

## International Meeting of countries that are facing outbreaks of Leptospirosis in the Americas

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### **Leptospirosis in the LAC Region-Systematic Review**

*Dr. Martha María Pereira, WHO Collaborating Center on Leptospirosis, Fiocruz/Rio de Janeiro-Brazil*

During her presentation Dr. Pereira presented the results of the systematic review and explained the importance of improving knowledge about leptospirosis, for this reason an agenda and protocol have already been developed, in order to establish the knowledge gaps regarding the clinical and epidemiological management of leptospirosis. During epidemic outbreaks and emergency situations, the main challenges faced are: misdiagnosis in the first clinical presentation; shortage of simple rapid tests for laboratorial confirmation and concomitant outbreaks of other acute febrile illnesses that are confused with Leptospirosis. Priority should be given to the most important knowledge gaps such as: diagnostics, therapeutic alternatives and vaccines. In addition, information about the serious forms of the disease are also needed in epidemiological aspects, to make more accurate clinical differentiation, case definition and differentiation of the pulmonary form. To finalize she presented a summary of the major knowledge gaps about leptospirosis in the region.