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Molecular Cloning of the LPG3 gene from *leishmania infantum*

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Introduction: The lipophosphoglycan biosynthetic protein (LPG3) plays important roles in parasite virulence and modulates the host immune responses. In this study, we cloned the LPG3 from *Leishmania infantum* strain MCAN/IR/96/LON-49 in the pTZ57R vector.

Materials and methods: The *L. infantum* was cultivated in RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal calf serum (FCS), 100 µg/ml streptomycin and 100 IU/ml penicillin. The LPG3 cDNA was synthesized using mRNA extracted. Then, the LPG3 gene was amplified by a set of specific primers and it was cloned in pTZ57R vector.

Results: There was no difference between the sequence of nucleotides of the LPG3 gene in the present study and other reported sequences.

Conclusion: We think the *L. infantum* LPG3 may be a potential candidate for studies of protective immunogenicity as an anti-leishmania vaccines.

Key words: LPG3, *Leishmania infantum*, Molecular cloning