

## SUMMARY OF THESIS\*

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ABREU, Vicente José Salles de – **Avaliação da eficácia do colostro bovino hiperimune na infecção experimental de roedores com *Cryptosporidium parvum***. São Paulo, 2001. (Tese de Doutorado – Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade de São Paulo).

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### **EVALUATION OF THE EFFICACY OF HYPERIMMUNE BOVINE COLOSTRUM ON *Cryptosporidium parvum* EXPERIMENTAL INFECTION OF RODENTS**

*Cryptosporidium parvum* is a protozoan that was initially associated with AIDS. Afterwards, several waterborne cryptosporidiosis outbreaks were reported. No drug was found to be effective on this infection's control. Some studies reported the efficiency of colostrum from cows hyperimmunized against *C. parvum*. Several mice and rats were inoculated with  $2 \times 10^7$  *C. parvum* oocysts. The hyperimmune bovine colostrum used in the experiment was positive till the 1:500,000 dilution. Two immunosuppressed murine models – C57BL/6 knock out of CD4<sup>+</sup>

and BALB/c nude did not develop the infection until the 18<sup>th</sup> day post-inoculation. The results evidenced that newly born C57BL/6 mice and 344 Fischer rats (F344) are susceptible to the infection with this parasite. In both strains the hyperimmune colostrum decreased the number of *C. parvum* oocysts. Nevertheless, when treated with the product, only the F344 rats evidenced greater preserving of the intestinal mucosa's architecture. The F344 strain proved to be an adequate and promising experimental model for the study of *C. parvum* infection.