

Mycobacterium kansasii infection in squirrel monkeys (*Saimiri sciureus sciureus*).

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Abstract

This report documents asymptomatic infections of *Mycobacterium kansasii* in four of five tuberculin positive squirrel monkeys (*Saimiri sciureus sciureus*). The mycobacterial DNA amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) from a bronchial lymph node had no affinity for the species specific probes of *M. tuberculosis*, *M. avium*, and *M. intracellulare*, thus allowing the presumptive diagnosis of an atypical mycobacterial infection. Infection by *Mycobacterium kansasii* was confirmed by culture of bronchial lymph nodes from three monkeys. The source of the infection was never identified.

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