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Title: Bioprospection of immature salivary glands of
Chrysomya megacephala (Fabricius, 1794) (Diptera:
Calliphoridae)

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Running title: *C. megacephala* bioprospection

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Highlights

- Immature salivary glands of *C. megacephala* are described at morphological and ultra-structural levels;
- Cells of salivary glands present intense protein synthesis;
- The molecular weight of soluble proteins of salivary glands were described.

Abstract

Larval therapy (LT) comprises the application of sterile Calliphoridae larvae for wound debridement, disinfection, and healing in humans and animals. Larval digestion plays a key role in LT, where the salivary glands and gut produce and secrete proteolytic and antimicrobial substances. The objective of this work was to bioprospect the salivary glands of *Chrysomya megacephala* (Fabricius, 1794) larvae, using ultrastructural, morphological, and histological observations, and the total protein electrophoretic profile. The salivary glands present a deferent duct, originating from the buccal cavity, which bifurcates into efferent ducts that insert through a

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