

## Information and Resources

### Chagas Disease

#### Important

It is possible that the main title of the report Chagas Disease is not the name you expected. Please check the [synonyms](#) listing to find the alternate name(s) and [disorder subdivision\(s\)](#) covered by this report.

#### Synonyms

American Trypanosomiasis

Brazilian Trypanosomiasis

#### Disorder Subdivisions

None

#### General Discussion

Chagas Disease is a tropical infectious disease caused by the parasite *Trypanosoma cruzi*. It is transmitted by the bite of one of several species of [blood](#)-sucking insects or by blood transfusion. Acute Chagas Disease usually affects children and typically presents as the mild phase of the disease. However, this is generally followed by a long period of low level, parasitic infection (parasitemia). Many years later, about 10 to 30 percent of people with Chagas Disease develop the more severe symptoms associated with "chronic" Chagas Disease. The [heart](#) and digestive systems are most frequently involved in this phase of the disease. The most common features of late chronic Chagas Disease include abnormal enlargement of the [esophagus](#) ([megaesophagus](#)) and [colon](#) (megacolon), and [congestive heart failure](#). Chagas Disease occurs primarily in Central and South America.

#### Resources

##### Center for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road NE

Atlanta, GA 30333

Tel: (404)639-3534

Tel: (800)232-4636

TDD: (888)232-6348

Email: [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov)

Internet: <http://www.cdc.gov/>

##### NIH/National Institute of [Allergy](#) and Infectious Diseases

Office of Communications and Government Relations

6610 Rockledge Drive, MSC 6612

Bethesda, MD 20892-6612

Tel: (301)496-5717

Fax: (301)402-3573

Tel: (866)284-4107

TDD: (800)877-8339

Email: [ocpostoffice@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:ocpostoffice@niaid.nih.gov)

Internet: <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/>

### **World Health Organization (WHO)**

Avenue Appia 20  
Geneva 27, 1211  
Switzerland

Tel: + 41 22 791 21 11

Fax: + 41 22 791 31 11

Internet: <http://www.who.int/en/>

### **National Dysautonomia Research Foundation**

PO Box 301  
Red Wing, MN 55066-0102

Tel: (651)267-0525

Email: [ndrf@ndrf.org](mailto:ndrf@ndrf.org)

Internet: <http://www.ndrf.org>

### **Genetic and Rare Diseases (GARD) Information Center**

PO Box 8126  
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8126

Tel: (301)251-4925

Fax: (301)251-4911

Tel: (888)205-2311

TDD: (888)205-3223

Internet: <http://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/GARD/AboutGARD.aspx>

### **Madisons Foundation**

PO Box 241956  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Tel: (310)264-0826

Fax: (310)264-4766

Email: [getinfo@madisonsfoundation.org](mailto:getinfo@madisonsfoundation.org)

Internet: <http://www.madisonsfoundation.org>

#### **For a Complete Report:**

This is an abstract of a report from the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD). A copy of the complete report can be downloaded free from the NORD website for registered users. The complete report contains additional information including symptoms, causes, affected population, related disorders, standard and investigational therapies (if available), and references from medical literature. For a full-text version of this topic, go to [www.rarediseases.org](http://www.rarediseases.org) and click on Rare Disease Database under "Rare Disease Information".

The information provided in this report is not intended for diagnostic purposes. It is provided for informational purposes only. NORD recommends that affected individuals seek the advice or counsel of their own personal physicians.

It is possible that the title of this topic is not the name you selected. Please check the Synonyms listing to find the alternate name(s) and Disorder Subdivision(s) covered by this report

This disease entry is based upon medical information available through the date

at the end of the topic. Since NORD's resources are limited, it is not possible to keep every entry in the Rare Disease Database completely current and accurate. Please check with the agencies listed in the Resources section for the most current information about this disorder.

For additional information and assistance about rare disorders, please contact the National Organization for Rare Disorders at P.O. Box 1968, Danbury, CT 06813-1968; phone (203) 744-0100; web site [www.rarediseases.org](http://www.rarediseases.org) or email [orphan@rarediseases.org](mailto:orphan@rarediseases.org)

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### WebMD Medical Reference from the National Organization of Rare Disorders



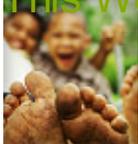
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