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Advances in Chagas Disease Control

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Chagas disease is an emerging and neglected tropical disease caused by the parasite Trypanosoma cruzi, which is estimated to infect 8 to 10 million people worldwide, according to World Health Organization. Despite being a zoonotic disease, transmission of the parasite can also occur through blood transfusion, organ donation, congenital infection and via the oral route, reinforcing its emerging character. The acute phase of the disease is relatively mild, but the chronic phase, occurring years after infection, may be responsible for severe manifestations, leading to disability and higher mortality rates. However, as a neglected disease, the only options for treatment nowadays are benznidazole and nifurtimox, both developed several decades ago, with questionable efficacy and high toxicity. In this regard, what can be envisioned in terms of Chagas disease treatment in the near future?

This Special Issue intends to embrace the different aspects that may be explored with the intention of controlling Chagas disease, from the development of novel options for treatment and prevention to the repurposing of drugs and the discovery of novel cell targets.



