

High Prevalence of Metal Resistant Genes in *Salmonella enterica* MDR Plasmids Correlates Severe Toxicities of Water with higher Typhoid AMR

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Summary

AMR and drug void have caused huge panic today with few thousand death per year. MDR Typhoid was a serious old disease and caused serious health hazard in human and animals demanding an update on molecular biology of the status on transferable genetic elements. R-plasmids combined in F'-plasmid and the new MDR conjugative plasmids were shown abundant in *Sanmonella* ranging 70-440kb with similarities. BlaTEM, blaCTX-M, blaOXA, blaNDM mdr genes were abundant in >50 plasmids analyzed and metal resistant gene clusters are predominant in most large plasmids. Among the acetyltransferase all *catA1*, *aacA1* and *aac-1b-cr* genes were located. Abundant streptomycin phosphotransferases (StrAB) and rarely colistin resistant Mcr-5/9 phosphoethanolamine-lipid A transferase were detected. Altered isomeric dihydropterote synthases (*Sul1/2/3*) were present giving sulfamethoxazole resistance and *dhfr* gene frequently associated giving trimethoprim resistance. Metal resistant gene clusters like *SilABC* (*CusABC*), *PcoAB*, *RcnA*, *terABC*, and *merABCXT* etc were found in many *Salmonella enterica* plasmids. Toxin genes like *HipA* and virulence genes like *spvABD* were located in few plasmids increasing virulence and pathogenesis. Drug efflux genes *tetA* or *tetB* and *OqxB*, *floR*, *CmlA* were frequent where as *QepA* and *EamA* genes were rarely seen. Thus, *Salmonella* metal resistant genes combined with antibiotic resistant genes has tried to overcome the both toxic antibiotics and metalions causing Typhoid AMR. Such acquisition spreads salmoniasis in the live stocks (pig, cow, chicken) where toxic soil and water dominate increasing chance of MDR typhoid in human.

Key words: MDR Typhoid, Metal resistant genes, water toxicity, gut microbiome

Introduction

Before 1600s we have no idea that microorganisms (virus, bacteria, fungus and parasites) cause diseases and we blame ghosts, Sun and Wind. After the discovery of microscope by Anton Van Leeuwenhoek (1670s) and further pioneering works by Edward Jenner (1790s), Lewis Pasteur (1860s) and David Koch (1880s) proved that bacteria and viruses were the culprit of many diseases like TB, Cholera, Typhoid and pox. Edward Jenner (1789) has discovered the Pox vaccination and role of viruses in diseases where antibiotics are useless. Now we control bacteria by inhibiting central dogma processes like replication, transcription and translation as well as cell wall biosynthesis (Chakraborty, 2018). In truth, basic chemical reactions of metabolism of DNA, RNA, protein, sugar, and fat are same among the all life forms but molecular assembly in human 35 trillions cells are different. Thus, understanding the molecular assembly of molecular biological processes are vital to design drugs against deadly pathogens. Biomolecules are nanometer and could be analyzed by assembly (10^7 - 10^{15} molecules) using suitable sensitive methods like UV detection of Ethidium bromide stained DNA/RNA, Ninhydrin colour reaction of amino acids, Antigen-Antibody reaction followed by Peroxidase enzyme-mediated colour reaction (ELISA) and FITC-Fuorescence Microscopy methods. Whereas atomic structures of organic molecules were determined by absorption spectra analysis like MASS, NMR, FT-IR and Raman Spectroscopy.

Typhoid Fever is serious disease due to systemic infection of bacterium *Salmonella enterica* subsp *enterica* serovar Typhi and now disease has come back due to drug-resistance (Parry et al. 2002; Guerra et al. 2004; Calva et al. 2015; Abraham et al. 2019). Typhoid could be spread by eating or drinking food or water contaminated with the feces of an infected person. Risk factors include poor sanitation and poor hygiene and those travelling in the developing world. Symptoms are high fever accompanied by weakness, abdominal pain, constipation, headaches, and mild vomiting. In 2000, typhoid fever caused an estimated 21.7 million illnesses and 217,000 deaths usually in the children and young adults between 5 and 19 years old mostly from south-central, Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Report indicated about 161,000 deaths in 2013 and 149000 in 2015 (<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/typhoid-and-paratyphoid-fever-annual-epidemiological-report-2015>). In the United States, about 400 cases occur each year, and 75% of these are acquired while travelling internationally. According to the most recent estimates by WHO, between 11 and 21 million cases and 128 000 to 161 000 typhoid-related deaths occur annually worldwide (<https://www.who.int/immunization/diseases/typhoid/en/>). A typhoid vaccine can prevent about 40 to 90% of cases during the first two years. An oral live attenuated Ty21a vaccine in

capsule formulation for those over six years of age but injectable Vi polysaccharide vaccine also available. Diagnosis is by either culturing the bacteria or detecting their DNA in the blood, stool, or bone marrow using PCR technique. During prognosis serum AST and ALT may be very high (200-400U/L). The disease was treated with antibiotics such as azithromycin, fluoroquinolones, or third-generation cephalosporins. *Salmonella enterica* plasmids harbour a composite transposon that can carry multiple resistance genes, including *bla*TEM-1 (ampicillin resistance), *dfrA7* (trimethoprim resistance), *sul1+sul2* (sulfamethoxazole resistance), *catA1* (chloramphenicol resistance), and *strAB* (streptomycin resistance) genes. This composite transposon has also been found integrated into the chromosome in some H58 *S. Typhi* lineages (Klemm et al. 2018). Many drug resistant determinants are abundant in *Salmonella enterica* plasmids isolated from different animal sources as well as water and thus AMR is a problem increasing salmoniasis in animal and typhoid in human (Rasheed et al. 2019). Typhoid fever, the causative agent of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi is spreading in the Asian countries due to acquisition of MDR plasmids from multidrug resistant *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumonia* (Mandal et al. 2012). However, non-typhoidal MDR *Salmonella enterica* Serovar Typhimurium were isolated in meat foods (chicken, pork and beef) as well as milk and egg, Such MDR bacteria cause serious diarrhoea and bacteraemia and need hospitalization as happening in the Asia as well as United States due to widespread contamination in livestock (Sadhantirakodi et al. 2016). Other than Serovar Typhimurium, Serovar Kentucky, Serovar Idican and Serovar Entitidis are predominant. Interestingly, we found few very small plasmids those have either *mdr* genes or virulence genes or metal resistant genes suggesting toxicities of different kind prevail first generating such plasmids but now such small plasmids combined with F⁺ plasmids and then such *Salmonella enterica* plasmids further recombined residing in the polluted water resources.



Fig.1. Different types of *mdr* genes reported in Enterobacteriaceae plasmids.

There are many *mdr* genes located in Enterobacteriaceae plasmid since 1950s as shown in Figure-1 (Chakraborty, 2018). First, *amp* and *tet* genes were sequenced in pBR322 in 1965 and since the application of colour di-deoxy DNA sequencing, millions plasmid sequences were deposited in GenBank. Amp gene was renamed as *bla* or beta-lactamase and now 20 different beta-lactamases classes were reported with million of mutated isomers and most importantly ESBL and MBL multiple isomers were located in MDR single conjugative plasmid with size >100kb (Chakraborty, 2017). Similarly, *tetAB*, *acrAB*, *mexAB/CD/EF*, *bcr*, *mcr* types MFS and RND drug efflux genes were reported in *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*, *K. pneumonia* as well as *S. enterica* plasmids. Many metal efflux genes (*silABC*, *merB*, *rcnA*) and metal binding genes (*telC*, *silz*) were reported in MDR plasmids. Abundance of metal resistant gene cluster in association of *mdr* genes suggested that metal toxicity in water might be precede the antibiotic toxicity. We will describe here the different types of those genes in *Salmonella* plasmids causing recent outbreaks of salmoniasis in animals and typhoid in human.

Material & Methods

We got the plasmid sequences from NCBI Nucleotide GenBank Database by typing “Salmonella” and “plasmid”. We retrieve the each sequence and searched for *mdr* genes, drug efflux genes, toxin genes, and virulence genes. BLAST search was performed to get relation among the peers (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/blast). Plasmids were divided into small (3-15kb), medium (15-49kb), large (50-100kb) and very large (>100kb) and plasmid may have

mdr gene or no *mdr* gene but virulence genes. Similarly, few plasmids have both metal resistant gene and *mdr* genes but *mdr* gene may not be found in few plasmid. Interestingly, such review was absent in the pubmed.

Result

Table-1 showed the overall description of the plasmids describing *mdr* genes, drug efflux genes, metal resistant genes as well as other genes involved in the *Salmonella* pathogenesis. Few plasmids were found small <50kb and large plasmids were 200-400kb in size and were sequenced between 2015-2019. Plasmids pHK0653, pSTm-A54650, pRH-1238, pHXY0908, P87912 and pF8475 contained nine *mdr* genes and few drug efflux genes. TetA drug efflux genes located in most plasmids irrespective of sizes as also we found *strAB* streptomycin phosphotransferases where as *BlaTEM* was more frequent than *blaCTX-M*, *blaOXA1* or *blaNDM1* where as *blaOXA23/48/58* were not detected. *Sul1* isomer of dihydropterote synthase was abundant than *Sul2* and *Sul3* isomers (Roschanski et al. 2014). Metal resistant genes were found in many large MDR conjugative plasmids like p8025 (accession no. KP899803), pSTM6-275 (accession no. CP019647), pSH111_227 (accession no. JN983042) and pF8475 (accession no. KP899804). Mercury resistant locus was found in plasmid pF8475 (accession no. KP899804) in association with *sul1/2*, *strA*, *blaTEM*, *dhfr*, *aacC2* and *mphA* *mdr* genes (Zhang et al. 2018). Plasmids pHK0653, pFORC19 and pSTM6-275 have *HipA* toxin genes where as plasmid pSE81-1706 and pFORC19 have *spvA/B/D* virulence genes associated with *cat*, *blaTEM* and *aph* *mdr* genes. The plasmid pOU1113 (accession no. AY517905) has virulence genes *spvD/ trbD* but no *mdr* gene where as in plasmid pSTU288-1 (accession no. CP004058), *spvA/spvB* virulence genes were located in association with *sul1*, *aad*, *aac3'*, *dhfr* and *cmlA2* *mdr* genes giving resistant to sulfamethoxazole, streptomycin, gentamycin, kanamycin, trimethoprim and chloramphenicol. However, plasmid pA3T (accession no. KX421096) has no beta-lactamase or acetyl/phospho - transferases but accumulated *OqxA* and *OqxB* RND-type drug efflux proteins which form tripartite protein complex with *oprM*-type membrane protein to exclude variety of drugs. The plasmid pSH696_135 (accession no. JN983048) has many transcription factors like *merD*, *tetR*, *entR* and *flhC* regulating *mdr* genes like *blaCMY*, *sul1*, *strA/B*, *blaTEM* and *aadA*. Silver efflux proteins *silABC* (ARX76242/3/5) were located in small *Salmonella* plasmid pSH-01 (43kb; accession no. KY486279) and such locus was also found in many large MDR plasmids like pYU39_IncA/C (156kb; accession no.

CP011429) in association with multi-drug efflux protein *acrEF* (protein ids. AKH10329/30), a homologue of *acrAB* acridine drug efflux proteins and streptomycin inactivating proteins *strAB* (protein ids. AKH10232/3). The *Salmonella* 249kb plasmids pHXY0908 (accession no. KM877269) and p15-0756 (accession no. CP039857) are similar size but pHXY0908 has multiple *mdr* genes (*aph*, *sull*, *aad*, *sul2*, *aac3'*, *aac6'-Ib-cr*, *cat* *blaOXA*, *arr3*) with only tellurium resistant locus where as the other has multiple metal resistant genes locus like copper resistant locus PcoECBA (nt. 68858-74109) and silver resistant locus silPABCRSE (nt. 75407-87859) as well as tellurium resistant locus terWZABCDF (nt. 24736-30955). Abundance of metal binding proteins and metal efflux proteins in *Salmonella* plasmids indicated that such MDR bacteria suffered in the environmental water and had forced to accumulate multiple metal resistant locus where as in the human host such bacteria may lost few metal resistant genes acquiring many antibiotic resistant genes (Kaldhane et al. 2019). A similar huge accumulation of silver, copper, mercury and tellurium resistant genes were seen in large plasmid pRH-R27 (accession no. LN555650) where very rare nickel-cobalt specific efflux protein *rcnA* was also present (protein id. CED95467) in association with *blaVIM*, *aac6'-Ib*, *sull* and *strAB* *mdr* genes (Kaldhane et al.2019). Plasmid pCFSA300-1 appeared very similar in plasmid pHK0653 with respect to *mdr* genes (*dhfr*, *sul*, *blaOXA1*, *aac3'*, *ANT3'*) but citrate lyase, Adenine-Guanine phosphoribosyl transferase and carbomoyl phosphate synthase were inserted at tellurium resistant locus. Interestingly, a very small 14kb *Salmonella typhimurium* plasmid pMG101 (accession no. AF067954) had all silver resistant genes but no other antibiotic resistant genes indicating metal resistance was primitive and likely occurred during European industry development between 1760-1850s where as *mdr* genes were created after 1940 (Gupta et al. 1999; Chakraborty, 2019). We also found a medium plasmid pSA20044414 (accession no. CP030210) with many arsenic and copper resistant genes in association of Tra conjugative proteins but no *mdr* gene was detected indicating F'-plasmid may be combined with small metal resistant plasmids like pMG101 with silver resistant locus and then small R-plasmids like pSc101 and pMB were combined to originate modern day large MDR conjugative plasmids like p87912 (accession no. CP041180) which contained sixteen *mdr* genes and two drug efflux genes like *oqxA/B* (Chakraborty, 2018). Never the less, WGS of *Salmonella* (accession nos. CP000026, AE014613) indicated that metal resistant locus were also frequently associated with *Salmonella* genome (Calva et al. 2015). Mcr-9 enzyme (protein id. ANV19589) was detected in plasmid p09-036813-1A_261 (261kb; accession no. CP016526) in association of *aph6-Id*, *aph3'*, *dhfr*, *aac3'*, *aacA4* and tellurium, mercury and arsenic metal resistant genes. Such

mutant *mcr-1* was detected in many *S. enterica* isolates (Lozano-Leon et al. 2019) giving colistin resistance and more deadly *bla*NDM-1 also was detected giving imipenem resistance (Banerjee et al. 2018). *Salmonella enterica* serovar Seftenberg pNDM-SAL plasmid (accession no. KP742988) has both cephamycinase and carbapenemase and thus highly resistant to all beta-lactams and similar *Salmonella* plasmids pHS36-NDM (accession no. KU726616) and pRH-1238 (accession no. KR091911) were sequenced (Huang et al. 2013; Villa et al. 2015).

Plasmid name	Size in kb	Accession number	Mdr genes	Drug & Metal Efflux genes	Virulence genes
pGMI14-002_1	444	CP028197	<i>bla</i> SHV12, <i>aac</i> 6'-II, <i>aac</i> 3-II, <i>arr</i> 3, <i>mcr</i> 1, <i>dhfr</i> , <i>aph</i> 6-I _d	<i>mer</i> A, <i>ter</i> CZ, <i>rcn</i> A	HipA
pIMP4-SEM1	340	KX810825	<i>bla</i> TEM, <i>cat</i> B, <i>dhfr</i> , <i>str</i> BA	<i>tet</i> A, <i>ter</i> FECBAZW, <i>ter</i> YX	HipA
P8025	311	KP899803	<i>aad</i> A1, <i>dhfr</i> , <i>sul</i> 1	<i>tet</i> A, <i>acr</i> AB, <i>mer</i> A, <i>ars</i> B	-
pSTm-A54650	309	LK056646	<i>dhfr</i> , <i>bla</i> OXA, <i>cat</i> B3, <i>tun</i> iR, <i>bla</i> CTX-M15, <i>bla</i> TEM, <i>str</i> AB, <i>sul</i> 1, <i>aad</i> A1, <i>cat</i> A1	<i>tet</i> A, <i>qnr</i> S1, <i>pco</i> E, <i>rcn</i> A, <i>ars</i> B, <i>mer</i> B	TniB dcm telA
pIncH12	300	LN794248	<i>Sul</i> 2, <i>str</i> AB, <i>bla</i> TEM, <i>dhfr</i> , <i>bla</i> OXA30, <i>aad</i> A1	<i>ter</i> XYABDEF, <i>rcn</i> A, <i>ars</i> B	<i>vwf</i> AB, <i>pvu</i> IIM
pRH-R27	299	LN555650	<i>Sul</i> 1, <i>str</i> AB, <i>aac</i> 6'-1b, <i>bla</i> VIM1, , <i>aad</i> A1	<i>Ter</i> ABC, <i>ars</i> B, <i>rcn</i> A, <i>Pco</i> S, <i>sil</i> AB, <i>mer</i> TC	Dcm, dam
pFSAN096147	291	CP044256	<i>bla</i> TEM, <i>qnr</i> S1, <i>bla</i> LAP2,	<i>tet</i> A, <i>tet</i> B, <i>ter</i> XBCEF, <i>rcn</i> A, <i>sli</i> CBA, <i>cus</i> F, <i>mer</i> T, Hg R, <i>ars</i> HB	HipA, dcm
P280_12888	276	CP045449	<i>Aac</i> 3-IV, <i>aph</i> 4-Ia, <i>sul</i> 1, <i>ANT</i> 3''-Ia, <i>dhfr</i>	<i>ter</i> XWZABCD <i>sil</i> E SCBAP, <i>Pco</i> AB, <i>mer</i> T	dcm
pSTM6-275	275	CP019647	<i>Str</i> A, <i>tet</i> , <i>bla</i> TEM, <i>aad</i> A2, <i>dhfr</i>	<i>Eam</i> A, <i>Tet</i> A, <i>Sil</i> , <i>Ter</i> , <i>Pco</i> A	HipA
pSa27-Tc-CIP	270	MH884653	<i>bla</i> TEM1, <i>tet</i> C, <i>dhfr</i> , <i>ble</i>	<i>sil</i> EABCRS	<i>vir</i> B, dcm
p09-036813-1A_261	261	CP016526	<i>Aph</i> 6'-1a, <i>aph</i> 3'', <i>dhfr</i> , <i>aac</i> 3', <i>aac</i> A4, <i>mcr</i> 1	<i>ter</i> WZABCF, <i>Mer</i> A, <i>mer</i> T, <i>ars</i> BA, <i>rcn</i> A	hipA, dcm
pA3T	253	KX421096	<i>Ble</i> , <i>sul</i> 1, <i>fos</i> A, <i>bla</i> CTX-M-14, <i>aac</i> 3-IV	<i>Oqx</i> B/A, <i>ter</i> B	Dam, dcm
P15-0756	249	CP039857	<i>lnu</i> F, <i>ANT</i> 3'', <i>tet</i> M, <i>tet</i> A, <i>Eam</i> A	<i>ter</i> WZABCDF, <i>Pco</i> ECBA, <i>sil</i> PABCRSE	hipA, dcm
pHXY0908	249	KM877269	<i>aph</i> , <i>sul</i> 1, <i>aad</i> , <i>sul</i> 2, <i>aac</i> 3', <i>aac</i> 6'-1b-cr, <i>cat</i> , <i>bla</i> OXA, <i>arr</i> 3,	<i>oqx</i> B/A, <i>cml</i> , <i>flo</i> R, <i>ter</i> E/D, <i>ter</i> C /Y/Z	HipA
pHK0653	245	KT334335	<i>Dhfr</i> , <i>sul</i> , <i>aad</i> , <i>hph</i> , <i>aac</i> , <i>bla</i> OXA1, <i>cat</i> , <i>arr</i> 3	<i>Oqx</i> B, <i>Cml</i> A2, <i>ter</i> F	HipA, Collicin1b
P16-6773	245	CP039861	<i>Aph</i> 3'-I, <i>ANT</i> 3''-I, <i>Lnu</i> F, <i>sul</i> 3	<i>flo</i> R, <i>ter</i> BCD, <i>ter</i> AZ	HipA, dcm
pJXP9	244.7	MK673549	<i>Dhfr</i> , <i>aph</i> 3'', <i>est</i> X, <i>aad</i> , <i>bla</i> CTX-M14, <i>fos</i> A	<i>flo</i> R, <i>cml</i> A, <i>ter</i> FEDCBA, <i>ter</i> ZY ₁ XY ₂	dcm
pSE81-1706	244	CP018656	<i>Cat</i> , <i>bla</i> TEM, <i>aph</i>	<i>tet</i> A	<i>spv</i> A/B/D
P87912	236	CP041180	<i>Acc</i> 6'-1b-cr, <i>bla</i> OXA1, <i>cat</i> B3, <i>arr</i> 3, <i>sul</i> 1/2, <i>bla</i> CTX-M65,	<i>oqx</i> AB	<i>rmt</i> B1

			fosA3, blaTEM1, aph3 ^{''} -1b, aph6-Id, ANT3 ^{''} -I, dhfr, ble, aph4-I, mph2 [']		
pSH111_227	227	JN983042	strA/B, sph	TetA, terF, cusC	Dam, dcm
P220k	220	CP025340	ANT3 ^{''} , mphA2 ['] , aac3-IV, aph4-Ia,	oqxAB, cmlA1 terZXABCDF, cusAP, PcoADS, floR	dam
pHCM1	218	AL513383	blaTEM, sul1, strA/B	tetA	mucB
pCFSA300-1	209	CP033382	Sul2, dhfr, aph3 ^{''} -1b, blaOXA1, ANT3 ^{''} -Ia	OqxAB,terXW, terZABCDF	HipA,Dcm, ArmA
pF8475	210	KP899804	Sul1/2, strA, blaTEM, dhfr, aacC2, mphA	tetB, merA/C/P/T	Dcm, dam, trhU
P109/9	207	KP899805	Cat, blaTEM, sul2, aph3 [']	tetB, merA	-
pUO-STmRV1	197	CP018220	Aph3 ^{''} , aac3, ANT3 ^{''} , sul1, blaCTX-M	cmlA1, CuS/C, MerC/T, ArsH,	SpvA. SpvB/ D
pB71	190	KP899806	aadA1, sul1	tetB	cobZ, dcm
pRH-1238	188	KR091911	mphA, sul1, aadA5, dgfr7, blaNDM1, blaCMY16, strAB, sul2	tetA, chrB	
pRH-1238	187	KR091911	Sul1/2, aad, dhfr, aac6 ['] , aph, mel, blaNDM, strB/A, blaCMY-16	tetA, floR, mel	Rhs1, vWFS
pYU39_IncA/C	156	CP011429	strA/B, sul2,, ble	acrEF, silPACSER	Rhs, dcm
pSTU288-1	148	CP004058	Sul1, aad, aac, dhfr	CmlA	spvD, trbD
pNDM-SAL	146	KP742988	blaCMY4, blaNDM1	Dam, dcm	Vwf, rhs
pHS36-NDM	138	KU726616	blaNDM1, sul1, ANT1, blaAmpC, ble	CobS	Vwf,
pSH696_135	135	JN983048	Sul1, strA/B, blaCMY, blaTEM, aadA	floR merA/D/T	-
P9134	134	KF705205	Hpt, blaTEM	tetA	pilQ
pSa18934b	133	JF274992	aph	tetA, merEA	spvABCD
pST3553	132	AP014566	blaTEM, aadA, sul1	tetA	-
pGDD25-16	130	MH316136	blaCTX-M-27, dhfr	QepA	Dcm, rmtB
R64	121	AP005147	strA/B	tetA, arsB	pilQ
pFORC19	117	CP012397	Dhfr, strA/B, aph, aac3 ['] , TunicaR	tetA, merA/C	HipA, spvA/B/D
pST1007-1B	109	MH626558	Dhfr, aad	tetB, cml, EmrE, merAT	-
pSH1148_107	107	JN983049	Sul1, aacC1, aadA1		Colicin1b
P16-6397	94	CP040322	No mdr gene	TraI	spvABC
pSA20044414	93	CP030210	No mdr gene	ArsAB, PcoA, CusA	-
pST1007-1D	92	MH648141	blaTEM, strA, sul1	merA	
pSA20070548	84	CP040652	blaTEM, aadA2, ble	tetM, SilCB silA/P, merT/C	dam
pOU1113	80	AY517905	No mdr gene	-	spvAB
pQJDSal1	67	CP022964	Sul2, blaTEM1	arsABCH	virB
pSH-01	43	KY486279	QnrS1, tetA	silP/A/B/C/R/E, CusF/S	-
pSE12-02541	17	KY807920	blaTEM1, mcr-5	-	-
pMG101	14	AF067954	No mdr gene	silESRCBAP	-
pSE13-SA01718	12	KY807921	Mcr-5	chrB	
pNL2001	4	D14490	No mdr gene	-	spvABC

Table-1 Note: BlaTEM is similar to amp gene of pBR322 and it lyses benzyl penicillin and ampicillin but not cefotaxime and oxacillin. TetA and TetB enzymes are ~400 aa transmembrane protein and remove tetracycline from bacterial cytoplasm giving tetracycline resistance. Such gene (tetC) was discovered first in plasmid pBR322. StrA and StrB phosphorylates streptomycin and phosphorylated streptomycin could not able to bind ribosome giving resistance. Other phosphotransferases (aph) are known to give gentamycin and kanamycin resistance. Cat enzyme acetylates chloramphenicol and

acetylated chloramphenicol did not bind ribosome. AacC1 and aacA1 types acetyltransferases are abundant in plasmids causing aminoglycoside resistance. Hpt is hygromycin phosphotransferase and Arr3 is rifampicin phosphotransferase. Dhfr enzyme gave resistance to trimethoprim and sul1/2/3 are altered dihydropterote synthase enzyme giving sulphonamide resistance. spvB is Actin ADP ribosyl transferase and inactivates muscle function. Dcm is cytosine MTase and Dam is adenine methyltransferase whereas rmtB is 16S rRNA methyltransferase giving drug resistance altering rRNA structure in the ribosome. HipA is a serine-threonine protein kinase that likely phosphorylates tRNA(Glu) synthetase (GltX). CmlA is chloramphenicol efflux membrane protein and acrAB is RND-MFS drug efflux proteins and similar to OqxAB. Colicin resistance is due to a colicin1b transporter and colicin drug binds to cell membrane inhibiting murein biosynthesis in bacteria. QepA drug efflux protein located in *Salmonella* plasmid pGDD25-16 gives fluoroquinolone resistance as also possible for the presence of aac6⁷-1b-cr protein in plasmid pHXY0908 due to N-acetylation of ciprofloxacin.

Beta-lactamases in *Salmonella* plasmids were analyzed and major isomer was blaTEM-1 (protein ids. AYM49671, QDG23938, QCW01640, CDR86458, CEO37446 and QEX03237) and no mutations were found (figure-2A). Similarly, no mutation was detected in streptomycin phosphotransferases strA (figure-2B) and strB (figure-2C). In plasmid pSTm-A54650 (accession no. LK056646) blaOXA-1 was found in association of blaTEM-1 similar to blaCTX-M-65 in plasmid p87912 (accession no. CP041180) and pUo-STmRV1 (accession no. CP018220). TetA tetracycline efflux and tetracycline binding protein tetM were located in plasmid p15-6756 (accession no. CP039857) but no beta-lactamase gene was located but many metal resistant genes like *ter* locus, *sil* locus and *Pco*ECBA copper resistant genes. In a pan drug resistant *S. enterica*, multiple acetyltransferases (protein ids. ALI92932, ALI92934) and dihydropterote synthases (ALI92929, ALI92944, ALI92959) were detected in its plasmid pHK0653 (accession no. KT334335).

Tetracycline resistant drug efflux proteins tetA and tetB have 60% homology (Figure-3D) but no mutations were detected among the tetA proteins (figure-3A) or tetB proteins (figure-3B) but no mutation was detected in the RND drug efflux protein OpxB (figure-3C). Chloramphenicol/ florfenicol efflux MFS transporter (FloR) was found in many plasmids and few mutations were present (figure-4). *Salmonella enterica* fluoroquinolone MFS drug efflux transporter QepA (protein id. AWW22306, plasmid pGDD25-21) and macrolide MFS efflux protein (Msr-family ABC-F type like Mel; protein id. AKN19296, plasmid pHXY0908) and chloramphenicol drug efflux protein (AXY98896, plasmid pST1007-1B; Bcr-cflA family) were rarely detected.

In *Salmonella* plasmids, arsB (A) and arsC (B) arsenic metal efflux genes were found and mutations were detected (Figure-5A/B) as well as silver efflux genes like silABC (Figure-6). Mercuric reductase (merA) and multi-copper oxidase (PcoA) were abundant and many mutations were observed in PcoA but merA was conserved among the plasmids (Figure-7). RcnA Ni⁺⁺/Co⁺⁺ transporters of *Salmonella enterica* plasmids (protein ids. AVS55158, AZM67488, QEX03304, CEO37522, CDR86475) were identical as also found in other bacterial species like *E. coli*, *E. cloacae*, *S. enterica*, *K. oxytoca*, *S. marcessens* but I327F mutation in *C. freundii* where as Other *Klebsiella* species like *K. pneumoniae*, *K. aerogenes* and *K. quasipneumoniae* have more mutated forms (a new lineage) of RcnA transporter (figure-8). Further in *K. quasipneumoniae* plasmid-mediated RcnA four amino acids (GHDH) insertion was detected at 234 amino acid position where as a four amino acid deletion (AEHD) at amino acid position 230 of RcnA of *Klebsiella aerogenes*.

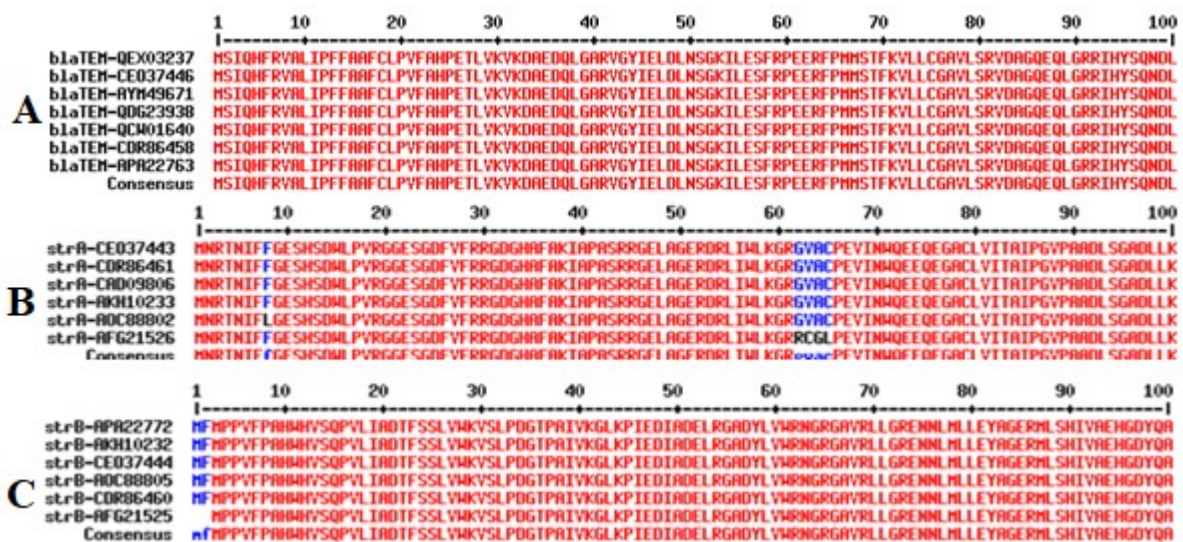


Fig.2. Multialign of class A Beta-lactamases and streptomycin 3'/6' phosphotransferases. Part of the aligns were shown here, blaTEM-1 (A), StrA (B) and StrB (C).

A	tetA-BAP10655	vhsndvtahygillalyalmqfacapvlgalsdrfgrppvllvslagaavdyaimatapf	95	
	tetA-ASF62691	vhsndvtahygillalyalmqfacapvlgalsdrfgrppvllvslagaavdyaimatapf	95	
	tetA-AHC55487	vhsndvtahygillalyalmqfacapvlgalsdrfgrppvllvslagaavdyaimatapf	120	
	tetA-AKJ19550	vhsndvtahygillalyalmqfacapvlgalsdrfgrppvllvslagaavdyaimatapf	120	

B	tetB-BAB91576	mnsstkialvitlldamgiglimpvlptllrefiasedianhfgvllalyalmqvifapw	60	
	tetB-AKJ20239	mnsstkialvitlldamgiglimpvlptllrefiasedianhfgvllalyalmqvifapw	60	
	tetB-AKJ20055	mnsstkialvitlldamgiglimpvlptllrefiasedianhfgvllalyalmqvifapw	60	
	tetB-ATT44960	mnsstkialvitlldamgiglimpvlptllrefiasedianhfgvllalyalmqvifapw	60	

C	OqxB-AOR05930	mdfserffidrpifaavlsilifitgliaipllpvseypdvppsvqvraeyppganpkvia	60	
	OqxB-AKG90132	mdfserffidrpifaavlsilifitgliaipllpvseypdvppsvqvraeyppganpkvia	60	
	OqxB-ggq84092	mdfserffidrpifaavlsilifitgliaipllpvseypdvppsvqvraeyppganpkvia	60	
	OqxB-QPG24035	mdfserffidrpifaavlsilifitgliaipllpvseypdvppsvqvraeyppganpkvia	60	
	OqxB-ALI92905	mdfserffidrpifaavlsilifitgliaipllpvseypdvppsvqvraeyppganpkvia	60	

	Score	Expect	Method	Identities
	370 bits (950)	6e-131	Compositional matrix adjust.	179/379 (47%)
	BAP10655	NRFLIVILSTVALDAVGIGLIMPVLPGLLRDLVHNSNDVTAHYGILLALYALMQFACAPVL		63
		N + L LDA+GIGLIMPVLP LLR+ + S D+ H+G+LLALYALMQ AP L		
	AKJ20239	NSSTKIALVITLLDAMGIGLIMPVLPPTLLREFIASEDIANHFGVLLALYALMQVIFAPWL		61
	BAP10655	GALSDRFGRPPVLLVSLAGAAVDYAIMATAPFLWVLYIGRIVAGITGATGAVAGAYIADI		123
		G +SDRFGRPPVLL+SL GA++DY ++A + LW+LY+GR+++GITGATGAVA + IAD		
	AKJ20239	GKMSDRFGRPPVLLLSLIGASLDYLLAFSSALWMLYLGRLLSGITGATGAVAAVSIADI		121
D	BAP10655	TDGDERPARHFGFMSACFGFGVAGFVLGGLMGGFSPHAPFFAAAALNGLNFLTQCFLLPE		183
		T +R + FG++ A FG G++AGP++GG G SPH+PFF AA LN + FL F E		
	AKJ20239	TSASQRVKWFGWLGASFGGLIAGPIIGGFAGEISPHSPFFIAALINIVAFVLMVWFRE		181
	BAP10655	SHKGERPLRREALNPLASFRWARGMTVVAALMAVFFIMQLVQGVPAALWVIFGEDRFHW		243
		+ + + + + L+ ++F QL+GQ+EA +WV+F E+RF W		
	AKJ20239	TKNTRDNTDTEVGVETQNSVYITLFKIMPIILLIYFSAQLIGQIPATVWLFTEENRFW		241
	BAP10655	DATTIGISLAAFGILHSLAQAMITGPVAARLGERPALMIGMIADGTGYILLAFATRGWMA		303
		++ +G SLA G+LHS+ QA + G +A + GE+ A++LG IAD + + LAF + GN+		
	AKJ20239	NSMNVGFSLAGLGLLHVSFQAFVAGRIATKWGEKTAVLLGFIADSSAFELAFISEGWL		301
	BAP10655	FPIMVLLASGGIGMPALQAMLSRQVDEERQGLQGLSALALTSILTSIVGPILFTAIYAASI		363
	FP+++LLA GGI +PALQ ++S Q +QG LQ L +LT+ T ++GPILF IY S+			
AKJ20239	FPVLILLAGGGIALPALQGVMSIQTKSHQQGALQGLLVSLTNATGVIGPILFAVIYNHSL		361	
BAP10655	TTWNGWAWIAGAALYLLCL	382		
	W+GW WI G A Y + +			
AKJ20239	DIWDGWIWIIGLAFYCI	380		

Fig.3. Multialign analysis of plasmid-mediated TetA (A), tetB (B) tetracycline drug efflux proteins and OqxB (C) drug efflux protein of *Salmonella enterica*. Amino acids 201-240 and 404-420 have difference between tetA and tetB as demonstrated by BLAST Seq-2 align (D). No mutations among tetA , tetB and OqxB were detected in Salmonella plasmids.

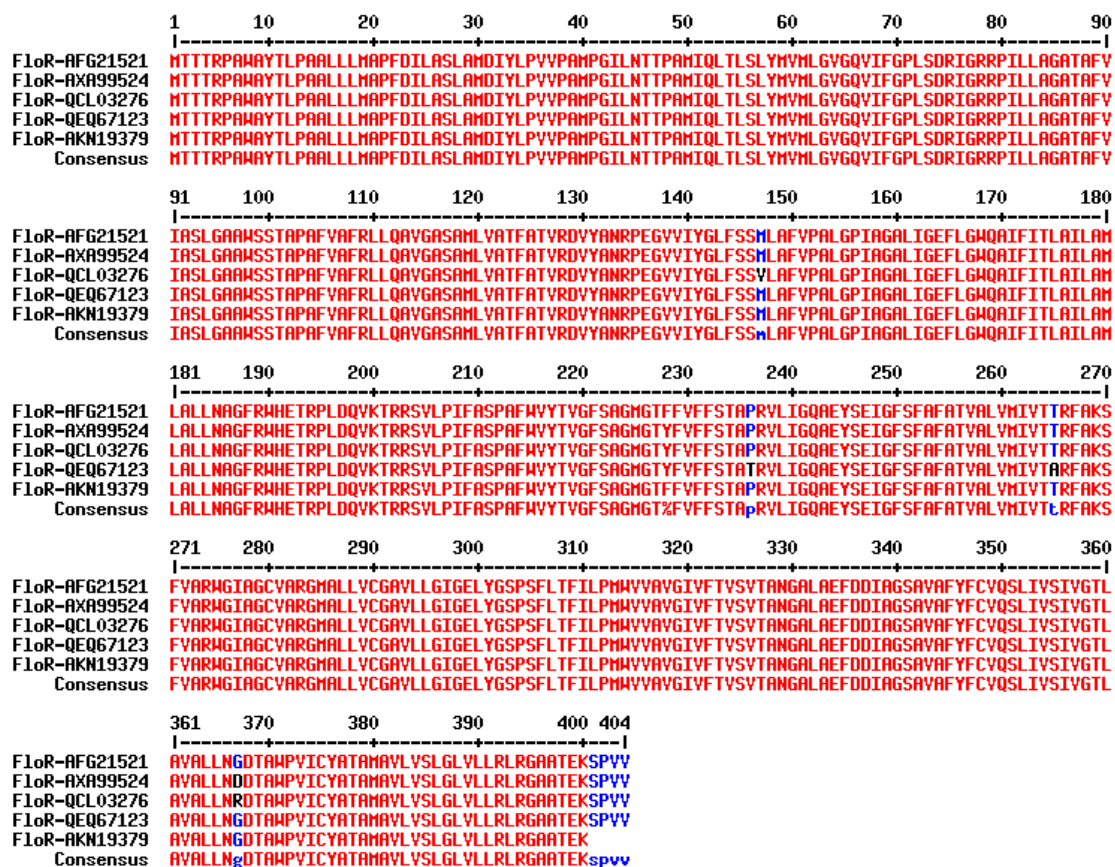


Fig.4. Multialign sequence analysis of plasmid-associated FloR protein (chloramphenicol/florfenicol efflux MFS transporter) showing mutations. FloR protein AFG21596 of *S. enterica* serovar Heidelberg has more mutations. Other chloramphenicol MFS drug efflux transporter CmlA family has only 25% sequence similarity to FloR (protein ids. ALI92933 and AXH26379).

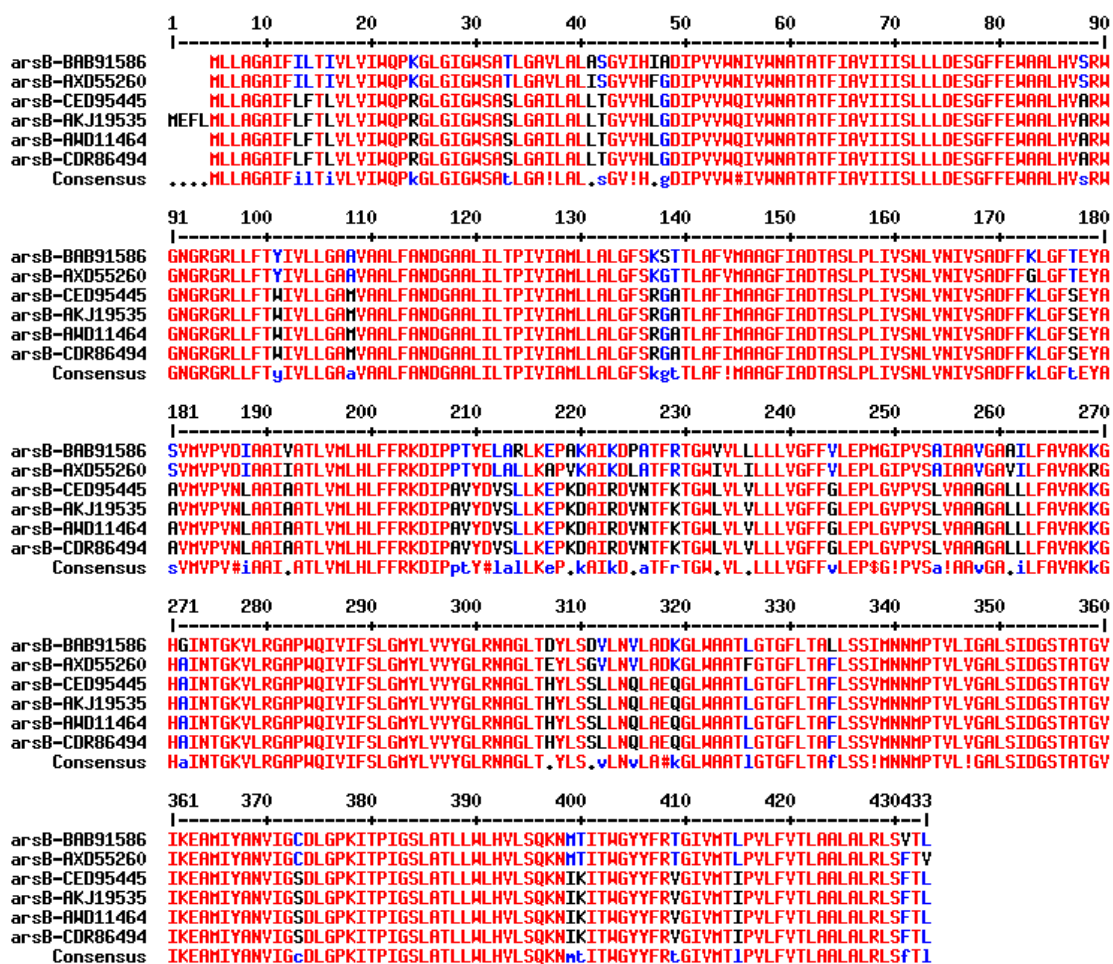


Fig.5A. Multialign of *Salmonella* plasmid-associated ArsB transporter. Few mutations were detected with two plasmids types where, LF vs IL at 9 amino acid, KST vs RGA at 137 amino acid, PA vs VN at 119 amino acid and AY vs PI at 208 amino acid are predominant. Proteins ids. CED95445, AKJ19535 and AWD11464 are one type cluster.

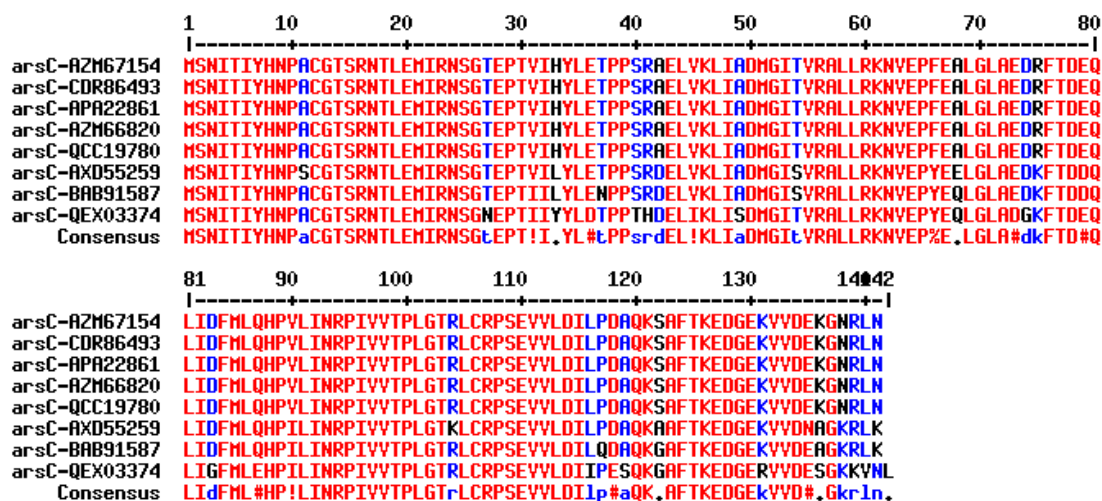


Fig.5B. Detection of mutations in *Salmonella enterica* plasmid-associated ArsC protein. In major substitution was detected in QEX03374 at 40 (SRA vs THD), at 74 (DR vs GK) and point mutations at 27, 49, 68, 83, 104, 119, 131, 136 and 142 amino acids. Point mutations are in AXD55259; A vs S at 11, H vs L at 33 A vs E at 68, R vs K at 75 and R vs K at 104 amino acids.

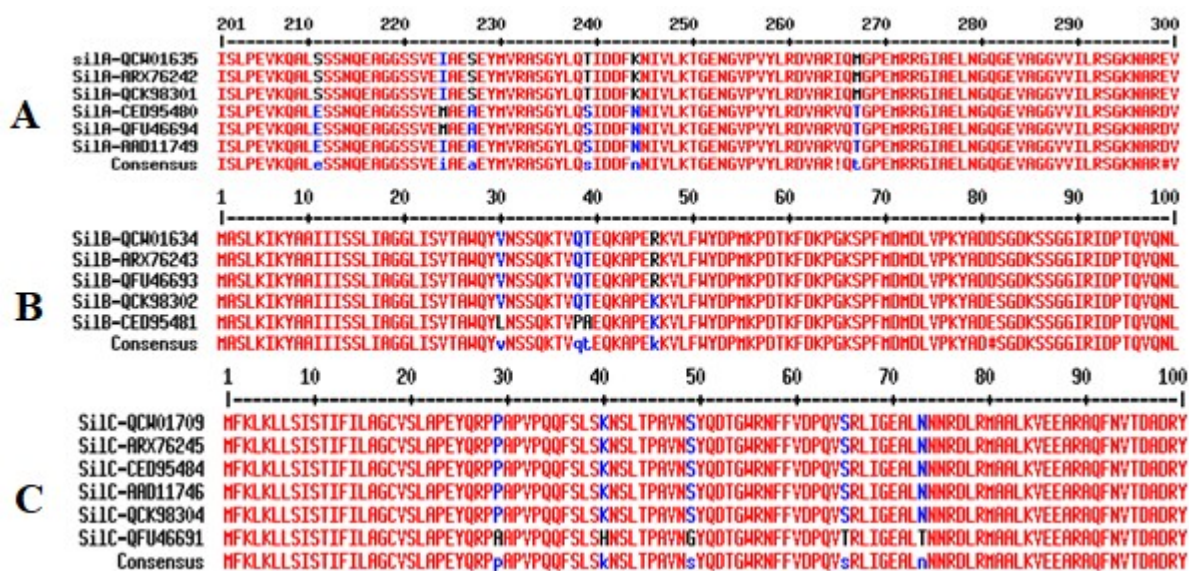


Fig.6. Mutations of plasmid-associated SilA/B/C of *Salmonella enterica*. Parts of the SilA (A), SilB (B) and SilC (C) protein alignments were shown with multiple mutations. SilA protein id. AAD11749, SilB protein id. CED95481 and SilC protein id. QFU46691 have more mutations. Such genes were also assigned as CusA, CusB and CusC as Ag⁺/Cu⁺ double resistance was observed,

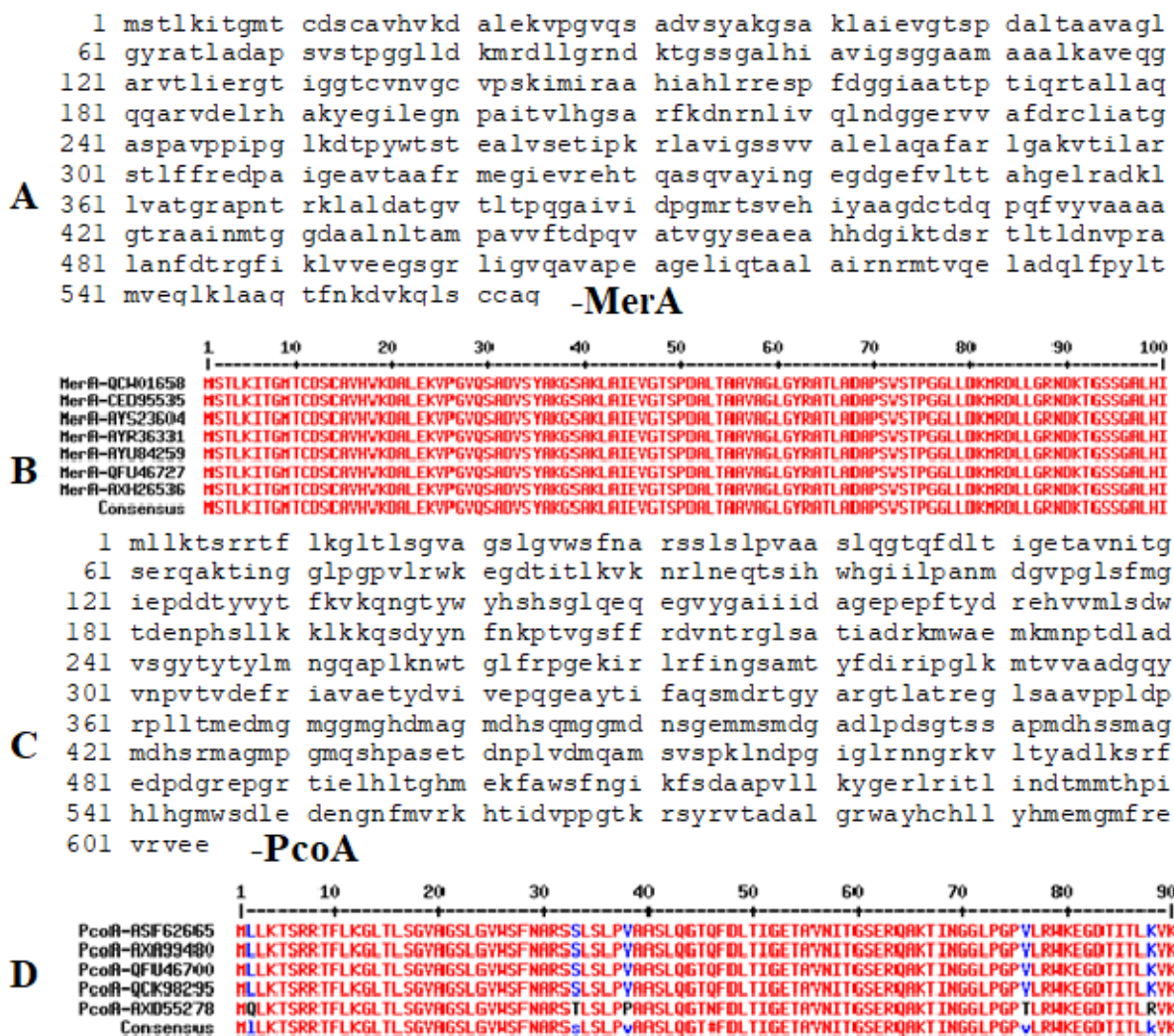


Fig.7. Multialign of Mercuric reductase (B) and Copper oxidase (D) showing MerA has no mutation but PcoA has mutations. Full length amino acid sequences of *Salmonella* plasmid-mediated mercuric reductase (A) and copper oxidase (C) are also given.

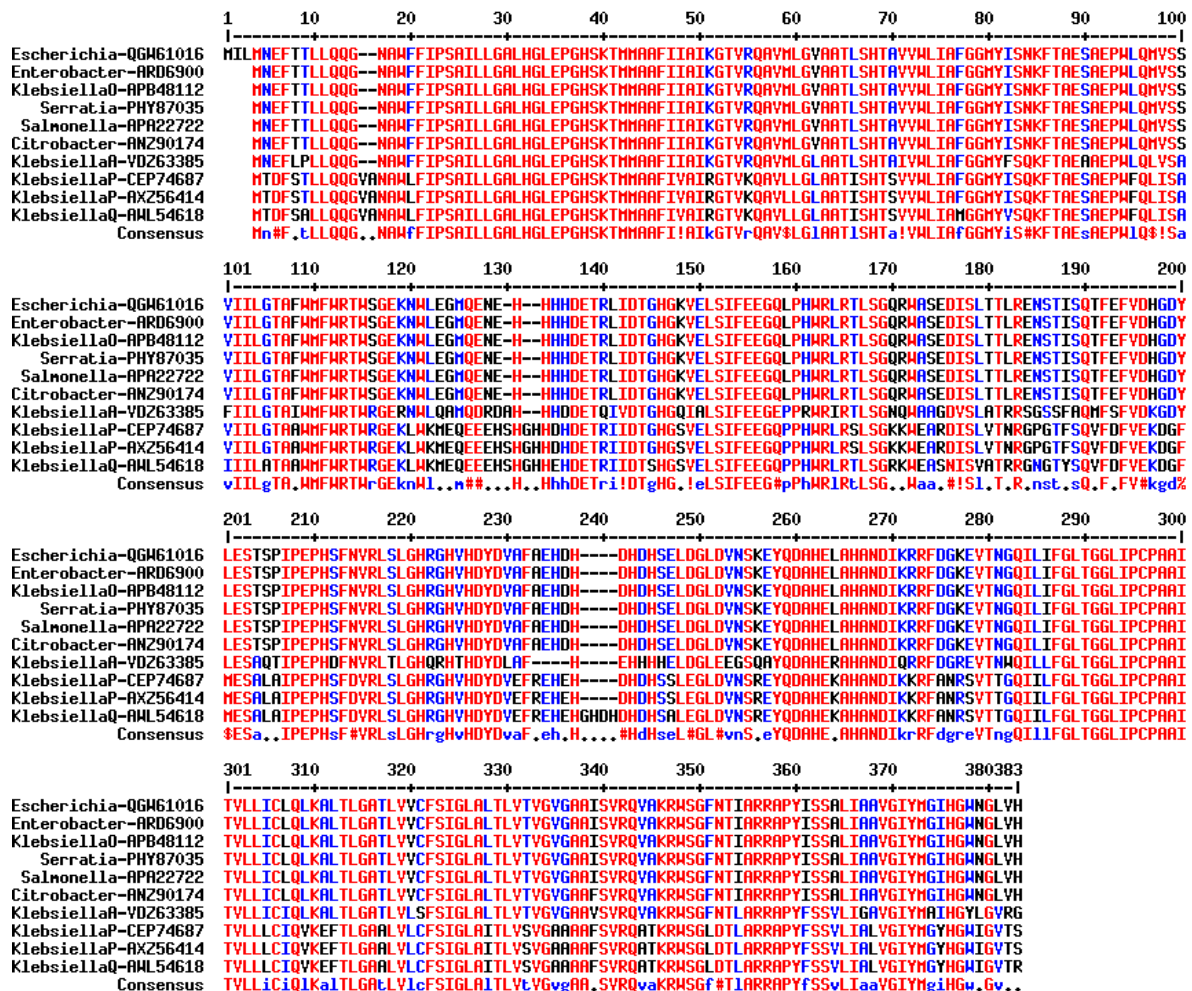


Fig.8. Multialign analysis of plasmid-mediated Ni⁺⁺/Co⁺⁺ Transporter RcnA. *E. coli*, *E. cloacae*, *S. enterica*, *K. oxytoca*, *S. marcessens* RcnA appears identical but I327F mutation in *C. freundii* where as other *Klebsiella* species like *K. pneumoniae*, *K. aerogenes* and *K. quasipneumoniae* have more mutated forms (a new lineage) of RcnA transporter with “VA” two amino acids insertion at 11 amino acid position. *K. quasipneumoniae* RcnA has a four amino acids (GHDH) insertion at 234 amino acid position where as a four amino acid deletion (AEHD) at amino acid position 230 of *Klebsiella aerogenes*.

Discussion

Analysis suggested that most *Salmonella enterica* have acquired MDR plasmids and many of them accumulated also toxin genes and virulence genes increasing pathogenesis. Rahman et al has recently demonstrated by WGS that *gyrAB* mutations and increased in non-H58 *Salmonella typhi* (genotype 4.3.1) may be a threat to South Asian population (Rahman et al.2020). However, *bla*TEM, *catA1*, *dhfrA7*, *sul1*, *sul2*, *strAB* and *gyrase A* subunit mutations were detected where as our review demonstrated the presence of *bla*OXA1, *bla*CMY and *bla*NDM like deadly beta-lactamases (Table-1). Holt et al demonstrated the emergence of IncHII MDR plasmids in *Salmonella typhi* and our search demonstrated the

existence of IncH1 (pA3T, pHK0653), IncF (pSH696_135, pFORC19), IncI1 (p9134, pSH1148_107), and IncFII (pGDD25-16) (Holt et al. 2011). We detected extended spectrum β -lactamases in few plasmids (pRH-1238, pGDD25-16 and pA3T) as reported recently (Klemm et al. 2018; Banerjee et al. 2018). Whole genome sequencing (WGS) of *Salmonella enterica* were done considerably and we analyzed few sequence data to check the presence of *mdr* genes and drug efflux genes (Parkhill et al. 2001). Heavy metals (Co⁺⁺/Ni⁺⁺/Cr⁺⁺) transporter like *czcCB* and *chrAB* were not detected in *Salmonella enterica* but widely distributed in *Acinetobacter* sp and *Pseudomonas* sp (protein ids. MPS58401, KHV65566, APW48833 and APW48831/32 but *Salmonella enterica* *RcnA* Co⁺⁺/Ni⁺⁺ transporter (protein ids. CDR86475, APA22722, AVS55158) may perform the similar protection from heavy metals.

Highly toxic metal ions like Ag⁺, AsO₂, AsO₄(⁻³), Cd⁺², Co⁺², CrO₄(⁻²), Cu⁺², Hg⁺², Ni⁺², Pb⁺², TeO₃(⁻²), Tl⁺ and Zn⁺² were modulated in bacteria by various mechanisms like metal efflux (SilABC for Ag⁺/Cu⁺² or Czc for Cd⁺²/Co⁺²) and enzyme-mediated transformations like oxidation-reduction (mercuric reductase, multicopper oxidase), metal-binding proteins (silE, metallothionein, chaperone copZ) or methylation-demethylation to control intracellular concentrations of heavy metal ions that may be inhibitory sulphhydryl complexes with enzymes (Nies, 1999). Resistance to inorganic mercury, Hg⁺⁺ as well as organomercurials, such as CH₃Hg⁺ and phenylmercury required *mer* locus involving a series of metal-binding and membrane transport proteins as well as the enzymes mercuric reductase and organomercurial lyase. A high frequency resistant *Salmonella*, *Pseudomonas* and *Bacillus* genera bacteria to mercury (10mg/L; <10ppm) and other heavy metals were reported in environmental water resources where co-resistance were detected to ampicillin, chloramphenicol, tetracycline and streptomycin (60-80%) as well as 40% resistant to all four drugs.

In this review, we have presented the molecular view of MDR plasmids in different Serovar of *Salmonella enterica*, analyzing the GenBank database. Such molecular biology technology rely on Drug Selection of *Salmonella enterica*, Plasmid Isolation from MDR bacteria and Di-Deoxy Sanger DNA sequencing of the Plasmid DNA following GenBank submission (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank).

Arsenic-Antimony toxicities were balanced by *arsABCH* locus in bacteria and arsenic resistant genes were located in few *Salmonella* plasmids like pRH-R27, pIncH12,

pFSAN096147 and pSA20044414 but AarsB arsenic transporter were very abundant in *E. coli* (protein id. MHS90779), *K. pneumoniae* (protein id. ARR90324) and *E. cloacae* (protein id. VAL63027). Arsenate reductase (arsC) is glutaredoxin-dependent small enzyme (protein id. WP_000065805) and arsH is arsenic-binding protein (protein id. WP_000130816) whereas arsA is metal efflux-mediated ATPase (protein id. WP_0011057014), all involved in arsenic resistance.

Tellurium resistance locus (terXYABDEFW) is abundant in large *Salmonella* plasmids like pIMP4-SEM1, pIncH12, pFSAN096147, p09-036813-1A_261, pJXP9, pCFSA300-1, p280_12888 and p200k. TerC protein (346aa) mediates tellurium ion efflux and also abundant in *E. coli* plasmids (pTE63) with association of terB and terE (Taylor, 1999). TeO₃⁻² resistance determinants found in extrachromosomal elements include IncHI-2 (Whelan et al., 1997) and pMER610 plasmids (Jobling & Ritchie, 1988; Hill et al., 1993). The unique structure of the *Klebsiella pneumoniae* TerB protein (151 AA residues, KP-TerB) has recently been determined (Chiang et al., 2008). TehA /B type genes have been found in *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi (CAD01716 and CAD01717), *S. enterica* serovar Typhimurium (NP_460568 and NP_460567) as well as in *Shigella sp* (YP_403356 and YP_689244) and *Haemophilus influenzae* (YP_248222 and YP_249313) (Hill et al. 1983; Bradley, 1985).

Abundance of tellurium resistance genes is obscure as it is not an essential element like zinc but its applications in electronics, optics, batteries and mining industries have expanded during the last few years, leading to an increase in environmental contamination. Gold ores containing Tellurium are calaverite (AuTe₂), sylvanite (AgAuTe₄), and nagyagite [AuPb(Sb, Bi)Te₂-3S₆] and thus gold use increase may correlates its abundance in water. TeO₃⁽⁻²⁾ may cause garlic like smell of dimethyltellurite on ingestion of bismuth salt contaminated with tellurite (Cairnes, 1911) whereas, in another mechanism of detoxification, TeO₃⁽⁻²⁾ was reduced to Te⁽⁰⁾ causing precipitation because TeO₃⁽⁻²⁾ was very toxic to bacteria at <1µg/L concentration. TeO₃⁽⁻²⁾ could also be reduced chemically to lower oxidation states by glutathione or by other reduced thiol-containing proteins (metallothionine) with drastic decrease in the concentration of antioxidant molecules such as glutathione and cysteine causing a phenotype of higher TeO₃⁽⁻²⁾ tolerance. In this context, mutants of cysteine biosynthetic pathway have shown highly sensitive to tellurite (Dyllick-Brenzinger et al. 2000; Fuentes et al.2007). Prevalence of *mdr* genes and metal resistant genes were also demonstrated in many *Salmonella sp* isolated from food animals (Na et al. 2020; Anwar et al.

2020). Surprisingly, ampC beta-lactamase producing plasmids were not detected in the database but many papers had detected such gene in *Salmonella* sp (Roschanski et al. 2014). The genetic exchange and acquisition of *mdr* genes were happened in the gut and thus gut microbiome played a central role in shaping both *mdr* and metal resistant genes (Jain et al. 2018). WGS of *Salmonella* has showed the existence of MDR-islands in *Salmonella* genome and thus virulence and multi-resistance will be more prominence in *Salmonella* infections (Saroj et al. 2008; Liu et al. 2009; Sudhanthirakodi et al. 2016; Parkhill et al. 2018; Luo et al. 2020)

Conclusion

We explained the recent salmoniasis outbreaks in India as well as abroad due to over expression of plasmid-mediated *mdr* genes, drug efflux genes as well as metal resistant genes which have acquired when *Salmonella* spends its life in the contaminated water originated due to huge expansion of metal industry, coal industry as well electronics industry. We presented small plasmids with only metal resistant genes or drug resistant genes or toxin genes. However, combination of such plasmids with 62.5kb F' conjugative plasmids created large *mdr* conjugative plasmids accumulating different genes that might not necessary for drug resistance. The localization of complete metal resistant operons like *sil*, *cus*, *mer* and *ter* with 5-15 metal resistant genes in large plasmids indicated that live stocks (pig, chicken, goat) grew in the metal contaminated soil and water with poor hygienic condition. Such report thus confirmed the spread of animal salmoniasis and *Salmonella enterica* could be located in cow milk and chicken meat. *Salmonella typhi* plasmids also analyzed to dictate same notion indicating the passage of the organisms in zoonotic reservoirs have to be carefully studied. Never the less we have authenticated the metal resistant proteins as well as their relation to transposons with *mdr* genes like *blaTEM1*, *blaNDM1*, *blaCTX-M15*, *strAB*, *mcr5/9*, *dhfr*, *sul1/2* and drug efflux genes like *tetA*, *tetB*, *floR*, and *oqxB*. This report is thus a valuable source of drug resistant and metal resistant proteins and their symbiotic relation with respect to co-passage of *Salmonella enterica* to intestine (to make gut microbiome) and water resources. We are studying the metal resistant bacteria in lakes near Midnapore City where clusters of metal and steel industries are accumulating at the side of the Bombay Road and Kangsabati River of West Bengal, India.

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Conflict of interest

Authors have no conflicts of interest

Ethical issues

This is a review and no animal and human subjects used.

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