Cell division of multinucleated Trichomonas foetus cells

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When cells of the parasitic protozoan, *Trichomonas foetus*, were dispersed uniformly in a medium (low cell density culture), cytokinesis was arrested temporarily. However, nuclear fission continued and the protozoan cells formed multinucleated cells. After accumulation of the 'cytokinesis regulating factor' in the medium, the multinucleated cells began cell division. To analyze the cell division process of multinucleated cells, we investigated the number of nuclei per cell by using smeared and stained cells, and observed the cell division pattern of giant live cells under a light microscope. The results suggested that bi- or tri- nucleated cells divided from multinucleated *T. foetus* cells.