PZ-43 CYTOPATHOGENICITY OF Trichomomonas vaginalis: HEMOLYTIC ACTIVITY OF STRAINS AND CLONES.

De Carli, G.,[1] Brasseur, P.[2] & Gorenflot, A.[3]

Department of Analysis, Pharmacy School, UFRGS, Porto Alegre, RS, Brasil[1]; Department of Parasitology, Hôtel Dieu, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire, Rouen[2] and Pharmacy School of Paris V[3], France.

Trichomonas vaginalis a flagellated protozoan causes trichomoniasis a sexually transmitted disease. We describe hemolytic activity of 7 strains and 2 clones of T. vaginalis after 18 hours of incubation in a carbon dioxide incubator at 37ºC. We found that all isolates hemolyzed all human blood groups as well as sheep, rabbit and horse erythrocytes. All strains tested presented an hemolytic activity from 52 to 100%. No correlation can be stablished between the degree of hemolysis observed and the virulence of T. vaginalis. This activity varies due to the animal origen of erythrocytes used. The hemolytic activity in human being changes depending on the blood groups of the erythrocytes and for a same blood group it varies from one donator to another. No hemolysin liberated by the parasite was identified.

The hemolytic activity was strongly reduced by the contact between the T. vaginalis and the concavalin A. This result suggest intervention of cell surface receptores in mechanism of the hemolytic activity.

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PZ-44 **MEMBRANE ANTIGENS SPECIFIC OF THE GENUS *Endotrypanum***

Lopes, A.H.C.S.*, Senna, A.R.F.*, Ramos, R.C.C.* & McMahon-Pratt, D.**

*Instituto de Microbiologia, UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil, CEP 21941; **Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, USA.

The strains of *Endotrypanum* M6159, LV88 and M6280 were used to obtain the membrane antigens which react with monoclonal antibodies (CXXX 3G5F12) specific for this genus. The monoclonal antibodies were previously obtained (Lopes & McMahon-Pratt, J. Protozool., 36(4): 354-361, 1989). Promastigote membranes were obtained by disruption of the parasites in lysis buffer (0.05 M Tris, 0.04 M NaCl, 1 mM phenyl methylsulfonylfluoride, 1 mM iodoacetamide, 5 mM EDTA; pH 8.0) by means of nitrogen cavitation (1,500 psi, 0°C) using a Cell Disruption Bomb (Parr Instruments Co., Moline, IL). The disrupted organisms were subfractioned and the membrane fraction obtained by differential centrifugation. The membrane fractions were treated with several detergents (NP40, BRIJ, Octylglucoside, Tween 20, Tween 80, CHAPS, Mega 8, Mega 10, NaDoc) at different concentrations. By radio immuno competition assay, using whole glutaraldehyde fixed parasites, 0,75% BRIJ gave the best results. Ascitic fluids containing monoclonal antibodies (CXXX 3G5F12) were purified using saturated ammonium sulphate. The purified antibodies were used to couple to cyanogen bromide activated Sepharose 4B. The solubilized membrane antigens were run through the affinity column. A 48kD antigen was eluted from the column and recognized by "Western blot" and radio immuno competition assay.

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