

Life Sciences Reporting Summary

Nature Research wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form is intended for publication with all accepted life science papers and provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. Every life science submission will use this form; some list items might not apply to an individual manuscript, but all fields must be completed for clarity.

For further information on the points included in this form, see Reporting Life Sciences Research. For further information on Nature Research policies, including our data availability policy, see Authors & Referees and the Editorial Policy Checklist.

► Experimental design

1. Sample size

Describe how sample size was determined.

No sample size calculation was used to select the number of sand flies per group. We used the maximum number of sand flies per group that our sand fly colony permitted. We used a large number of sand flies due to the inherent variability of sand fly infection. We used between 3000 to 4000 flies in each independent experiment due usual mortality in laboratory conditions. Matched samples among groups for all time points was used. For ex vivo and in vitro experiments, at least 3 independent biological repetitions were performed.

2. Data exclusions

Describe any data exclusions.

No data was excluded.

3. Replication

Describe whether the experimental findings were reliably reproduced.

For all results reported on the manuscript, statistical significance was found in all independent experiments.

4. Randomization

Describe how samples/organisms/participants were allocated into experimental groups.

Sand flies and mice were randomly assigned to the different groups.

5. Blinding

Describe whether the investigators were blinded to group allocation during data collection and/or analysis.

Experiments were not blinded.

Note: all studies involving animals and/or human research participants must disclose whether blinding and randomization were used.

6. Statistical parameters

For all figures and tables that use statistical methods, confirm that the following items are present in relevant figure legends (or in the Methods section if additional space is needed).

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| n/a | Confirmed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The <u>exact sample size</u> (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement (animals, litters, cultures, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A description of how samples were collected, noting whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement indicating how many times each experiment was replicated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The statistical test(s) used and whether they are one- or two-sided (note: only common tests should be described solely by name; more complex techniques should be described in the Methods section) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as an adjustment for multiple comparisons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The test results (e.g. P values) given as exact values whenever possible and with confidence intervals noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A clear description of statistics including <u>central tendency</u> (e.g. median, mean) and <u>variation</u> (e.g. standard deviation, interquartile range) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearly defined error bars |

See the web collection on statistics for biologists for further resources and guidance.

► Software

Policy information about availability of computer code

7. Software

Describe the software used to analyze the data in this study.

Graphpad Prism 7.0c ; Medicalc® comparison of proportions calculator

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the paper but not yet described in the published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers upon request. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). *Nature Methods* guidance for providing algorithms and software for publication provides further information on this topic.

► Materials and reagents

Policy information about availability of materials

8. Materials availability

Indicate whether there are restrictions on availability of unique materials or if these materials are only available for distribution by a for-profit company.

All materials are available upon request.

9. Antibodies

Describe the antibodies used and how they were validated for use in the system under study (i.e. assay and species).

N/A

10. Eukaryotic cell lines

a. State the source of each eukaryotic cell line used.

No cell lines were used

b. Describe the method of cell line authentication used.

No cell lines were used

c. Report whether the cell lines were tested for mycoplasma contamination.

Not tested.

d. If any of the cell lines used are listed in the database of commonly misidentified cell lines maintained by ICLAC, provide a scientific rationale for their use.

N/A

► Animals and human research participants

Policy information about studies involving animals; when reporting animal research, follow the ARRIVE guidelines

11. Description of research animals

Provide details on animals and/or animal-derived materials used in the study.

Sand Fly vectors: *Lutzomyia longipalpis* and *Phlebotomus papatasi*. Insects females were used with 4 to 6 days of age after emerging.
Six to eight weeks old female BALB/c mice and four weeks old White Leghorn chickens were obtained from Charles River laboratories. Three to six weeks old male Golden Syrian hamsters (Hsd Han TM- AURA strains) were purchased from Harlan Laboratories.

Policy information about studies involving human research participants

12. Description of human research participants

Describe the covariate-relevant population characteristics of the human research participants.

N/A