Cutaneous leishmaniasis caused by Leishmania tropica in Kenya

Abstract:

9 leishmanial strains, isolated from cutaneous papulonodular lesions on 3 patients, were characterized by cellulose acetate electrophoresis using 7 enzymes. The patterns obtained were indistinguishable from those of a Leishmania tropica reference strain and these 9 strains were similar to L. tropica in failing to infect mice. Although these 3 patients were Americans, their only potential exposure to sandflies was in Kenya, and thus they are believed to be the first cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis due to L. tropica in Kenya.