

Molecular characterization of *Trypanosoma cruzi* in five Chagas disease patients who acquired the infection by different routes of transmission

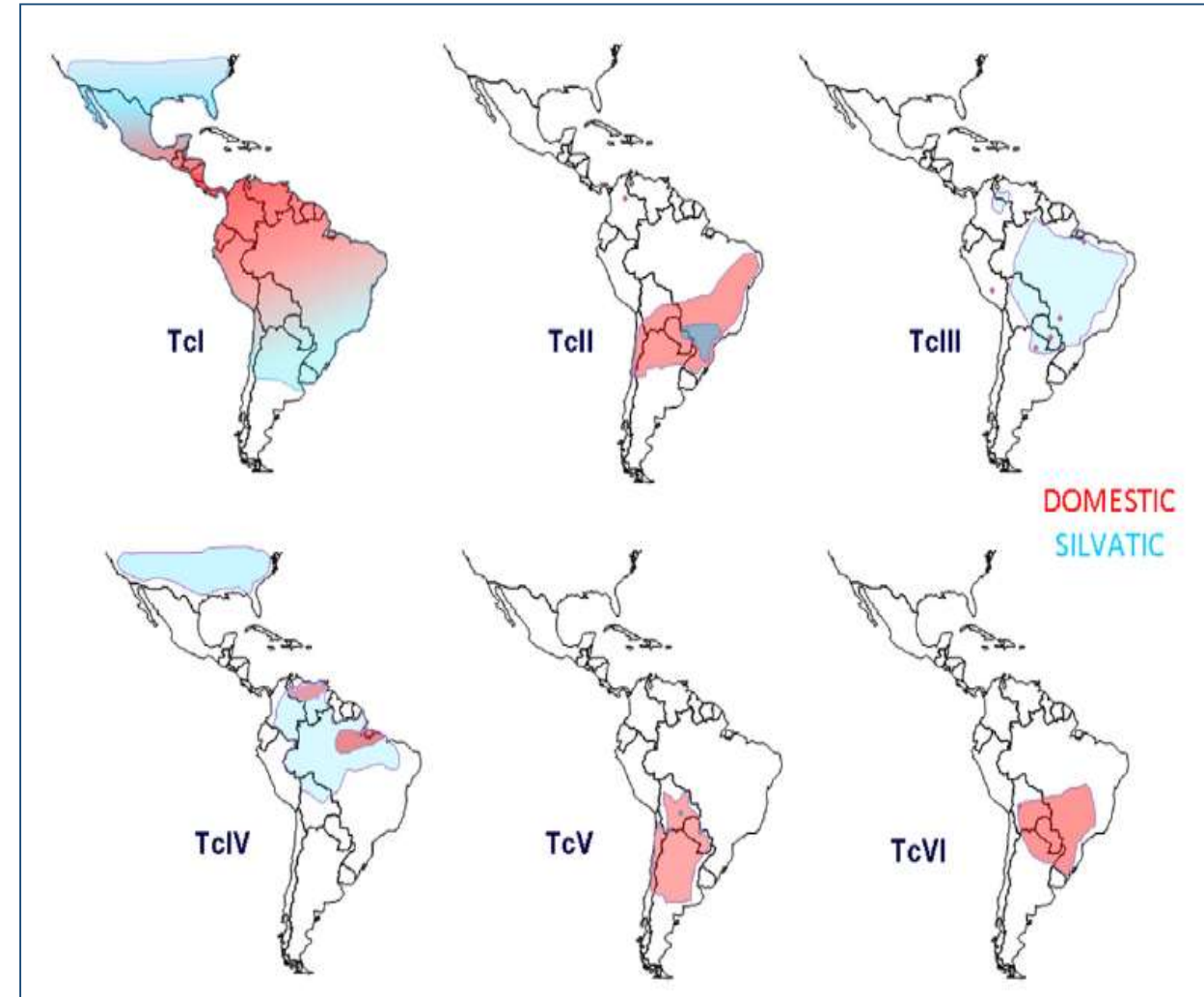
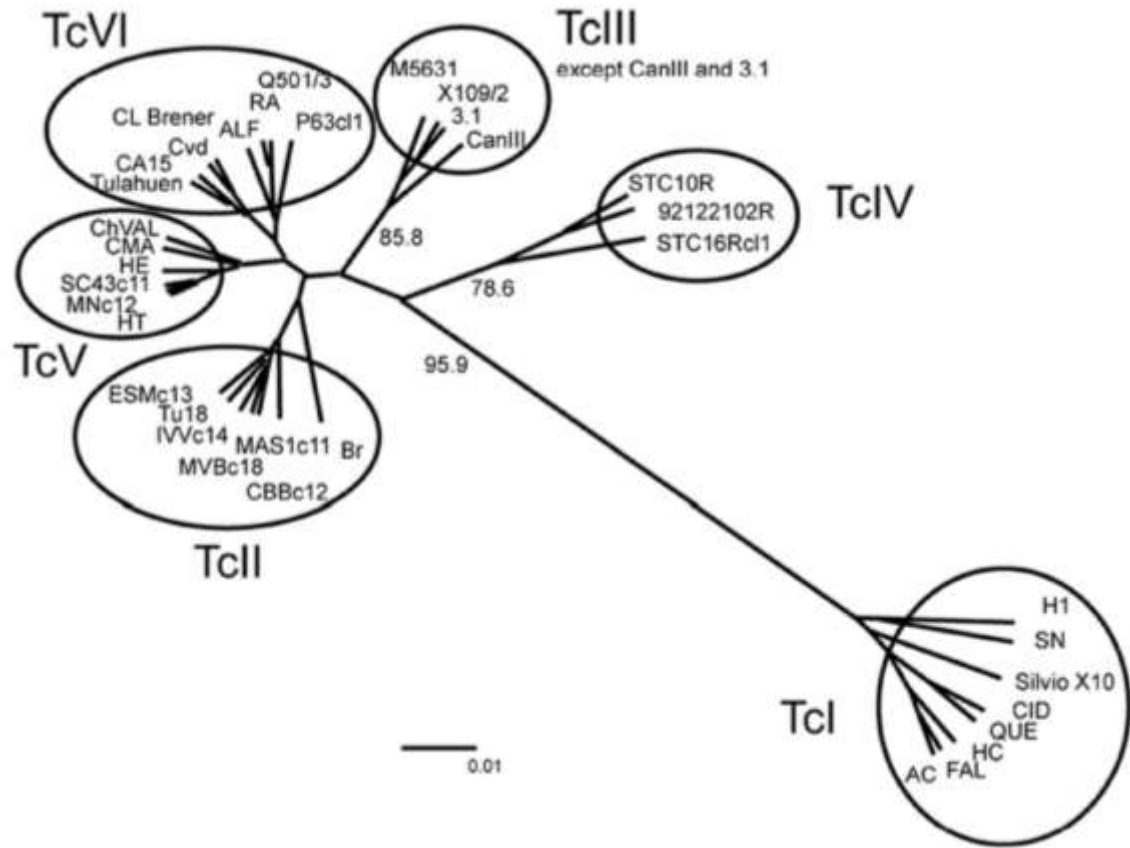
Z. Moure¹, E. Sulleiro¹, M. Flores Chavez²

¹Servicio Microbiología y Parasitología, Hospital Universitario Vall d'Hebron, Barcelona, Spain

²Servicio de Parasitología, Centro Nacional de Microbiología, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Madrid, Spain

The authors have no conflicts of interest to disclose

Discrete Typing Unit (DTU). Concept and Distribution





VECTORIAL (endemic countries)



**ORGAN
TRANSPLANTATION**

**Main Routes of
Transmission**



BLOOD TRANSFUSION



**VERTICAL
TRANSMISSION**

OBJECTIVE

The aim of this study was to determine the *T.cruzi* DTU of 5 patients who acquired the infection by different routes of transmission

- Male, 103 days
- Bolivian mother
- Asymptomatic

Case 1



- Male, 20 days
- Bolivian mother
- Fever and cholestasis on the newborn

Case 2



- Male, 28 years
- Platelet transfusion Spanish recipient
- Brazilian donor
- Fever, multiple organ failure

Case 3



- Male, 37 years
 - Bolivia
- VIH co-infection, meningoencephalitis

Case 4



- Male, 58 years
 - Bolivia
- Kidney transplant 2014
 - Focal neurologic symptoms, brain chagoma

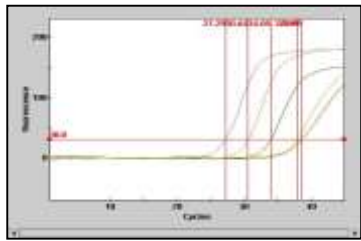
Case 5



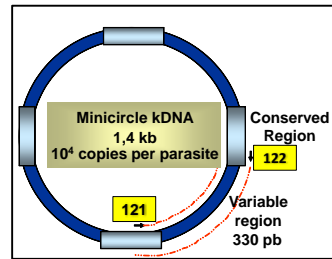
DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES



2 Serological tests. ELISA:
✓ 1 based on recombinant antigens
✓ 1 based on native antigens



qPCR amplifying a fragment of 166 bp of satellite DNA



Conventional PCR amplifying a fragment of 330 bp of kinetoplastid DNA

ALL SAMPLES SHOWED A HIGH PARASITE LOAD

SAMPLES AND EXTRACTION METHODS FOR GENOTYPING

C
L
I
N
I
C
A
L

S
A
M
P
L
E
S



Guanidine-preserved Blood (case 2)



DNA/RNA extractor NucliSENS[®] easyMAG (Biomérieux)



Brain biopsy -Parafin-fixed Tissue (case 5)



DNA Extraction QIAasymphony[®] SP DNA/RNA Purification (QIAGEN)



Isolated parasites from blood by culture in NNN/LIT medium (Cases 1, 3 and 4)



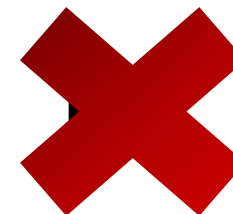
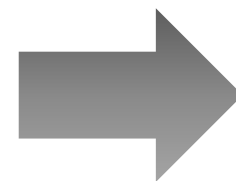
Chelex[®] 100 Resin (CNM protocol) High Pure PCR Template Preparation Kit (Roche)

Algorithm for molecular characterization of *T. cruzi* DTUs based on four molecular markers

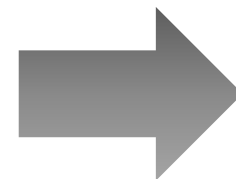
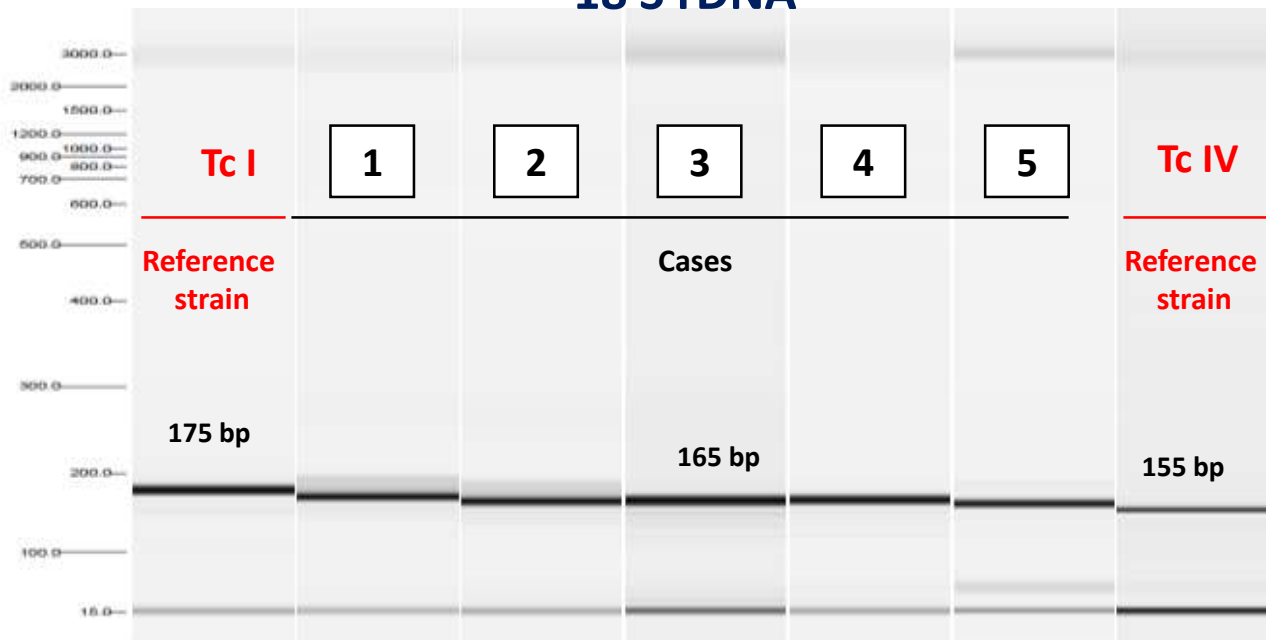
PCR reaction	Amplicon size, bp					
Mini-exon	350	300				
18S rRNA gene	175	165			155	
24S rRNA gene	110	110+120	125	110	120/125 /130	
A10 nuclear	208	212	227	211		
	DTU I	DTU V	DTU II	DTU VI	DTU III	DTU IV

Analysis: Capillary electrophoresis (Qiagen QIAxcel and QIAxcel BioCalculator software version 3.0)

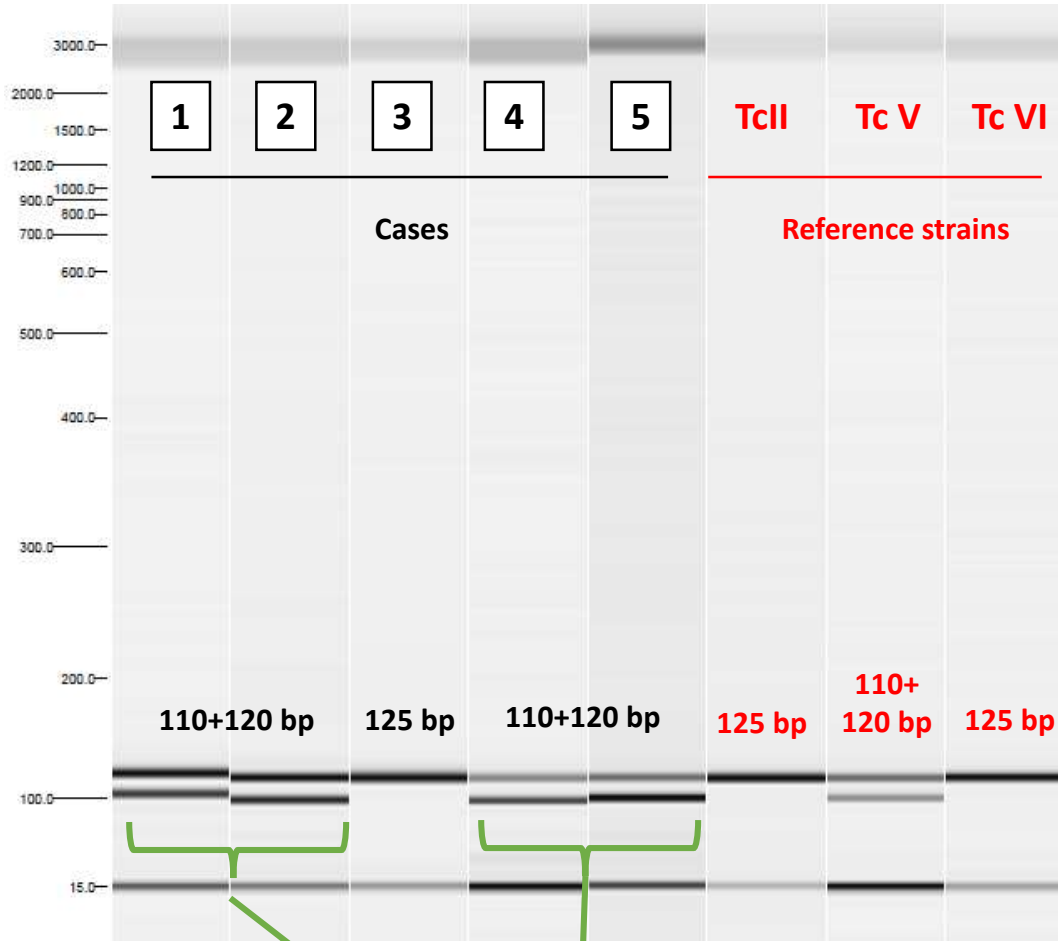
MINI-EXON



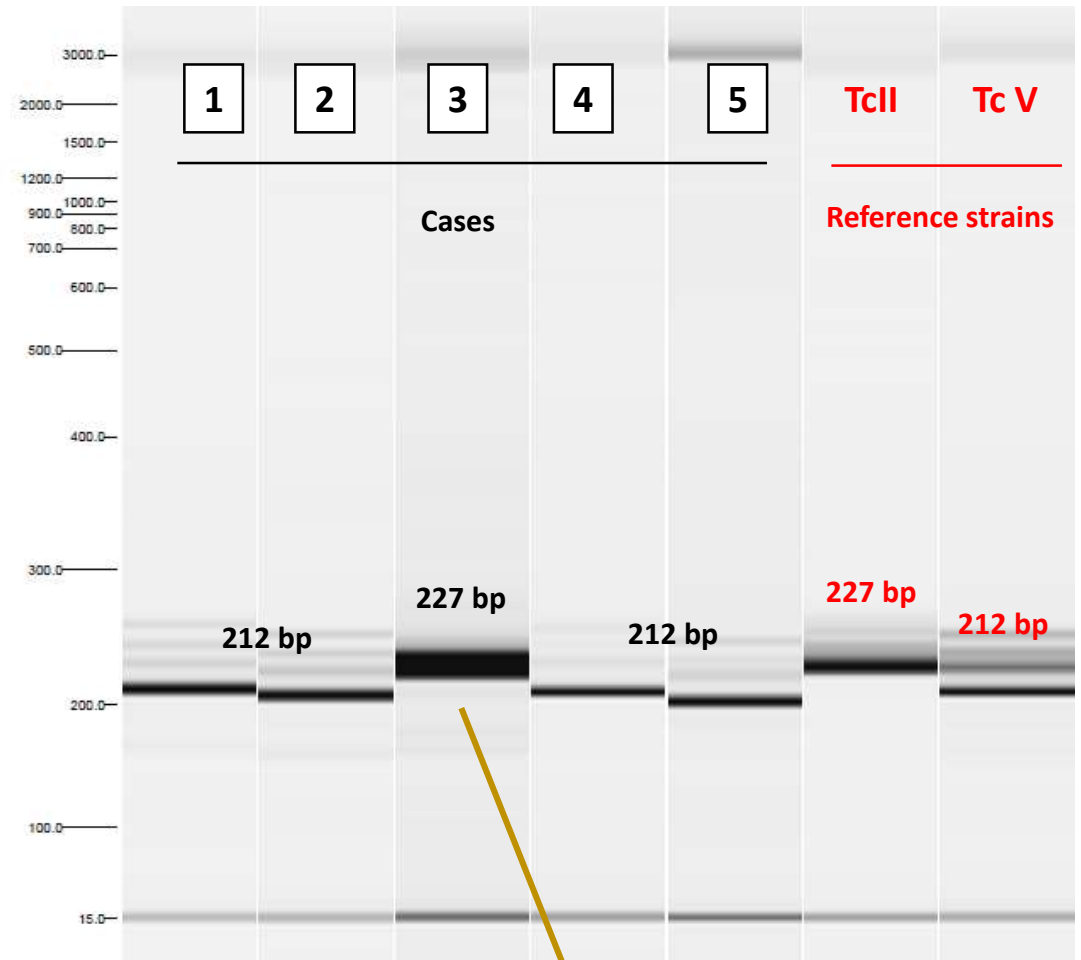
18 S rDNA



24 S rDNA (D71-D72 primers)



A10 nuclear fragment



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Molecular characterization can be directly performed in those **clinical samples with high parasite load**.
- ✓ **Tc V** was identified in all cases with a common Bolivian origin as source of infection.
- ✓ **TcII** was characterized in the recipient who received platelet transfusion from a Brazilian donor.
- ✓ DTUs distribution in migrant population seems to be similar to that observed in the patients' countries of origin.

Thank you for
your attention!

