

Comparison of immunofluorescence, enzyme immunoassay and cell culture for the diagnosis of *Chlamydia trachomatis* in urogenital infections Comparación de la inmunofluorescencia, ensayo inmunoenzimático y cultivo celular para el diagnóstico de *Chlamydia tra*

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We evaluated the usefulness of the direct immunofluorescence test with monoclonal antibodies and the enzyme immunoassay in comparison with isolation in cell cultures for the diagnosis of *Chlamydia trachomatis* in 55 endocervical specimens from female prostitutes and 21 urethral specimens from men with diagnosis of nongonococcal urethritis. In comparison with culture, the enzyme immunoassay had a sensitivity of 100% and a specificity of 95%. The immunofluorescence test had a sensitivity of 92% and a specificity of 98%. The positive and negative predictive values for the enzyme immunoassay were 81% and 100% and for immunofluorescence 92% and 98% respectively. The immunologic methods appear to be satisfactory alternatives to culture for detecting *C trachomatis* in genital specimens in the studied populations.