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Technical note: Preservation of Trichomonas vaginalis viability in urine for

laboratorial diagnosis by the wet mount examination

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Abstract

This study compared preservative solutions at different temperatures aiming to

improve the wet mount for trichomoniasis diagnosis. The glucose-saline pH 6.0 solution

preserved the trophozoites up to six hours. The urine samples preservation is crucial for

diagnosis and we suggest this solution as part of the clinical laboratorial routine.

Keywords: Trichomonas vaginalis, urine, preservative solution, viability, urine

qualitative exam.

Trichomonas vaginalis causes trichomoniasis, the most common non-viral

sexually transmitted disease (STD) worldwide (WHO, 2012). The infection has been

associated with health complications (Silver et al., 2014; Grodstein et al., 1993; Gimenes et

al., 2014; Sutcliffe et al. 2012; Lazenby et al., 2014), and increased HIV transmission

(McClelland et al., 2007; Quinlivan et al., 2012). Considering the asymptomatic cases

reaching 80% in both women and men (Poole and McClelland, 2013) and that

trichomoniasis is not notifiable (Secor et al., 2014), the prompt and correct diagnosis of

the infection is crucial in order to manage appropriate treatment.

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