Laura Manna, J Clin Cell Immunol 2012, 3:4
http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2155-9899.S1.002

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International Conference on
Clinical & Cellular Immunology

October 22-24, 2012 DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago-Northshore, USA

Evaluation of INF g, TNF and IL4 mRNA expression levels in *Leishmania infantum* naturally infected dogs during follow up post

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Canine visceral leishmaniasis (CVL) is caused by Leishmania infantum in the Mediterranean .Transmission of this severe infection usually occurs through the sandfly bite to the vertebrate host. Dogs are the main reservoir of Leishmania infantum parasites.

A real-time PCR assay was exploited for monitoring the immune response of dogs treated with 1) a combination of meglumine antimoniate (100 mg/kg/day, SC) and allopurinol (10 mg/kg/day PO) for 30 days; 2) a combination of meglumine antimoniate (100 mg/kg/day, SC) and allopurinol (10 mg/kg/day PO) for 30 days plus three consecutive injections of vaccine (P vax Po\CPB) at 10-days intervals. After the combined therapy, allopurinol was continued at the same dose until the end of the observation period.

Leishmania DNA load, IFAT, INF-gamma and IL4 mRNA expression levels were tested before and after the therapy, every 3 months for a period of 12 months. Analysis of the data indicated an increased INF- gamma and TNF m RNA expression levels in blood, and a decreased of Leishmania DNA load in lymph node aspirates more significant in dog treated with meglumine antimoniate and allopurinol, plus P vax plasmid (P vax Po\CPB).

Biography

Laura Manna has completed his Ph.D at the age of 28 years. She has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals.