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W. Evan Secor, PhD, is a microbiologist in the Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria. His laboratory focuses on two diseases, trichomoniasis and schistosomiasis. Dr. Secor earned his B.S. in Microbiology from Texas A&M University and his Ph.D. in Microbiology from Vanderbilt University. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the Harvard School of Public Health, he joined the CDC's Division of Parasitic Diseases in 1993. His work at CDC has addressed a number of parasitic diseases, including leishmaniasis, cryptosporidiosis, and microsporidiosis, but has primarily been focused on schistosomiasis and trichomoniasis. His laboratory performs studies on several aspects of these diseases, including immunology, drug resistance, and animal models. A major theme of these studies has included how parasitic diseases affect coinfections with HIV and malaria.

Dr. Secor began working with *Trichomonas vaginalis* in 1995 when his laboratory took on the metronidazole resistance testing service for patients who had treatment-refractory trichomoniasis. At that time, the laboratory tested fewer than 15 patient isolates per year; now that number is in the hundreds. However, he was dissatisfied with only being able to tell clinicians whether their patient in fact had a metronidazole resistant infection or not. This resulted in a collaborative research agenda that has yielded a number of findings that includes assisting with FDA approval of tinidazole as an alternative treatment for trichomoniasis, better definition of the prevalence of metronidazole-resistant *T. vaginalis* infections, insight into the molecular epidemiology of resistant trichomoniasis, mechanisms of *Trichomonas*-associated increased susceptibility to HIV infection, and confirmation of treatment protocols for individuals with allergies to nitroimidazole drugs. Ongoing work includes identifying alternative treatments and better understanding of the public health impact of trichomoniasis.

