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INTRODUCTION

Canine leishmaniasis is a **zoonotic** parasitic disease caused by *Leishmania infantum*, transmitted by **phlebotomine sandflies**.

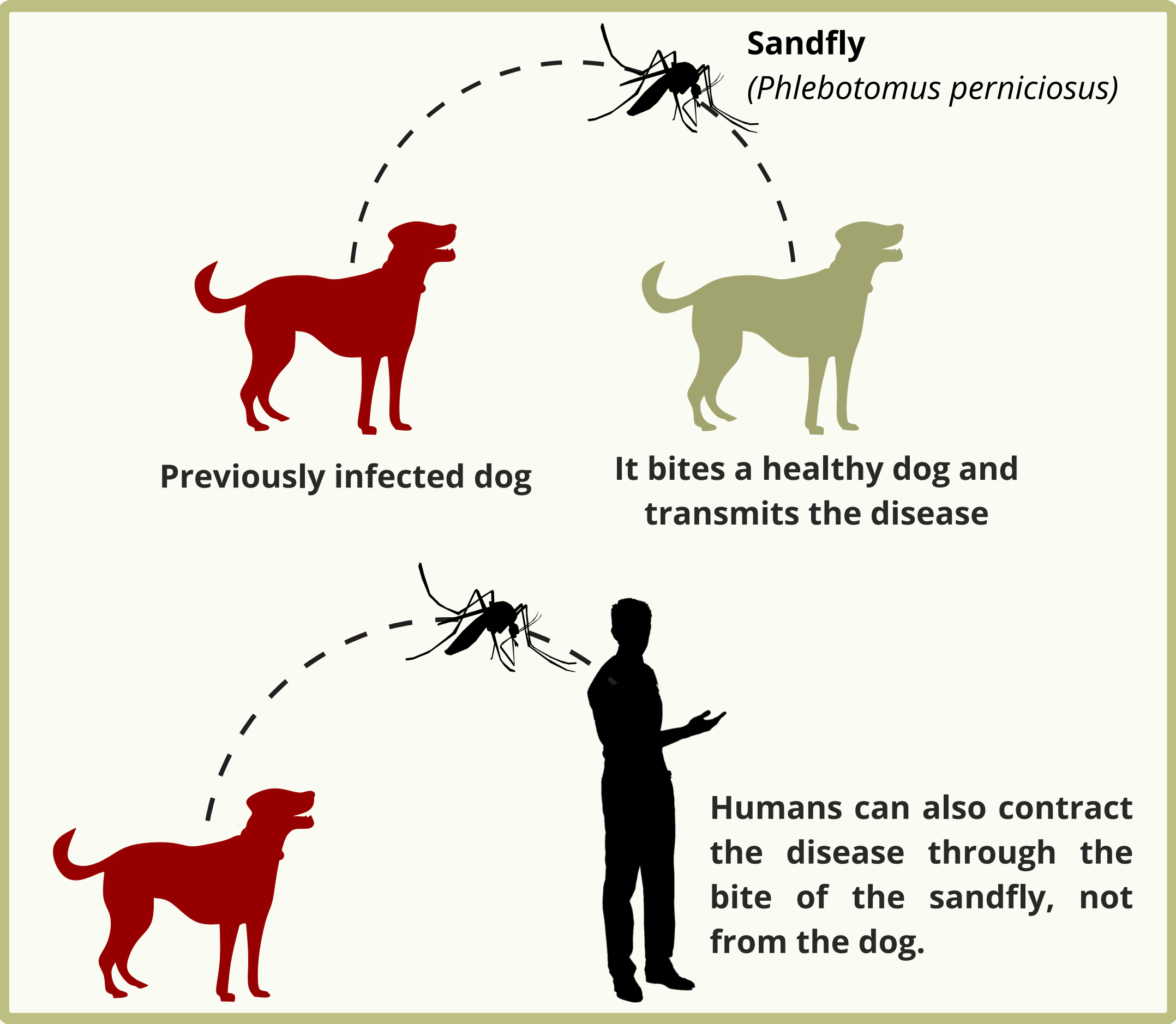


Fig 1. Transmission cycle of canine leishmaniasis.

The **treatment** of canine leishmaniasis has improved with **combined therapies**, but it does not completely eliminate the parasite, focusing instead on **symptom control**. Therefore, **prevention** through repellents, vaccines, and owner education is key to **reduce its incidence and severity**.

KEY RESULTS

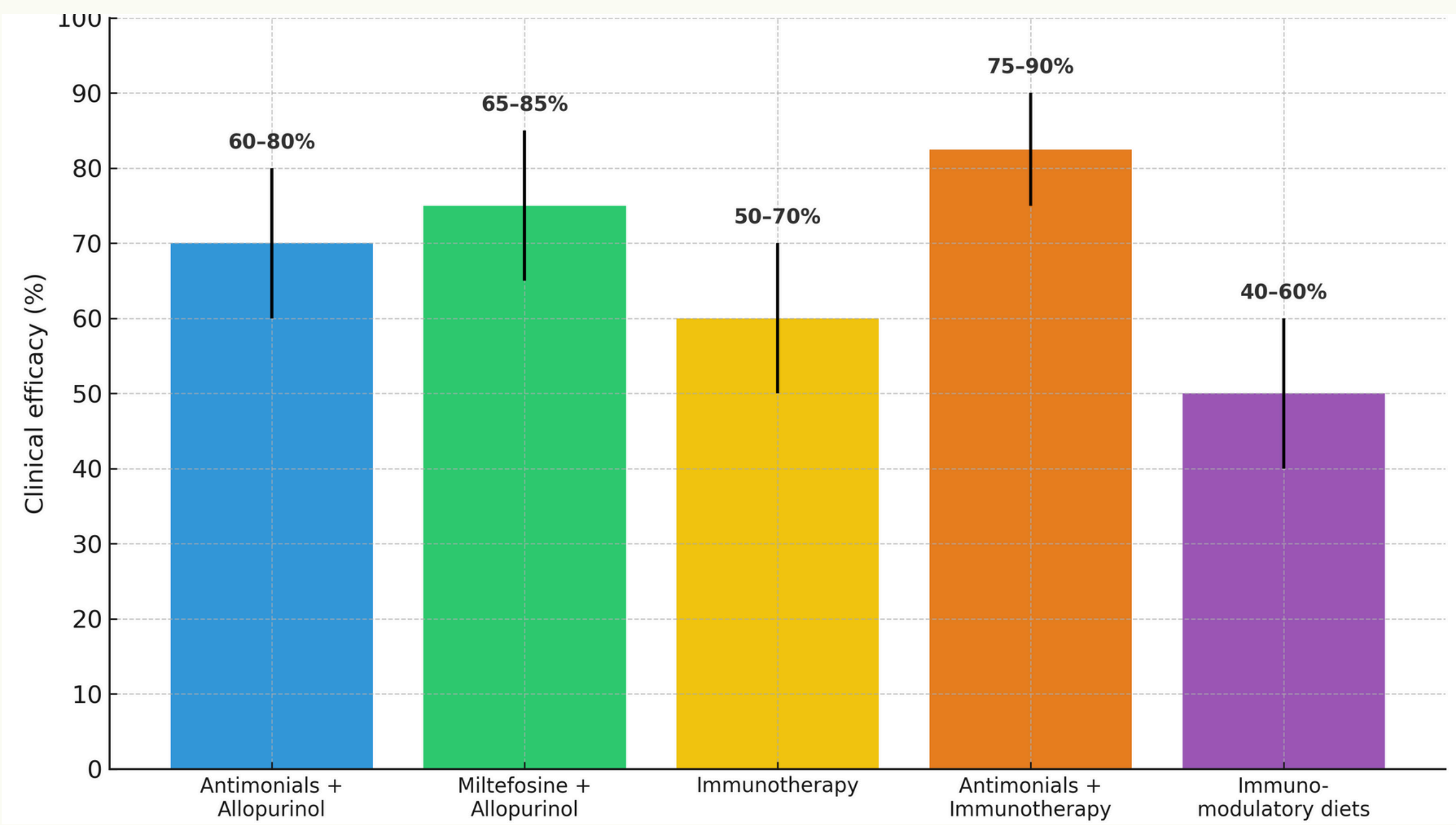


Fig 2. Comparison of the clinical efficacy of the main treatment

	<u>Antimonials + Allopurinol</u>	<u>Miltefosine + Allopurinol</u>	<u>Antimonials + Immunotherapy</u>
<u>Clinical efficacy</u>	Moderate-High (60-80%)	High (65-85%)	Very high (75-90%)
<u>Relapses</u>	Moderate	Low	Very low
<u>Relapse frequency (%)</u>	20-30%	10-15%	5-10%
<u>Duration</u>	≥ 6 month	≥ 4 weeks	≥ 2 months
<u>Administration</u>	Injectable + oral	Oral	Injectable + subcutaneous
<u>Risk of adverse effects</u>	Moderate (nephrotoxicity)	Low (gastrointestinal)	Low
<u>Estimated cost</u>	High	Medium	High
<u>Requires clinical follow-up</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table I. Structured comparison of combined treatments

METHODOLOGY

Bibliographic research: PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science and ScienceDirect.

Twenty articles published between 2009 and 2024 have been selected.

OBJECTIVES

- **Identify** the most used therapeutic protocols.
- **Compare** efficacy and safety between traditional and new alternatives.
- **Evaluate** the degree of drug resistance described.

DISCUSSION

The combination of **miltefosine and allopurinol** stands out for its clinical effectiveness, good tolerance, and oral administration. **Immunotherapy** is promising as a **complementary option**, but its exclusive use is not recommended in advanced stages.

CONCLUSIONS

- The most common treatments are **meglumine antimoniate or miltefosine with allopurinol**, with immunotherapy being added.
- **Combined therapies** offer **better clinical outcomes** and quality of life than classical treatments.
- **Prolonged drug use** may lead to **resistance** and limit future treatments.

REFERENCES

Scan the QR code to access the full literature review and references

