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Iron responsive-like elements in the parasite Entamoeba histolytica

Claudia Leon-Sicairos Autonomous University of Sinaloa, Mexico

Entamoeba histolytica is a human parasite capable of invading intestinal mucosa and spreading to other organs. It is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in developing countries. *E. histolytica* uses diverse human proteins as sources of iron. Iron is an important factor for *E. histolytica* growth and virulence. In higher eukaryotes, the expression of iron-regulated genes is mediated by RNA-protein interactions between Iron Responsive Elements (IREs) and cytoplasmic Iron Regulatory Proteins (IRPs). In this work, we show evidence of IREs in some amoebic virulence mRNAs that are capable of binding cytoplasmic proteins, supporting the presence of an IRE/IRP-like mechanism.

Biography

Claudia Leon-Sicairos has completed her PhD at the age of 29 years from Centro de Investigacion y Estudios Avanzados (CINVESTAV-IPN Mexico). She is the director of 15 theses. She has published more than 10 papers in reputed journal. She is National Basic Science Prize 2006 by the Glaxo SK Foundation.

claudialeonsicairos@uas.edu.mx

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