

Exocytosis in paramecium

[Science](#), [Biology](#)



In *Paramecium caudate*, trichinosis are IOWA secretors vesicles that are released from the cytoplasm. We first observed how the presence of Alicia blue dye triggers normal secretion of trichinosis, and we then tested four different hypotheses in order to determine how the presence of Ca^{++} ions in the extracellular and intracellular environment affects the secretion of trichinosis.

Our first hypothesis tested whether extracellular calcium is required for the secretion of trichinosis by treating cells with EST., an agent that blocks calcium ions; our second tested whether increased calcium will counter the inhibitory effects of EST.; our third tested whether adding different ion, like Magic, can also counter the inhibitory effects of EST.; and our fourth hypothesis tested whether the release of intracellular calcium by adding caffeine or oenophile affects exocytosis.

Our results demonstrate that exocytosis of trichinosis is dependent on the presence of calcium ions in both the intracellular and extracellular environments. Introduction: Exocytosis in eukaryotic cells is the process in which macromolecular material is released from the cell into the extracellular environment; one example of exocytosis is the secretion of trichinosis in *paramecium*. Trichinosis are secreted from the cell as a defense mechanism when certain stimuli are introduced into the extracellular environment.

The secretion of trichinosis is controlled by the presence of Ca^{*+} ions within the plasma membrane and in the extracellular environment. The purpose of our experiment was to observe the extent to which exocytosis is dependent

on the presence of extracellular and intracellular calcium ions, and to determine if other extracellular ions can have the same effect as calcium. The cells were first treated with 0.03% Alcian blue dye, which triggers normal exocytosis. Cells were then treated with EST., an agent that inhibits calcium, in order to observe how trichocyst secretion is affected when calcium ions are sequestered.

Additional calcium ions were added to the extracellular environment to determine if the effects of EST. could be countered by increasing calcium. The cells were then exposed to a different ion, Magic, to observe if a different ion could have the same promoting effect in the extracellular environment as calcium. Finally, the effect of intracellular calcium was tested by treating cells with a calcium ionophore (A23187) and caffeine, which both stimulate the processing of calcium into the cytoplasm of a cell. Results: Table 1: Observations of trichocyst secretion in *Paramecium caudatum*.

Data show that a small sample of cells on a microscope slide responded to the addition of 0.03% Alcian blue dye, 7.5 μ M EST., 0.14 μ M A23187 in 1% DMSO, 50 μ M caffeine, and 25 mM magnesium chloride (Magic). The data were obtained by viewing cells under a microscope; the cells were counted prior to treatment and the number of cells secreting trichocysts was counted after treatment.