

PARASITRAVAGANZA!

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ASP ONLINE CONFERENCE

PROGRAM BOOKLET

THURSDAY 30TH - FRIDAY 31ST JULY 2020



#2020PARASITRAVAGANZA #PARAFEST

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ABSTRACTS

Poster Session

P41. Role of TcPARP during the metacyclogenesis of *Trypanosoma cruzi*

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Poly(ADP-ribose)ation is a post-translational modification catalyzed by poly(ADP-ribose) polymerases (PARPs). As a reversible modification, it is regulated by a delicate balance of synthesis and degradation, and is involved in various nuclear processes related to DNA metabolism. To adapt to its complex life cycle, *T. cruzi* undergoes several differentiation processes such as metacyclogenesis, where the replicative epimastigote transforms into the infective trypomastigote. Here we evaluated the role of TcPARP during *T. cruzi* metacyclogenesis using Olaparib, a specific PARP inhibitor, with two differentiation techniques: TAU medium and blood agar. Our results using two different *T. cruzi* strains show that, depending on the differentiation technique used, the inhibition of TcPARP stimulates or hinders metacyclogenesis. We also compared the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and autophagosomes during the induction of metacyclogenesis on blood agar, in order to understand the pathways that are being triggered in this process. Preliminary results indicate that while ROS formation could be triggering the metacyclogenesis in blood agar, autophagy would not be involved in this process. In order to further study this process, we are generating TcPARP knockout cell lines that will help us corroborate our results.