

**INFLUENCE OF CARBON AND NITROGEN SOURCES IN THE
PRODUCTION AND INTEGRITY OF OUTER MEMBRANE VESICLES (OMV)
FROM *Neisseria meningitidis* SEROGROUP B**

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Outer membrane vesicles (OMV) from *N. meningitidis* B expressing iron regulated proteins (IRP) are the main antigen against the respective meningococcal disease. They are used as antigen for vaccine production. The cultivations were carried out in Catlin medium without iron and double initial concentrations of lactate and aminoacids. Process conditions were: 7 L bioreactor, 36°C, 0.5 atm, overlay air 1 L/min, agitation: 250 - 850 rpm and O₂ control at 10%, 20 hs. Determinations performed were: biomass (optical density and dry weight); protein concentration (Lowry's method); RP presence (SDS-PAGE); lactate (enzymatic analyzer); glycerol and aminoacids (HPLC) and electronic microscopy. The OMV liberation occur in the phase stationary. It starts when carbon and nitrogen sources were exhausted. The maximum OMV values in the late 162,3 mg/L. These results suggest that double initial concentrations of lactate and aminoacids enhanced antigen for vaccine production and no changed their integrity.

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