



DETECTION OF INDUCIBLE CLINDAMYCIN RESISTANCE AMONG CLINICAL ISOLATES OF ENTEROCOCCUS SPECIES

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ABSTRACT

Enterococci have transformed over the past century from being an intestinal commensal organism of little clinical importance to becoming the second most widespread nosocomial pathogen and is related with considerable mortality and morbidity. In this study a total of 20 different non-repetitive clinic isolates of Enterococci were collected from different clinical specimens and checked for inducible clindamycin resistance. Enterococcus isolates were subjected for susceptibility to erythromycin and other group of antibiotics by the Kirby-Bauer disc diffusion method. Of the 20 isolates, 18 (90%) of them were erythromycin resistance. The clinician must have a wide knowledge of inducible clindamycin resistance and report to laboratory immediately for prompt treatment. The D-test is a simple & reliable method to detect inducible & constitutive clindamycin resistance in routine clinical diagnosis setting.

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INTRODUCTION

Enterococci have changed over the previous century from being an intestinal commensal life form of minimal clinical significance to turning into the second most boundless nosocomial pathogen and is connected with extensive mortality and horribleness. [1]

Among the distinctive types of Enterococci which have been recognized, *Enterococcus faecalis*, was the most widely recognized species related with the nosocomial contaminations, trailed by *Enterococcus faecium*. [2]

Clindamycin is utilized as a part of the treatment of skin and delicate tissue diseases, brought on by the staphylococcal and Enterococcal species. Great oral retention makes this medication a vital alternative in outpatient treatment or as a follow-up after intravenous treatment. Clindamycin is likewise utilized as an option for patients who are sensitive to penicillin. [3]

Imperviousness to macrolides (e.g. erythromycin) can happen by two unique instruments: efflux due to macrolide streptogramin resistance (*msrA* quality) and ribosome change because of erythromycin ribosome methylase (*erm* quality) [4]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Clinical isolates

A total of 20 different non-repetitive clinic isolates of Enterococci were collected from different clinical specimens were included in this study. These isolates were identified by standard biochemical parameters as described by elsewhere. Isolates were preserved in semi-solid brain heart infusion medium and stored at 4°C until further use.

Antimicrobial susceptibility test

Antibiotic susceptibility test was determined for these strains to routinely used antibiotics such as ampicillin (10µ), vancomycin (30µ), teicoplanin (30µ), erythromycin (15µ), ciprofloxacin (5µ), amikacin (200µ), gentamycin (10µ), tetracycline (30µ) and linezolid (30µ) (Hi Media, Mumbai) by kirby-bauer disc diffusion method. [5]

Detection of inducible clindamycin resistance

Isolates which were resistant to erythromycin were further subjected to 'D test' as per CLSI guidelines. Enterococcus isolates were made into suspension and turbidity has been matched with 0.5 McFarland standard. These bacterial suspension were lawn cultured on Mueller Hinton agar (MHA). After a brief drying erythromycin (15 mcg) disc was placed at a distance of 15mm (edge to edge) from clindamycin (2 mcg) disc and was incubated at 37 °C overnight. Flattening of zone (D shaped) around clindamycin in the area between the two discs, indicated inducible clindamycin resistance. Three different phenotypes were appreciated after testing and

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interpreted as follows:

1. MS Phenotype - Staphylococcal isolates exhibiting resistance to erythromycin (zone size $\leq 13\text{mm}$) while sensitive to clindamycin (zone size $\geq 21\text{mm}$) and giving circular zone of inhibition around clindamycin was labelled as MS phenotype.
2. Inducible MLS_B Phenotype - Staphylococcal isolates showing resistance to erythromycin (zone size $\leq 13\text{mm}$) while being sensitive to clindamycin (zone size $\geq 21\text{mm}$) and giving D shaped zone of inhibition around clindamycin with flattening towards erythromycin disc were labelled as having this phenotype.
3. Constitutive MLS_B Phenotype - this phenotype was labelled for those Enterococcal isolates which showed resistance to both erythromycin (zone size $\leq 13\text{mm}$) and clindamycin (zone size $\leq 14\text{mm}$) with circular shape of zone of inhibition if any around clindamycin. [6]

RESULTS

Sample wise distribution of clinical isolates of Enterococci:

We have isolated Enterococcus from different clinical specimens such as urine (60%), blood (20%), stool and wound swab (10%)

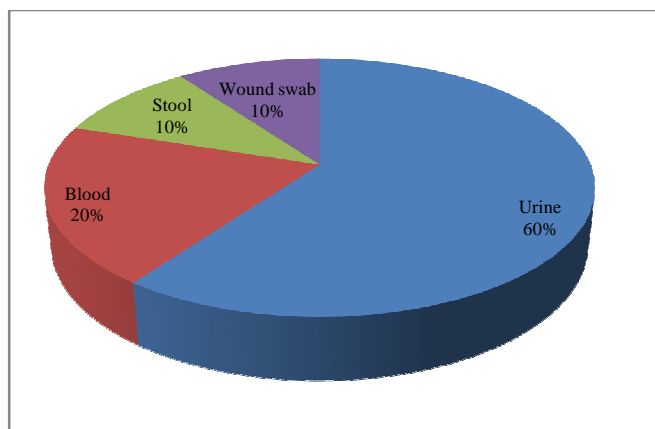


Fig 1 Pie chart showing the sample wise distribution of clinical isolates of Enterococcus spp

Bacterial isolates

In our isolates, 70% were identified as *E. faecalis* and 30% of them were *E. faecium*

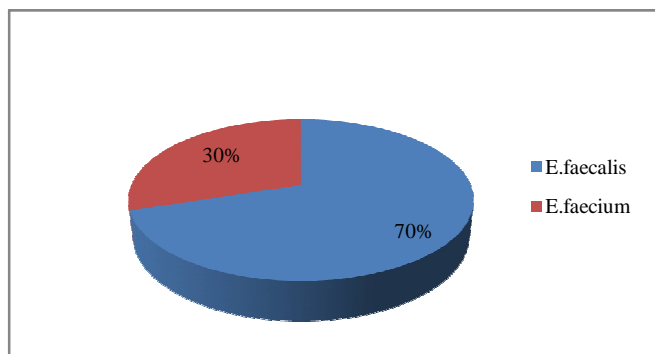


Fig 2 Pie chart showing species distribution of Enterococcus

Antibiotic susceptibility testing

Increased percentage of isolates were shown to be resistant to most of the drugs used. Wherein, 90% were resistant to erythromycin as well as to amikacin, 85% of isolates were resistant to ampicillin, 80% isolates were to gentamycin. The

detailed result of antibiotic susceptibility pattern was shown in table 1.

Table 1 Results of antibiotic sensitivity pattern of Enterococci

Antibiotics	Sensitivity	Intermediate	Resistance
Ampicillin	1(5%)	2(10%)	17(85%)
Vancomycin	15(75%)	1(5%)	4(20%)
Teicoplanin	12(60%)	3(15%)	5(25%)
Erythromycin	2(10%)	0	18(90%)
Ciprofloxacin	6(30%)	0	14(70%)
Amikacin	1(5%)	1(5%)	18(90%)
Gentamycin	2(10%)	2(10%)	16(80%)
Tetracycline	4(20%)	4(20%)	12(60%)
Linezolid	18(90%)	1(5%)	1(5%)

Results of inducible clindamycin resistance

Enterococcus isolates were subjected for susceptibility to erythromycin and other group of antibiotics by the Kirby-Bauer disc diffusion method. Of the 20 isolates, 18 (90%) of them were erythromycin resistance. Results of D-test were projected in Table 2.

Table 2 Showing results of clindamycin resistance among Enterococcus isolates

Clindamycin resistance	Total (n=20)
ERY-S, CL-S	7 (35%)
ERY-R, CL-R	5 (25%)
ERY-R, CL-S(D-test positive, iMLS)	4 (20%)
ERY-S, CL-R (D-test negative, MS)	4 (20%)

DISCUSSION

Medication vulnerability information of the infecting organism is a fundamental figure settling on fitting helpful choices. The variety of components, which give imperviousness to MLS anti-microbials, mirrors the unpredictability of the safe phenotypes and additionally the clinical circumstance. The most boundless and clinically critical resistance components experienced with Gram-positive life forms are the creation of methylases and efflux proteins. The clinical disappointment of clindamycin treatment has been accounted for some time recently. [7,8,9] Hence, there is a need to distinguish the instruments that present imperviousness to MLS anti-infection agents concerning clindamycin treatment of staphylococcal contaminations.

The development of imperviousness to various anti-infection agents among Gram-positive cocci has left not very many helpful choices for clinicians. Despite the fact that half of our detaches were safe phenotypes, the other half were touchy to clindamycin, against which it would be sheltered and suitable to utilize clindamycin or different macrolides. In this manner, utilizing as a part of vitro erythromycin resistance as a surrogate marker for every one of the MLS anti-toxins and consequently dodging them as a treatment choice, would be unseemly. A helpful choice is unrealistic without the significant anti-toxin vulnerability information. This is the place the D-test gets to be distinctly huge.

Study conducted by Ciraj in 2009, 38% of strains were MLS_B phenotype and 15.3% were MLS_B c phenotype among the MRSA strains. Results in regard to the MSSA group are similar to the studies from Turkey, where no constitutive resistance was reported and inducible resistance to clindamycin was approximately 11%. In contradiction, 20% isolates were ERY-R, CL-S (D test positive) whereas, 20% were negative for the same. [10]

CONCLUSION

The clinician must have a wide knowledge of inducible clindamycin resistance and report to laboratory immediately for prompt treatment. The D-test is a simple & reliable method to detect inducible & constitutive clindamycin resistance in routine clinical diagnosis setting.

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