## Identification of specific gene(s) in S. mansoni encoding for antigenic proteins from cDNA expression library.

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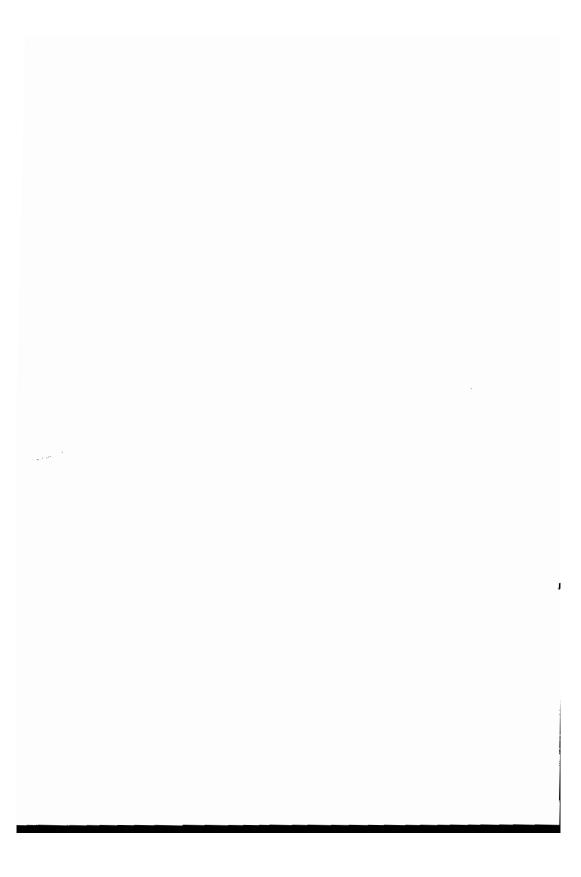
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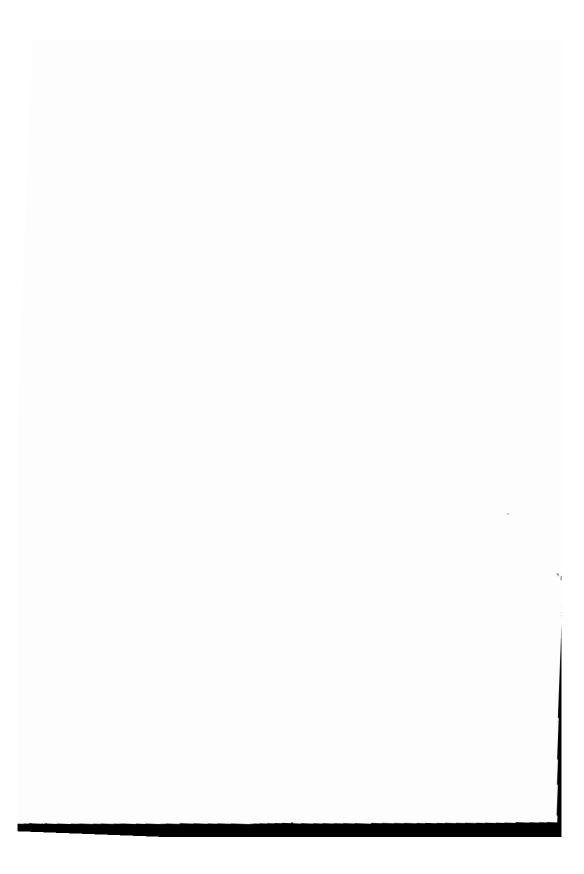
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To my mother
who taught me how to think
Independently and showed me
how to face and tackle
hardships, and to my
great family.

\* ~ '

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## ABSTRACT

Schistosomiasis is debilitating, and sometimes deadly, parasitic infection that affects hundreds of millions of people living in tropical and subtropical countries. Chemotherapy, using effective drug, does not give protection against reinfection, and in the same time the parasite resistance to the drug is increasing. Therefore, vaccine development became one of the hopes for controlling this disease.

In this study a cDNA clone of S. mansoni encoding an antigenic protein have been isolated from an adult worm cDNA expression library. The library was screened with chronic human serum. The clone was identified as a 786bp (Ad3), and an ORF of 600 bp. PCR amplification, using two primers flanking the ORF, of the genomic DNA of the adult worm, suggested the presence of short intron sequences. DNA homology analysis of Ad3 revealed the presence of very high homology (98.7%) with a putative eggshell protein gene of S. mansoni (SMEGGPRO). The presence of some nucleotide insertions, deletion and substitutions resulted in a different deduced protein designated as Sm22. The protein homology to SMEGGPRO was 83.4%. In addition, it gave significant homology to two vitelline precursors and putative eggshell precursor of Fasciola hepatica. Sm22 may be an iso form of SMEGGPRO isolated from Egyptian S. mansoni strain.

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