

Ph.D. Doctoral thesis by Dr. Yahya Sohrabi

Title: *Leishmania tropica*: immunopathology and genetic control

Supervisor: Doc. Marie Lipoldová, PhD

Comments:

The thesis describes establishment of a new animal model of *Leishmania tropica* infection (a unique set of recombinant congenic strains) and analysis of genetic factors that regulates immunopathological parameters. Using an intercross between CcS-16 RC strain that exhibited the highest degree of susceptibility to *Leishmania tropica* and BALB/c progenitor, altogether 8 new quantitative trait loci (QTL), designated *Ltr1-Ltr8*, associated with several immunopathological parameters, were identified. Some of these QTL were involved in gene x gene interactions and in transgenerational parental effects.

The results were published in prestigious journals such as Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases or Microbes and Infection. Dr. Sohrabi is the first author of the mapping paper. Additional manuscripts are currently under review.

This is an excellent Ph.D. thesis and I fully support that Dr. Sohrabi receives his Ph.D. degree.

Question:

What are the plans for identification of the *Ltr* QTL at the molecular level? This is very important since identification of quantitative trait genes (QTN) could shed light on responsible immunopathological mechanisms.

In Prague, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2014



Ing. Michal Pravenec, DrSc.