

STABILITY OF CRUDE ANTIGENS OF *Paracoccidioides brasiliensis* ISOLATE
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Antigen used to diagnose and accomplish by serological tests of paracoccidioidomycosis, a common systemic mycosis in Latin America, which is caused by dimorphic fungus *Paracoccidioides brasiliensis* (Pb). The purpose of this study is to verify the stability of different antigens of Pb that were prepared in the 80s. Antigen of yeast cells of Pb were obtained in modified Negroni, NGTA and Fava Netto (FN) Agar media and separated by filtration, concentrated 10 times and kept at 4°C. The obtained antigen was studied by tests and methods with sera of several mycoses as paracoccidioidomycosis and the IgG fraction purified on diethylaminoethyl-Sephadex A-25, histoplasmosis, aspergillosis, lobomycosis, other infectious diseases, healthy donors and hiperimmune sera of *Pb*, *Hc*, *Af* and *Ca*. Results showed three lines of precipitation in immunodiffusion and five lines in immunoelectrophoresis. Titles of 1:4 in immunodiffusion and in counterimmunoelectrophoresis and 1:256 in complement fixation were obtained. Sera of patients with other diseases, heterologous antisera and sera of healthy donors presented no reaction. SDS-PAGE and immunoblot showed different bands of glycoprotein between 19 to 105 kDa, better expression of gp 43, and others 22, 28 and 78 gp for antigen obtained in FN. These antigens showed the same results when they were achieved each month during the first year and each year during 15 years. Afterwards they were achieved with the recent sera of patients obtaining the same results.