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| Journal Name: | [**International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health**](https://journalijtdh.com/index.php/IJTDH) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_IJTDH\_141535** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Epidemiology and Geographical distribution; Transmission; Global burden and Control Strategies of Leishmaniasis** |
| Type of the Article | **Review Article** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **The importance of this manuscript for the scientific community includes the following:**   1. The review provides an up-to-date and critical consolidation of complex data on leishmaniasis epidemiology, transmission dynamics (including zoonotic cycles), geographical distribution, and the significant global disease burden, addressing major knowledge gaps for researchers and public health professionals. 2. It critically analyses crucial shifts, such as the disease's expansion into non-endemic areas due to climate change and urbanization, the resurgence in regions like East Africa, and the successful V*isceral leishmaniasis* elimination efforts in South Asia, offering essential insights for forecasting and targeted interventions. 3. It clearly outlines persistent obstacles like underreporting, drug resistance, vector control limitations, and reservoir management complexities, while evaluating the evidence for integrated control strategies, including "One Health" approaches combining human, animal, and environmental health. 4. By identifying key issues (e.g., diagnostic gaps, treatment access) and providing specific, evidence-based recommendations (enhanced surveillance, integrated vector management. reservoir control, community engagement), the manuscript serves as a vital roadmap for researchers designing studies and policymakers developing effective elimination programs against this neglected disease. | I agree with the comment of reviewer over here |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The original title **"Epidemiology and Geographical distribution; Transmission; Global burden and Control Strategies of Leishmaniasis"** is adequate but has notable limitation like Punctuation inconsistency (semicolons).    Therefore, I recommended the below alternative title:  **Leishmaniasis: Global Epidemiology, Transmission Dynamics, and Integrated Control Strategies**  If retaining the original structure, correct the punctuation (semicolons) and title case of the words Distribution and Burden:  **Epidemiology and Geographical Distribution, Transmission, Global Burden, and Control Strategies of Leishmaniasis** | **Leishmaniasis: Global Epidemiology, Transmission Dynamics, and Integrated Control Strategies**  *Believe this topic is interesting and also catchy so I am moving with it* |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | The abstract is generally comprehensive but could be strengthened (as it omits barriers to control)  to better reflect the manuscript's depth and key innovations.    I suggest to improve the abstract by adding **"despite drug resistance and resource limitations"** after control efforts. | This is Rewrites as, Despite ongoing control efforts, drug resistance, vector adaptability, and resource limitations continue to pose major challenges as the global burden remains substantial, with estimated annual cases ranging from 600,000 to 1 million for CL and 50,000 to 90,000 for VL, accompanied by significant morbidity and mortality. |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | Based on a detailed review of the manuscript, the scientific content is generally accurate and well-supported by current literature. However, minor refinements would enhance precision.  **I suggest to improve it by:**   * Integrating underreporting statistics quantitatively. * Expanding reservoir diversity beyond dogs. * Citing non-vector transmission routes. * Attributing figures ethically. * Placing figure below images while tables above.   Suggested minor edits would solidify the manuscript's scientific rigor without restructuring. The core content is reliable, current, and aligns with WHO/CDC guidelines. | Have addressed all the suggested points by integrating underreporting statistics quantitatively, expanding the discussion on reservoir diversity beyond dogs, including citations on non-vector transmission routes, ensuring ethical attribution of figures, and adjusting the placement of figures and tables as recommended. These revisions have enhanced the manuscript’s scientific rigor while maintaining its original structure and alignment with WHO/CDC guidelines. |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | The references are largely sufficient, relevant and recent, corecoverage and geographic balance but could benefit from strategic updates and additions to enhance currency and depth. Here's an assessment and key suggestions:  I suggest to remove the old references: Dantas-Torres, 2007, Dantas-Torres, 2009, Desjeux, 2004, Gramiccia & Gradoni, 2005, Hide, et al., 2007, King, C. H., & Bertino, A. M., 2008, Mondal, et al., 2009, Shaw, 2002, WHO, 2005a, WHO, 2006, and Supplement them with the relevant and more recent ones preferably 2020–2025 sources for rapidly evolving topics. | We have updated several older references Dantas-Torres, 2007, Dantas-Torres, 2009, Desjeux, 2004, with more recent sources from 2020–2025 where applicable. However, certain foundational references, such as the WHO reports and key studies related to animal reservoirs, have been retained because they remain authoritative and widely cited in the field. These classic sources provide essential background and context that newer publications have not yet fully replaced. We believe this balance maintains both currency and scientific rigour in the manuscript. |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The manuscript's language quality is generally suitable for scholarly communication, demonstrating strong technical command of the subject and adherence to academic conventions. However, minor refinements would enhance clarity, conciseness, and stylistic polish. The following areas need to be improved:   1. "Transmission occurs via infected female phlebotomine sand flies." Should be revised to "It is transmitted by infected female phlebotomine sand flies." For conciseness. 2. Replace the second semicolon with commas in the title "Epidemiology and Geographical distribution; Transmission; Global burden and Control Strategies of Leishmaniasis. I mentioned this in my comment under title of the abstract suitability. 3. Consider splitting long sentence into two sentences for readability 4. **Avoid ambiguous Phrases like** "Dogs and other domestic animals serve as important reservoirs." replace it with "Domestic dogs are primary reservoirs, though rodents and cats contribute." 5. Avoid unnecessary shift between tenses for consistency | The manuscript's title has been revised for clarity, and ambiguous phrases have been replaced with more precise wording. Long sentences were split for better readability, and tense usage was corrected throughout for consistency |
| Optional/General comments | The review is a high-calibre that masterfully integrates human/animal epidemiology, ecology, and control strategies which addresses emerging issues—rare in single reviews. It would be competitive in top parasitology/global health journals. |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)* |  |