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Leishmaniasis

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Leishmaniasis*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C34767.

A parasitic infection caused by protozoa of the genus *Leishmania*. It is transmitted to humans via the bite of sandflies. There are three main forms of the disease: cutaneous, mucocutaneous, and visceral leishmaniasis. Cutaneous leishmaniasis causes skin ulcers; mucocutaneous leishmaniasis causes destructive lesions of the mucous membranes of the nose, mouth, and throat; visceral leishmaniasis is the most severe form of the disease and is manifested with anemia, weight loss, hepatomegaly and splenomegaly.