

Evaluation of the in vitro transformation technique to distinguish *Trypanosoma evansi* from cyclically transmitted Trypanozoon stocks

Olaho-Mukani, W; Mukunza, F; Kimani, JK; Njoka, PK; Walubengo, J

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Abstract:

In order to initiate transformation into procyclic forms, bloodstream trypanosomes, were transferred to semi-defined medium at 27 degrees C. All stocks previously classified as *Trypanosoma brucei rhodesiense*, *T.b. gambiense* and *T.b. brucei* transformed into procyclic forms. None of the 31 characterized *T. evansi* stocks transformed into procyclic forms, but died between day 4 and day 6 in culture. On the other hand, 3 out of 64 stocks of monomorphic *brucei* subgroup field isolates from camels transformed into procyclic forms, confirming the existence of *T.b. brucei* infection in camels kept close to tsetse belts