CLIMATE CRISIS & PARASITIC DISEASES

What are parasites?

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medicerener

°C

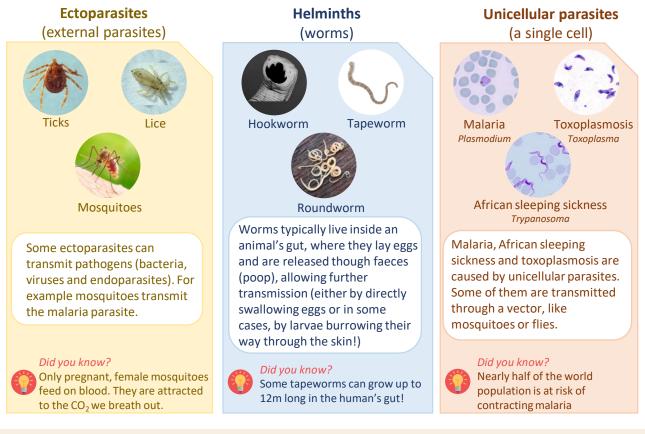
Increase

poverty

Rising sea levels

conflicts, food insecurity

Parasites are organisms that lives in or on another organism, its host. Although viruses and some bacteria follow this definition, they are not considered "parasites". Only eukaryotes can be classed as parasites, which features three major groups:



What will happen with a global warming of 'just' +1.5°C? How is it going to affect parasitic diseases?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. In 2018, they published a report explaining the consequences of a global warming 1.5°C*. What did they report? How is climate change going to affect parasitic diseases?

* by 2100, as compared to the pre-industrial era. Besides, we are currently on track for a global warming of at least +4°C

Change the distribution of vectors (such as mosquitoes) Spreading of diseases to new regions. This will threaten local

communities who lack the immunity against such pathogens.

Flooding

(\$)

- Ideal mosquito breeding conditions (e.g. increase of malaria cases and death in Mozambique after the cyclone Idai in March 2019)
- More risk of worm transmission (ingested eggs and soil- and water-transmitted parasites)

Poverty

" Poverty creates conditions that favour the spread of infectious diseases and prevents affected populations from obtaining adequate access to prevention and care." (TDR | Global Report for Research on Infectious Diseases of Poverty)

Mass population movements

~140 million people will be forced to migrate due to rising sea levels and erosion by the year 2050, which will stem from high-parasitic disease burdened areas, therefore spread parasites into populations that were not previously exposed.

All references are available on: https://bit.ly/31orUKi . This fact sheet is not exhaustive, but aims to highlight key effects of climate change on human parasitic diseases. Prepared by Coralie Boulet, PhD student in Carvalho Lab - Molecular Parasitology (La Trobe University). Approved by the ASP Council.

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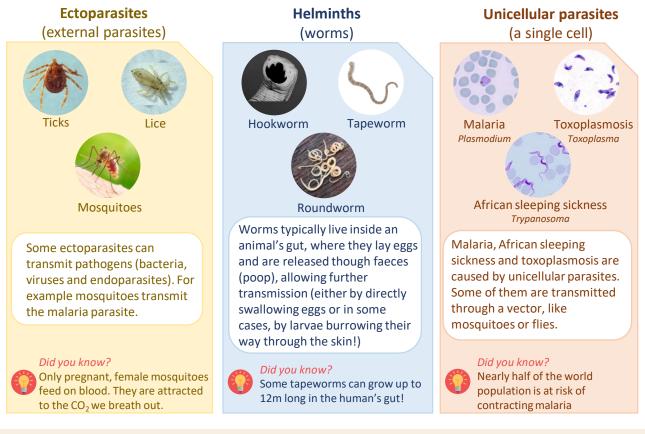
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