medicina de Jundiaí, Brazil*)

**16h30 – 17h00 | COFFEE-BREAK****17h00 – 17h30 | CONFERENCE 09** **ROOM A**

Chair: Sheila Nardelli

Beyond the Genetic Code: Insights into Trypanosome Epigenome on Gene Regulation  
**Julia Cunha** (*Instituto Butantan – SP – Brazil*)

**17h00 – 17h30 | CONFERENCE 10** **ROOM B**

Chair: Ulisses Gazos Lopes

Synchrotron Light: can it help my research?  
**Otávio Thieman** (*USP – São Carlos – Brazil*)

**17h30 – 18h30 | CLOSING CONFERENCE** **ROOM A**

Chair: Luis Orsini Tosi

What DNA Replication Tells Us, So Far, About the Biology of *Trypanosoma cruzi*  
**Maria Carolina Elias** (*Butantan Institute – SP – Brazil*)

**18h30 – 19h30 | CLOSING CEREMONY, REMARKS AND AWARDS** **ROOM A****19h30 – 21h30 | DINNER**