



Draft Whole-Genome Sequence of *Leishmania (Viannia) braziliensis* Presenting *Leishmania RNA Virus 1*, from Western Amazon, Brazil

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ABSTRACT *Leishmania (Viannia) braziliensis* is the main etiological agent of tegumentary leishmaniasis in the neotropics. Here, we report a draft genome sequence (31.2 Mb) of an *L. braziliensis* strain from the western Amazon region of Brazil. This genome sequence will complement those available for other *Leishmania* species and contribute to further studies focusing on this parasite and the neglected diseases associated with it.

Leishmania braziliensis (Kinetoplastida: Trypanosomatidae) belongs to the subgenus *Viannia*, which comprises species found exclusively in the neotropics; it is the main agent of tegumentary leishmaniasis (TL) in this region and causes a broad range of clinical manifestations, ranging from single to multiple lesions in the skin and nasopharyngeal mucosa, as well as persistent metastatic disease. The clinical expression of TL caused by *L. braziliensis* is multifactorial, being influenced by host and parasitic characteristics, including its endosymbiosis with *Leishmania RNA virus 1* (LRV1) (1). The hypothesis that LRV1 is an ancient virus that coevolved with *Leishmania* species (2) and is not transmitted from one *Leishmania* strain to another is well accepted. Genetic clusters observed for *L. braziliensis* strains correlate with the presence/absence of LRV1, as well as with the phylogeny of this endosymbiont (3), indicating differences in the genomes of *L. braziliensis* strains bearing LRV1.

Some studies have revealed a considerable intraspecies variability in *L. braziliensis* (4, 5), which could explain its ability to adapt to different ecological conditions. There are around 30 *Leishmania* genome assemblies available, 6 corresponding to *Leishmania (Viannia)* species and only 2 for *L. braziliensis*. These genomes were obtained from long-term cultures and maintained using *in vivo* and *in vitro* conditions, which were recently demonstrated to affect genomic characteristics of this organism (6).

Here, we report the genome of an *L. braziliensis* strain (IOC-L3564) isolated in 2014 from a cutaneous lesion from a patient infected in the western Amazon region of Brazil and maintained with few *in vitro* passages. This is the first reported genome sequence of an *L. braziliensis* strain presenting the endosymbiont LRV1. The strain was typed as *L. braziliensis* by the *hsp70* PCR gene restriction fragment length polymorphism protocol and isoenzyme electrophoresis (7, 8) and was deposited in the *Leishmania* collection at the Oswaldo Cruz Institute. LRV1 was detected by reverse transcriptase PCR (8). Genomic DNA was extracted from an *in vitro* culture and purified using a PureLink DNA minikit prior to library preparation. The library was prepared with an Ion Xpress Plus

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TABLE 1 Characteristics of the draft genome sequence of *L. braziliensis* strain IOC-L3564, a parasite from western Amazon, Brazil, presenting LRV1

| Parameter | Results |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| SRA no. | SRP144244 |
| ENA assembly no. | GCA_003304975 |
| GenBank accession no. | QFBG00000000 |
| Total no. of reads | 3,400,000 |
| Read length (bp) | 184 |
| Coverage (×) | 17.4 |
| Draft genome size (bp) | 38,003,648 |
| GC content (%) | 57.38 |
| No. of contigs | 8,090 |
| N_{50} contig size (bp) | 7,920 |
| No. of scaffolds | 1,029 |
| N_{50} scaffold size (bp) | 758,103 |
| Total no. of genes annotated | 8,278 |
| No. of full-length genes | 8,024 |
| No. of partial-length genes | 254 |
| No. of genes with known function | 4,023 |
| No. of tRNAs | 65 |
| No. of snRNAs | 2 |
| No. of snoRNAs | 5 |
| No. of rRNAs | 10 |
| No. of pseudogenes | 935 |

fragment library kit. Genomic libraries were enriched using an Ion PGM template Hi-Q View OT2 kit and sequenced using the Ion Torrent platform.

Using the TMAP tool for the Ion Torrent platform (<https://github.com/iontorrent/TMAP>), we determined the obtained reads to have 98.39% identity to the reference genome *L. braziliensis* strain M2904 (release TriTrypDB-27) (9). Trimming under the parameters TRAILING:5 LEADING:7 SLIDINGWINDOW:3:15 MINLEN:150 was performed using Trimmomatic (10). *De novo* assembly of the trimmed reads was conducted with SPAdes version 3.1.10 (11), which generated 10,557 scaffolds. The redundant scaffolds were removed using Redundans version 0.13a (12), which resulted in 7,363 scaffolds that were oriented and ordered on ABACAS version 1.3.1 (13) with default parameters; 34 scaffolds/chromosomes were obtained as the consensus for the haploid *Leishmania* genome (90.57% coverage), while 993 scaffolds did not match the reference genome *L. braziliensis* M2904 (release TriTrypDB-27).

QUAST software was used to check the quality of the assembly and to determine genome fraction (%) metrics (14). Annotation and gene prediction were performed on the Companion Server version 1.0.2 pipeline (15). Characteristics of the draft genome sequence of *L. braziliensis* IOC-L3564 are presented in Table 1.

Data availability. This draft genome sequence has been deposited at DDBJ/ENA/GenBank under the accession number cited in Table 1.

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