RECOVERY OF *TREPONEMA* AND *BORRELIA* AFTER LYOPHILIZATION

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Large numbers of organisms with typical morphological characteristics were observed, with no evidence of fragmentation. There was languid motility observed in the freshly rehydrated cultures of the Kazan and Reiter strains, Nichols, *T. microdentium*, and *B. vincentii* organisms.

Growth obtained in 72 hr from lyophilized cultures after prolonged storage for 1 year was equivalent to that obtained from organisms preserved by storage at −70 C for the same length of time.

This method of preservation of *Treponema* and *Borrelia* strains or species was found to provide a convenient and inexpensive method of maintaining viability for a minimum of 1 year.