



1st LATIN AMERICA COUNTRIES MEETING - BRIEF REPORT

INSTITUTO LATINOAMERICANO DE SEPSIS - ILAS

SÃO PAULO

MAY 30th 2018

Context

Sepsis is one of the major causes of death worldwide. Although recent data suggest that mortality rates are decreasing in developed countries, the current situation in low and middle-income countries is uncertain. There is a paucity of data and the few high-quality studies suggest that the sepsis burden is substantial and mortality rates are unacceptably high. In Latin America, most countries are middle-income and face common challenges tackling sepsis. Social inequality with no universal access to qualified public health, limitation in resources and ICU availability, shortage and limited qualification of healthcare workers and low awareness among lay people are common issues. Government policies to tackle the burden of sepsis are generally lacking.

At the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017, Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) adopted a resolution (WHA70.7) on improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sepsis. The resolution requested WHO to develop guidance for the prevention and management of sepsis, to produce a report on the epidemiology and burden of sepsis, and to support countries to obtain the necessary infrastructure, laboratory capacity, strategies and tools to address sepsis.

The Instituto Latinoamericano de Sepsis, ILAS, also known as the Latin America Sepsis Institute (LASI) convened a Latin America (LATAM) countries meeting. This meeting was a joint initiative with the Global Sepsis Alliance and supported by the Pan America Health Organization (PAHO). The main objectives of the meeting were to identify common problems and to move the agenda on sepsis in LATAM countries forward in accordance with the WHO resolution.

The meeting brief report

The meeting aimed to discuss the current status of sepsis in these countries, the relevance of forming countries alliances, to understand the WHO resolution and how PAHO could contribute to its effective implementation, exploring potential areas of collaboration between the countries, ILAS, GSA and PAHO with the common goal of reducing sepsis burden in LATAM countries.



The participants were welcome by the ILAS president, Dr Luciano Azevedo who presented the proposed agenda (Appendix 1). Representatives of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay were present. A representative of the Consorcio Centroamericano y Del Caribe de Terapia Intensiva (COCECATI) was also present representing the following countries: Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Cuba. The Pan America Health Organization was represented by Pilar Ramon-Pardo from the Central Office in Washington and Romina Oliveira from PAHO office in Brazil. Simon Finfer and Niranjana Kisson represented the Global Sepsis Alliance. The complete list of participants, including Brazilian members of ILAS, is available at the end of this document (Appendix 2).

After a brief introduction of the ILAS activities over the last 10 years, each of the participants presented data and the status of sepsis awareness and activities in their own country. A PDF version of all presentations is available at ILAS website. The main message was that our countries, regardless of their economic profile, share similar issues of absence of reliable data, low awareness among healthcare professionals and lay people, inadequacy of diagnosis and treatment, lack of preventative strategies and inadequate support for survivors and families. There are currently no national action policies available and quality improvement strategies are incipient in many of the countries.

The presentation of the WHO resolution clarified potential pathways and issues that need to be addressed to change the sepsis scenario in LATAM countries. This was followed by the Global Sepsis Alliance reinforcing the relevance of forming regional alliances through which individual countries can work together to seek common solutions and which provides stronger advocacy than single countries working alone. The participants acknowledged the importance of working as a supranational union and how this could facilitate their own local efforts.

The PAHO presentation clarified all the potential partnerships that could be explored between ILAS and PAHO. Potential projects would be training courses, awareness campaigns and endorsements of ILAS initiatives.

In open discussion an action plan including the following was agreed:

- To approve the “Sao Paulo Declaration” with the main requests from the group directed to government authorities, policy makers, healthcare managers, healthcare professionals, and associated societies to support national and international commitments to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of sepsis and to dedicate human and financial resources to these goals.
- To make the declaration available on the ILAS website to be endorsed by individuals and by the major societies in LATAM countries, including those from intensive care, pediatrics, emergency medicine, internal medicine, infectious disease, nursing and other allied professionals.



- To request Global Sepsis Alliance support to spread Sao Paulo Declaration in its network to enhance the numbers of endorsements by other countries.
- In conjunction with the GSA to draft a press release to be distributed in all countries represented at the meeting.
- To publish the declaration in all possible scientific journals in LATAM countries and in a major international journal if feasible, accompanied by a perspective-type article noting the gaps in knowledge and treatment and the high mortality rates documented in some LATAM countries.
- To plan a training course in Spanish, under the umbrella of PAHO focused on the limited-resources settings of Latin America
- To plan common strategies to raise awareness around the 2019 World Sepsis Day using ILAS materials, including to advertise the 2nd World Sepsis Congress, a free web congress in September 2018 organized by GSA.
- To have quarterly webex meetings in which the progress in each country would be reported and an annual meeting prior to the ILAS annual conference being the next on May 8th – 9th 2019 in Rio de Janeiro.

Closing

Dr Luciano Azevedo (ILAS president) thanked all participants for their active contributions to this meeting. Participants welcomed the fact that we will have the chance to work together, to share experiences, successes and remaining challenges. All participants acknowledge the importance of having GSA and PAHO as partners in this initiative and described the meeting as a major step forward in the fight against sepsis in LATAM countries.



Appendix 1

MEETING AGENDA

MAY 30th 2018

13:00- 13:15	Welcome	
13.15-13.30	Opening and introductions	Luciano Azevedo
13.30-13.45	LASI: 13 years of history	Luciano Azevedo
13:45-14:45	Sepsis in Latin America: where are we now?	Chair: Thiago Lisboa Speakers: Fabian Barragan, Gaston Burgui, Luis Delsol, Elisa Estensoro, Tomas Heskia, Jenny Linares, Carmen Obregon
14.45- 15.00	WHO resolution: what does it means?	Flavia Machado
15.00-15.20	Coffee break	
15:20-15:30	Why do we need regional alliances? Global Sepsis Alliance	Simon Finfer
15:30- 15:45	How PAHO can foster the implementation of WHO resolution?	Pilar Ramon-Pardo
15.45-17.00	Open discussion: How can we work together? How can we improve collaboration in our countries? How LASI structure can help?	Chair: Flavia Machado Speakers: all
17.00-17.30	Summary – Approval of São Paulo Declaration	Luciano Azevedo
17:30– 18:00	Next steps – Next LASI meeting	Thiago Lisboa



Appendix 2

List of participants

Latin America

Luciano AZEVEDO - ILAS president
Universidade de São Paulo
Brazil - São Paulo

Antonio BAFI
Universidade Federal de São Paulo
Brazil - São Paulo

Fabian Alberto Jaimes BARRAGAN
Universidad de Antioquia
Colombia

Fernando BOZZA
FIOCRUZ
Brazil - Rio de Janeiro

Gaston BURGUI
Assistant Professor of Intensive Medicine at Hospital de Clinicas of Montevideo
Uruguay

Luis Antonio Gorordo DELSOL
Hospital Juárez de México and Hospital Dr. Victorio de la Fuente Narváez
Mexico - (Fundacion Mexico representative)

Elisa ESTENSSORO
Hospital Interzonal de Agudos San Martin de La Plata
Argentina

Flavio FREITAS
Universidade Federal de São Paulo
Brazil - São Paulo

Tomás Emilio Regueira HESKIA
Head of department Critical Care Medicine - Clínica las Condes
Chile (SOCHIMI representative)



Andre JAPIASSU

FIOCRUZ

Brazil - Rio de Janeiro

Jenny LINARES

Division of Critical Care, Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital
Belize (COCECATI representative)

Thiago LISBOA

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
Brazil - Rio Grande do Sul

Flavia MACHADO

Universidade Federal de São Paulo
Brazil - São Paulo

Graciela Merinos-Sánchez

Hospital Juárez de México and Hospital Dr. Victorio de la Fuente Narváez
Mexico - (Fundacion Mexico representative)

Carmen Sara Terrazas OBREGON

Sabogal hospital of ESSALUD
PERU (SOPEMI representative)

Cláudio Flauzino de OLIVEIRA

Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein
São Paulo

Eduardo PACHECO

Universidade Federal de São Paulo
São Paulo

Felipe Dal PIZZOL

Universidade do Extremo Sul Catarinense
Santa Catarina

Reinaldo SALOMÃO

Universidade Federal de São Paulo
São Paulo

Daniela SOUZA

Universidade de São Paulo
São Paulo



Global Sepsis Alliance

Simon FINFER

George Institute for Global Health
Australia

Niranjan KISSOON

University of British Columbia
Canada

Pan America Health Organization

Romina OLIVEIRA

Brasilia

Pilar RAMON-PARDO

Washington

LASI staff

Joice ANDRADE

Administrative secretariat

Aline BOSSA

Coordinador (Biomedical)

Juliana LUBARINO

Senior nurse coordinator

Mariana MONTEIRO

Nurse coordinator