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Leishmania Dices Away Cholesterol for Survival

Albert Descoteaux¹,  , Neda Moradin¹, Guillermo Arango Duque¹

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Refers To

June Ghosh, Mainak Bose, Syamal Roy, Suvendra N. Bhattacharyya

***Leishmania donovani* Targets Dicer1 to Downregulate miR-122, Lower Serum Cholesterol, and Facilitate Murine Liver Infection**

Cell Host & Microbe, Volume 13, Issue 3, 13 March 2013, Pages 277-288

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Host lipid alterations are centrally involved in *Leishmania donovani* infection, and infected patients exhibit hypocholesterolemia. In this issue of *Cell Host & Microbe*, Ghosh et al. (2013) show that the metalloprotease GP63 released by *L. donovani* in the liver cleaves DICER1, inhibiting miR-122 maturation, which regulates cholesterol metabolism. These events decrease serum cholesterol and promote parasite growth.