

Analysis of human rotavirus mixed electropherotypes

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Mixed human rotavirus electropherotypes were detected in stool samples from patients with acute gastroenteritis in Santiago, Chile. These electropherotypes accounted for 10% of 149 samples studied. The finding of extra RNA fragments with respect to the regular 11 genome segments suggests the possibility of simultaneous or sequential infection by more than one electropherotype in a single diarrhea event or occurrence of modification in the length of the RNA segments during an infection. These possibilities arose from gel electrophoretic analysis of unique and sequential samples of human rotavirus genome RNA.