

Report on the outcomes of a presentation and participation in a ITC Conference¹

Action number: 21111

Grantee name: Clara Madureira Lima

Conference Details

Conference title: 29th International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology.

Conference web-page: <https://waavp2023.com>

Conference venue²: Leela Palace, Chennai, India

Conference start and end date: 20/08/2023 to 24/08/2023

Accepted contribution details

Title of the presentation: Comparative study on a multiparametric serological approach to feline *Leishmania* infection.

Type of the presentation: poster

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Other details of the presentation: the poster was presented under the theme “Novel diagnostics & Parasite control”.

Outcome of the conference participation

For any Veterinarian with strong interest in Veterinary Parasitology, the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) is a reference for research in animal parasitology, parasitological diagnosis, good practices in anti-parasitic treatment prescription, and drug-resistance identification and management. Besides, having the opportunity to promote the dissemination of research results and scientific production among this international network of animal parasitologists, is an ultimate honour for any Veterinarian, PhD student or researcher working in the field of Veterinary Parasitology. During the conference I attended lectures on diverse and eclectic topics, covering parasitic diseases epidemiology, identification of drug resistance (mostly among helminths), novel molecular approaches for diagnosis and molecular characterization (including phylogeny) and drug development for the treatment of parasitic diseases.

Over 50 countries of the world were represented at the 29th WAAVP conference, with hundreds of delegates attending the lectures and visiting the posters section. During the time dedicated for posters presentations, I had the opportunity to introduce the objectives, methods, and results of the work I am currently developing and herein

¹ This report is submitted by the grantee to the Action MC for approval and for claiming payment of the awarded grant. The Grant Awarding Coordinator coordinates the evaluation of this report on behalf of the Action MC and instructs the GH for payment of the Grant.

² For an online conference, specify virtual participation; for hybrid conferences, specify whether it is an in-person or virtual participation.

presented. During the poster presentation session I had the opportunity to share ideas and listen to the comments and inputs of researchers in the field of Veterinary Parasitology, such as Dr. Elias Papadopoulos and Dr. Smaragda Sotiraki. During the poster sessions I also interacted with my peers, getting to know their research interests and current projects. At last, but not least, this Conference allowed me to connect and interact with dozens of other PhD students and young researchers interested in the study of *Leishmania* parasites and leishmaniasis. Besides active discussion and brain storming, solid bonds are future collaborations were proposed with young researchers such as Dr. Marielisa Carbonara and Dr. Jairo A. Mendonza-Roldan from Bari University, School of Veterinary Medicine in Italy.



Fig. 1 – Poster presentation with acknowledge to *OneHealthDrugs*.

Importantly, besides the direct benefit I retrieved from participating in this conference (regarding scientific dissemination, knowledge exchange and networking), I took the opportunity to disseminate *OneHealthDrugs* COST Action among the present Parasitologist and researchers. This initiative was achieved through:

- acknowledge *OneHealthDrugs* COST Action for funding my research project’s dissemination (Fig.1)
- dissemination of *OneHealthDrugs* COST Action among the people I have come to meet more personally, by distributing flyers and describing the aims and goals of this network.
- distributing flyers during the conference (Fig.1 and Fig.2)
- emailed the representatives of the most relevant VetPharma industries and sponsors of this event, describing *OneHealthDrugs* COST Action and personally inviting them to become members of this Action. The VetPharma Industry is a valuable elements of our network and a target community for dissemination of *OneHealthDrugs* research findings, products, and guidelines.
- introduced *OneHealthDrugs* to private research laboratories offering drug screening for parasitic vector-borne diseases (E.g Invenesis) (Fig.3).



Fig.2. *OneHealthDrug* flyers dissemination



Fig.3. *OneHealthDrug* flyers dissemination



Fig.4. *OneHealthDrug* dissemination among stakeholders