

# Evidence based guidelines for congenital Chagas

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## Guías basadas en evidencia para Chagas congénito

In this issue of **Infectio** we present the version in English language of the Colombian guidelines for congenital Chagas. This guideline was published in Spanish in **Infectio** in April 2014<sup>1</sup>. This guideline was a consensus report developed by the Colombian task force, that was integrated by experts in the field and financed by the Ministry of Health, Colciencias (Red Chagas Program Cont. Colciencias 080-2011) and the Pan American Health Organization.

Although of the success reducing vector borne transmission, congenital *Trypanosoma cruzi* transmission is now estimated to account for 22% of new infections<sup>2</sup>, representing a significant international emergent public health problem. Currently, due to migration flux of Latin Americans to Europe, it is estimated that 68.000-120.000 people with Chagas disease are currently living in Europe<sup>3</sup>. However, up to 90% of Chagas disease cases in Europe remain undiagnosed. If no screening program is not established in this population of migrants, the congenital cases will be missed as the differential diagnosis is large and asymptomatic cases at birth (but with late serious consequences) are frequent<sup>1</sup>.

The Colombian Association of Infectious Diseases (ACIN) undertook the duty to do accessible for the non-Spanish speaking colleagues, the clinical guidelines for congenital Chagas. The Colombian experience can be very useful and we hope that will contribute to improve the diagnosis and treatment of children of Latin American parents that born in non-endemic countries.

## Referencias

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