

A NEW REPETITIVE DNA SEQUENCE FROM *TRYPANOSOMA CRUZI*

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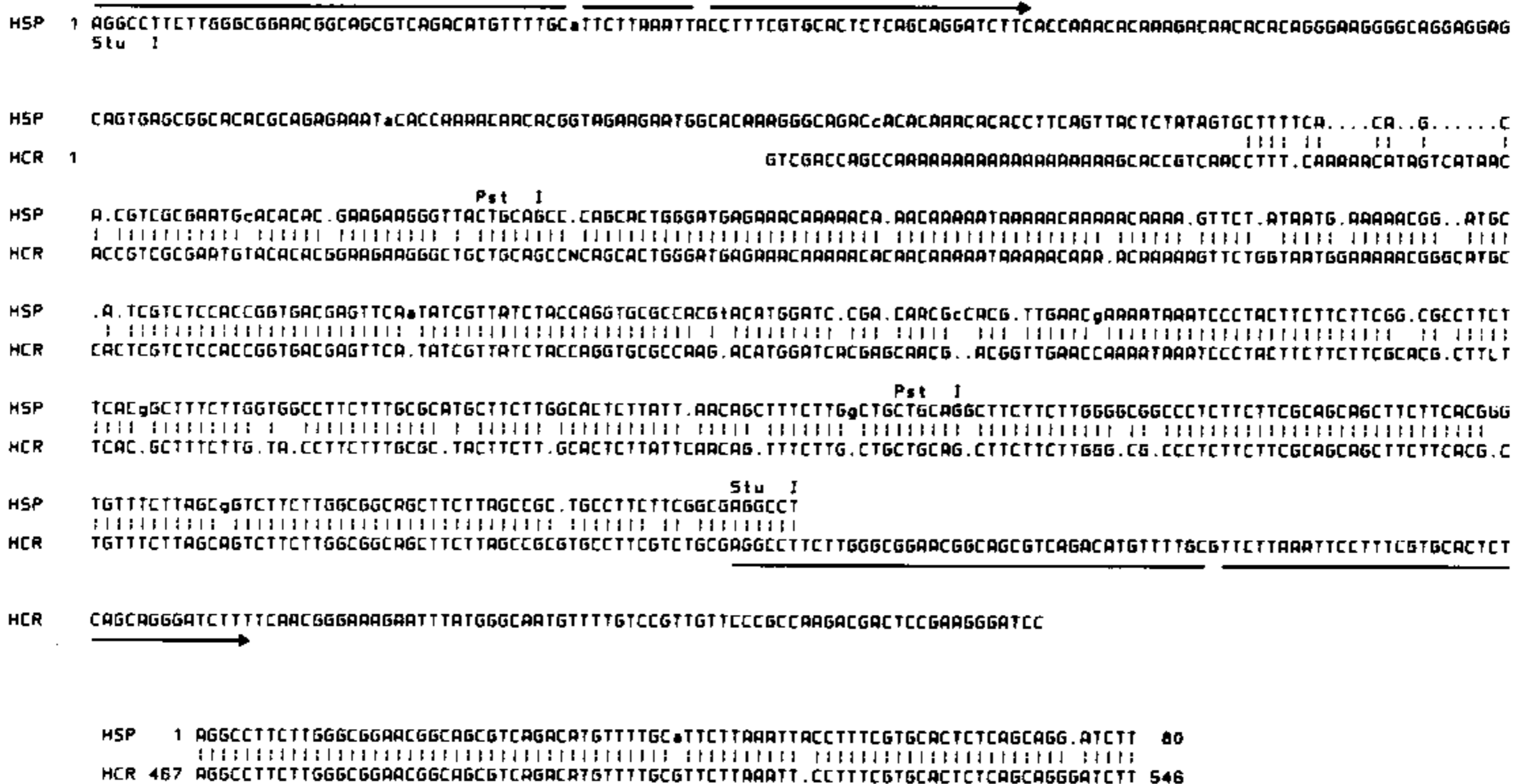
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Tandemly repeated DNA sequences are found in the genome of higher eukaryotes, and have also been demonstrated in Trypanosoma cruzi. Repeated DNA sequences are potentially useful for the diagnostic detection of T. cruzi (A. Gonzales et al., 1984, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 81: 3356-3360).

We have isolated two clones from a genomic library of T. cruzi (Y strain) that contain, in one clone a family of at least seven copies of a repetitive sequence of approximately 600 base pairs, and in the other an independent copy of the same sequence. One copy of the repetition (HSP) and the independent clone (HCR) were sequenced by the Sanger procedure (Fig.). This sequence hybridized to four strains of T. cruzi tested and did not hybridize to eleven species of trypanosomatids from five different Genera, being a good candidate for diagnostic assays.

GenBank accession numbers: HSP # M31919, HCR # 31920.

Key words: *Trypanosoma cruzi* – DNA sequence – repetitive DNA



Alignment of the segments of biggest homology between the two sequences. The arrows indicate a second region of homology (alignment shown in the lower part of the figure).

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