

Effect of highly diluted mice's serum on murine infection by *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

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Background: *Trypanosoma cruzi* biotherapies' alter the course of experimental infection by this protozoan [1,2], a fact that encourages the evaluation of other highly diluted medicines which modulates host's immune system.

Aim: Evaluate the effect of highly diluted mice's serum on murine infection by *T. cruzi*.

Methodology: A blind, randomized and controlled study was performed. *Animals:* 20 male *Swiss* mice, four weeks old were inoculated intraperitoneally with 1400 blood trypomastigotes Y strain and divided in groups: IC: Infection control - treated with hydroalcoholic solution 7% (n=7); MSI_{13cH}: treated with mice's serum infected by *T. cruzi* 13cH (n=6); MSNI_{13cH}: treated with mice's serum non-infected by *T. cruzi* 13cH (n=7). *Medicines:* produced from serum of infected and non-infected mice by *T. cruzi* in 13cH dynamization [3]. *Treatment plan:* mice were treated 48 hours before and after infection. Subsequently animals were treated 56/56 hours until 9th day of infection. The medicines were diluted in natural water (1mL/100mL) and offered *ad libitum*, for 16 consecutive hours. Parasitological and clinical parameters were evaluated. *Parasitological:* pre-patent and patent period, parasitemia peak, total parasitemia and survival time [4]. *Clinical:* quantitative - body weight, water and food intake, temperature; qualitative - body hair aspect, edema, movement, diarrhea [5]. *Ethics:* study was approved by Ethics Committee for Experiments in Animals/UEM. *Statistic:* data were compared with Mann Whitney test or t Test, significance 5%.

Results: MSI_{13cH} showed tendency to increase total parasitemia (p=0.06) and parasitemia peak (p=0.05), with lower patent period (p=0.03) and lower animals survival (p=0.05). MSNI_{13cH} showed no different parasitological parameters from IC (Table 1). MSI_{13cH} and MSNI_{13cH} showed no statistical differences in clinical parameters when compared to IC. These results suggest that highly diluted *T. cruzi* antibodies present in infected serum administered prior to infection worsen the course of infection by stimulating immunological tolerance via anti-idiotypic antibodies production, which neutralized the activity of anti-*T. cruzi* antibodies produced by animals [6]. These data need further studies, either by changing treatment plan, or by researching immunological markers involved on suppressor response.

Conclusions: MSI_{13cH} worsen murine infection by *T. cruzi*, with premature death and no alteration in clinical parameters compared to IC.

Table 1 Parasitological parameters (mean \pm standar deviation) evaluated in Swiss male mice experimentally infected by *T. cruzi* of groups: IC (Infection control), MSNI_{13cH} (treated with mice's serum non-infected by *T. cruzi* 13cH), and MSI_{13cH} (treated with mice's serum infected by *T. cruzi* 13cH). * $p \leq 0.05$

Group	Pre patent period (days)	Patent period (days)	Parasitemia peak (trypomastigotes/mL) x 10 ⁵	Total parasitemia (trypomastigotes/mL) x 10 ⁵	Survival (days)
IC	6.3 \pm 1.0	12.5 \pm 2.1	13 \pm 14	71 \pm 27	14.5 \pm 2.1
MSNI _{13cH}	5.8 \pm 1.0	11.3 \pm 2.7	22 \pm 17	100 \pm 56	13.5 \pm 2.6
MSI _{13cH}	5.8 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 1.1*	31 \pm 17*	100 \pm 21	12.0 \pm 0.0*

Keywords: *Trypanosoma cruzi*; Chagas' disease; Mice's serum; Highly diluted medicines.

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