



Leiden University
Medical Center



Postgraduate course Clinical Parasitology

Including “Laboratory Diagnosis
of Human Parasitic Infections”

20–31 January 2025
Leiden, the Netherlands



Postgraduate course Clinical Parasitology



Course Coordinators

- Dr. Jaap van Hellemond, Associate Professor Clinical Parasitology, Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, Erasmus University Medical Center (E-UMC), Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Dr. Lisette van Lieshout, Associate Professor Clinical Parasitology, Leiden University Center for Infectious Diseases (LUCID), Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC), Leiden, the Netherlands
- Tonny de Vos, Center for Bioscience & Diagnostics (CBD), University of Applied Sciences, Leiden, the Netherlands

Course Objectives

This course in clinical parasitology focuses on the clinical and diagnostic aspects of parasitic infections of importance in routine clinical practice in European countries.

Practical sessions will be alternated with in-depth lectures given by experts in the field of clinical parasitology. During the laboratory sessions, high quality clinical samples will be used for microscopy examination, illustrated by real-life case histories and interactive photo quizzes. Both clinical and public-health aspects will be covered of a broad range of parasitic diseases.

By the end of the course the participants will be familiar with clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of most common parasitic infections, including those seen in travellers and migrants such as malaria, schistosomiasis and intestinal helminths. Some less common parasitic infections will be discussed. Serology and molecular diagnostics will be discussed as well as more recent developments within routine laboratory practice.

The 2025 E-UMC (Rotterdam)/LUMC (Leiden)/HL (Leiden) course in clinical parasitology is a succession of the well acknowledged LUMC course on Laboratory Diagnosis of Human Parasitic Infections. The course was originally designed for Dutch clinical medical microbiologists in training and experienced senior technicians, but has opened for international participants in the last ten years.

Dutch clinical medical microbiologists in training are obliged to subscribe for the full two weeks. International participants are offered the option to subscribe for week 1 or week 2 only, but for unity participation to the full course is strongly advised.

Course Programme – week 1

(minor adaptations still possible)

Monday, 20 January 2025

- Introduction and registration
- Patient case of the day
- Soil transmitted helminths
- Strongyloidiasis
- Echinococcosis
- Taeniasis and other common cestodes
- Slide quiz

Tuesday, 21 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Schistosomiasis and other common trematodes
- Lab procedures for the diagnosis of helminths
- Slide quiz

Wednesday, 22 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Clinical aspects of malaria
- Laboratory diagnosis of malaria
- Non-microscopy diagnosis of malaria
- Slide quiz

Thursday, 23 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Case management in malaria
- Blinded cases in malaria
- Laboratory diagnosis of filariasis
- Slide quiz

Friday, 24 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Laboratory diagnosis of intestinal protozoa
- Laboratory diagnosis of coccidian and less common intestinal parasites
- Clinical aspects of giardiasis
- Slide quiz

Course Programme – week 2

(minor adaptations still possible)

Monday, 27 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Laboratory diagnosis of coccidian and less common intestinal parasites
- Artefacts of microscopy
- Kinetoplastida: Leishmania and Trypanosoma
- Parasites of the skin
- Therapy of more complicated parasitic infections
- Slide quiz

Tuesday, 28 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Ectoparasites
- Lab procedures for the diagnosis of parasitic infection
- Toxoplasmosis
- Clinical aspects of toxocariasis and trichinellosis

Wednesday, 29 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- New developments in the diagnosis of parasites
- Parasitic cases in severely immunocompromised patients
- Filariasis and Dracunculus, a practical approach
- Sarcocistis, gnatostomiasis and other exotic parasites
- Research in human parasitology

Thursday, 30 January 2025

- Patient case of the day
- Trichomonas
- Clinical cases seen in a teaching hospital in the Netherlands
- Free living amoeba
- Parasites, migration and climate change

Friday, 31 January 2025

- Microscopy-based techniques for the diagnosis of intestinal parasites – a discussion
- E-diagnosis, artefacts and delusions
- Remaining parasites of interest and clinical cases
- Test

Organisation

Course Venue

University of Applied Sciences Leiden
Zernikedreef 11
2333 CK Leiden
The Netherlands

Registration procedure

Register via <https://www.hsleiden.nl/cursus/clinical-parasitology>

For details, please contact the following people:

- Lisette van Lieshout (E.A.van_Lieshout@lumc.nl) for questions on the content of the course
- Marian van der Gijp or Riyanne den Haring (cbd@hsleiden.nl) for questions concerning logistics

The course has been organized yearly around the same time of the year. Ask for information about future courses in case you are interested to participate (cbd@hsleiden.nl).

Registration Fee:

EUR 1950 for full-time course of 10 days in 2 weeks
The fee includes coffee, tea, lunches and teaching materials.
Travel costs, accommodation (incl. breakfast) & dinners are not included.

Attendance Grants

In the 2025 course there are no attendance grants.
There are limited options to participate for one week only (EUR 1250). This is only possible on request via Lisette van Lieshout)

CME Accreditation

Previous versions of this course have been accredited by NVMM and the NVP (Dutch societies for Medical Microbiology and for Parasitology). An accreditation for the 2025 course is pending.

Target Audience:

Clinicians (in training), biomedical researchers, or senior technicians interested and/or working in clinical parasitology, preferably in a European setting. Teaching is done in small groups with intense interaction between course participants and tutors. The international participants (maximum 8) will collaborate intensively with the Dutch course participants. The maximum total size of the group is 20. Those who are not familiar at all with clinical parasitology are expected to do some additional introductory reading at home. All teaching materials will be provided on paper and in digital files. In the second course week the focus will be more on exotic parasites, in depth details of clinical presentation and treatment and aspects specifically of interest within a North-West European context.



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