

E.coli**k26**

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Cloning and expression of *Leishmania infantum* K26 antigen in *E. coli* and evaluation of its potential for serodiagnosis of visceral leishmaniasis

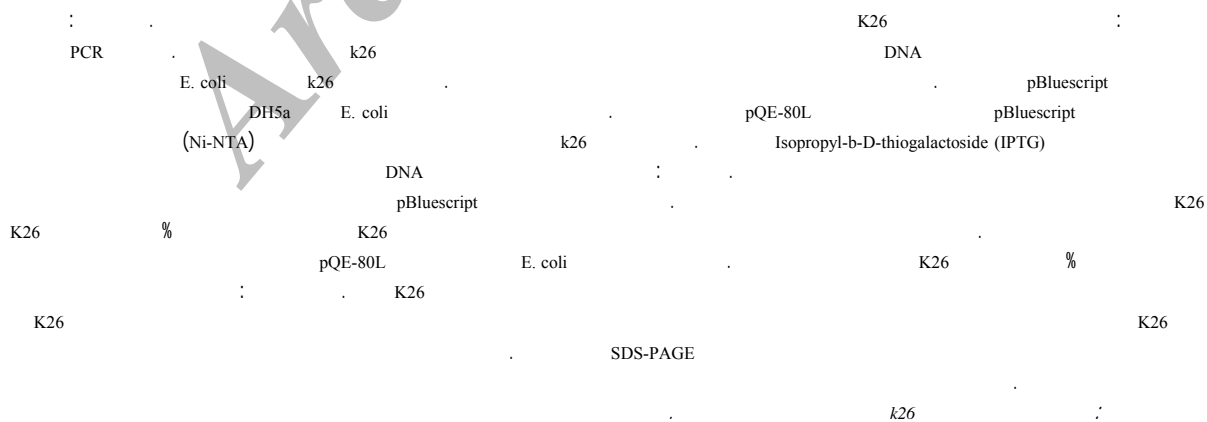
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Objectives: The objective of this study was preparation and evaluation of recombinant K26 antigen of *Leishmania infantum* (*L. infantum*) for serodiagnosis of visceral leishmaniasis (VL) in endemic regions of Iran. **Methods:** Genomic DNA was extracted from *L. infantum* promastigotes by phenol-chloroform method and used for PCR amplification of k26 gene. The PCR product was purified, cloned into the Bluescript vector and subjected to DNA sequencing. For production of recombinant K26 protein, the insert was removed by restriction digestion, subcloned into the pQE-80L vector and expressed in *E. coli*. The recombinant protein was purified by Ni-NTA column and used for evaluation of response of VL patients by immunoblotting. **Results:** PCR amplification of K26 gene using *L. infantum* genomic DNA as a template was resulted in amplification of a 756 bp fragment. Cloning and sequencing of amplified fragment showed that there is a 98 % homology to *L. chagasi* and 95 % to *L. donovani* k26 gene sequence. Recombinant expression and purification of *L. infantum* K26 gene produced a highly pure protein appeared as a 45 kDa band in SDS-PAGE analysis. Western blot analysis showed that the sera from visceral leishmaniasis patients contain a high titer of antibody against K26 antigen. **Conclusion:** Western blot analysis using purified recombinant antigen showed that K26 antigens are recognized by sera from VL patient due to *L. infantum* and that this antigen can be exploited for serodiagnosis of VL. EMRO/tdr Grant SGS 05/95.

Key words: *Leishmania Infantum*, Recombinant k26 antigen, Serodiagnosis.



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() K39
(Prognostic value)

rK9 rK26 rK39
rK26
K26 () ()

K26

PCR

k26

E. coli

PCR (Li k26)

k26

RPMI-1640

(Mon-1)

PCR

DNA

()

()

DNA ()

(5'-CGGGATCCATGGGAGCCTACTGCACGAAG-3') F1

(5'-TTCGAATTCGTTCCCGGCAACCTGCTC-3') R1

k26

(accession number AF131228) *L. chagasi*

(Direct Agglutination Test, DAT)

(Whole cell)

PCR

dNTPs

PCR

/

DNA

(Fermentas) pfu DNA polymerase

()

K39

()

Li k26

(Roche)

PCR

K26

()

EcoRI BamHI

pBluescript

ligation

()

PCR

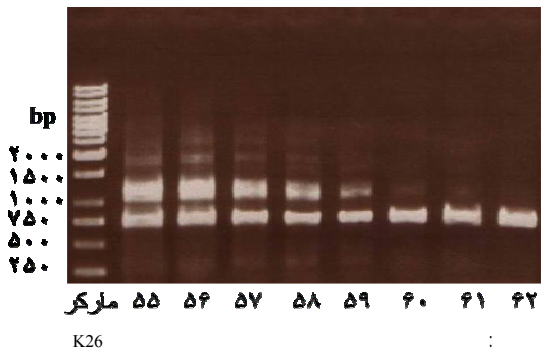
()

Top 10f¹

E. coli

EcoRI BamHI

Li k26



E. coli Li k26 :

pQE-80L E. coli

BamHI

Li k26

pQE-80L

pBluescript

PstI

E. coli DH5 α

pQE-80L-Lik26

.PCR

()

IPTG

k26

EcoRI BamHI

() SDS-PAGE

LiK26

E. coli DH5 α

BamHI EcoRI

Bluescript

(pH=8 50mM NaH₂PO₄ 300mM NaCl)

K26

(Qiagen) Ni-NTA

elution

.(accession number DQ192034)

NCBI

K26

%

k26

(%) SDS-PAGE

%

semidry blotting

E. coli Li k26

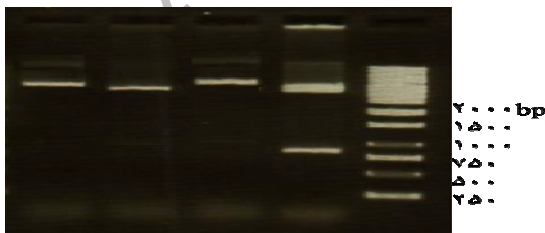
()

k26

PBS (Bovine Serum Albumin) BSA %

()

pQE-80L



pQE-80L

k26

pQE

PCR

k26

pST I BamHI

pQE-k26

pQE

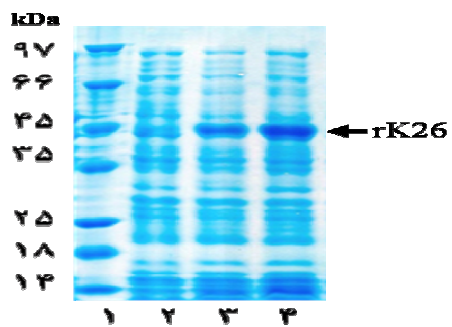
k26

pST I BamHI

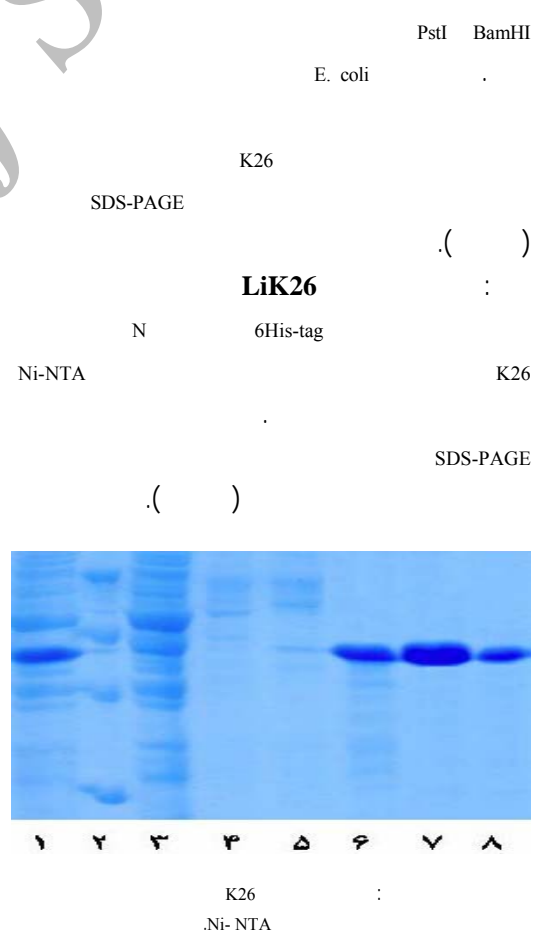
pQE-k26

IgG

(Sigma) DAB



()
 .E. coli k26 :
 pQE-k26
 pQE-k26
 pQE-k26
 K26
 K26
 K26
 K26



() (Flow through)

Ajay				whole cell	()
		()			(crude antigens)
					(specificity)
			K26		()
()	Rosati	()	Rosario		
		K26		rK39	K26
			K26		
				()	
					K26 K39
				B	
K26				k26	
					K26
				K26	
					K26
				K26	
					K26
				E .coli	K26
SGS05-95		(EMRO)			K26

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