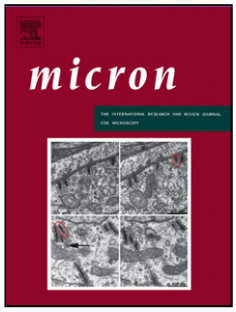

Title: Bioprospection of immature salivary glands of *Chrysomya megacephala* (Fabricius, 1794) (Diptera: Calliphoridae)

Authors: Ronaldo Roberto Tait Caleffe, Stefany Rodrigues de Oliveira, Adriana Aparecida Sinópolis Gigliolli, Maria Claudia Colla Ruvolo-Takasusuki, Helio Conte

PII: S0968-4328(18)30149-5
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.micron.2018.06.007
Reference: JMIC 2567

To appear in: *Micron*

Received date: 20-4-2018
Revised date: 6-6-2018
Accepted date: 6-6-2018

Please cite this article as: Caleffe RRT, de Oliveira SR, Sinópolis Gigliolli AA, Ruvolo-Takasusuki MCC, Conte H, Bioprospection of immature salivary glands of *Chrysomya megacephala* (Fabricius, 1794) (Diptera: Calliphoridae), *Micron* (2018), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.micron.2018.06.007

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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 ultrastructural 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