



## Letter to Editor

### Dear Editor,

Toxoplasmosis is an anthrozoosis caused by the protozoan *Toxoplasma gondii*, an obligate intracellular parasite belonging to the phylum Apicomplexa. It presents a cosmopolitan geographic distribution, with high rates of infection in humans; capable of infecting nucleated cells from a wide variety of hosts. Toxoplasmosis is one of the most common opportunistic infections affecting HIV - positive patients; being the neurotoxoplasmosis, the most prevalent brain focal lesion in these patients. In addition, patients with low CD4+ T-cell counts are at high risk of developing life-threatening reactivated cerebral toxoplasmosis.

Three clonal genetic lineages were initially recognized; these are known as Type I, Type II and Type III, and they are predominant in Western Europe and the United States. However, subsequent studies involving isolates obtained from other regions, including Central and South America, showed that *T. gondii* displays a high percentage of atypical or recombinant genotypes. In this context, our group has studied the pattern of pathogenicity of isolates of parasite from northeastern

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