

Leishmaniasis, A literature review***Абдулгани Луай Халед****Student (bachelor)*Мордовский государственный университет им. Н.П. Огарёва, Медицинский институт,
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Leishmaniasis remains a major public health problem in Yemen, a conflict-stricken country with limited health infrastructure. This literature review summarizes clinical and epidemiological data from two main sources: a clinical and epidemiological study of 152 confirmed leishmaniasis cases in central Yemen (April-August 2013) and a retrospective analysis of follow-up results of 1,033 cutaneous leishmaniasis cases (CL) in Ibb province (January 2019-June 2024). The review examines demographic distribution, clinical manifestations, diagnostic approaches, treatment outcomes and the nature of diseases. The results show that CL infection rates were significantly higher during the COVID-19 pandemic than before and after the pandemic ($P = 0,000$), likely due to the failure of surveillance programs. More than two thirds of cases have occurred in rural areas, disproportionately affecting children. Mucocutaneous leishmaniasis (MCL) is the main clinical form in central Yemen that causes severe facial malformations, while visceral leishmaniasis (VL) mainly threatens young children. In particular, 55.9% of patients in the RLCC (Regional Leishmaniasis Control Centre) study used harmful traditional remedies (animal saliva, herbal prescriptions, potent chemicals) before consulting a doctor, leading to complications and delayed diagnosis. The diagnosis is mainly based on microscopic examination of scrapings of colored lesions of Gimza. The review highlights serious gaps, including under-reporting of data, limiting access to healthcare, ending surveillance due to armed conflict and low awareness of disease. Recommended measures include increased surveillance, active case identification, vector control, public health education and increased availability of effective drugs such as liposomal amphotericin B for the treatment of the VL and pentavalent antimony-based drugs for the treatment of complex CL. To reduce the burden of leishmaniasis, Yemen's fragmented healthcare system requires an integrated multidisciplinary approach combining early detection, adequate treatment and public health interventions.