4. Objectives of the present study

The studies involving the role of IL-2 in the regulation of anti-leishmanial immune response against *Leishmania donovani* are insufficient and confusing. No authentic applications have been devised to utilize this knowledge for host protection. To conclusively analyze the role of IL-2 in disease progression or host protection, we chose to neutralize IL-2 or the IL-2 signaling components during different time points of *Leishmania donovani* infection in BALB/c mice. This would help to study the progression of *Leishmania donovani* infection in the absence of IL-2 / IL-2 signaling and add to the knowledge of IL-2-regulated mechanisms in parasitic infections.