

## Prevalence of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* in Imam Khomayni Hospital, Ilam, 2011-2012

*Reza Azizian*<sup>1</sup>, *Payman Ghorbani*<sup>2</sup>, *Seyed Dawood Mousavi Nasab*<sup>3</sup>, *Nourkhoda Sadeghifard*<sup>4,\*</sup>

1. MSc student in Microbiology, Clinical Microbiology Research Center, Ilam University of Medical Sciences  
2. Student Research Committee, Medicine School, Ilam University of Medical Sciences  
3. Ph.D student, Department. of Virology, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

4. Associate professor, Clinical Microbiology Research Center, Ilam University of Medical Sciences  
5. Professor, Proteomics Research Center, and Department of Medical Lab Technology, Faculty of Paramedical Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

\* [sadeghifard@gmail.com](mailto:sadeghifard@gmail.com)

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** *Staphylococcus aureus* is one of the main causes of hospital infections. *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* is a common agent of urinary tract infections. Hospital acquired infection as an old challenge has high importance in hospital infection control and *Staphylococcus* spp. play main role among routine pathogens. this study designed to investigate the of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* among ICU, Men and Children wards.

**Materials and methods:** Samples collected randomly from ICU, Men and Children wards. Through 203 sampling of wall, floor, bed, pillow and blanket, 75 *Staphylococcus* spp. isolated. Species recognizes base on culture on Mannitol salt agar and Novobiocin susceptibility determination.

**Result:** Among 75 positive samples, 62 (82.7%), and 13 isolates were *Staphylococcus saprophyticus*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, respectively. 51% of bacteria isolated from ICU, 29% from children ward and 20% from men surgery ward. *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* comprised 87%, 82% and 73% of isolates pertaining to ICU, pediatric and men surgery wards, in a row.

**Conclusion:** Our funding indicate there is an inappropriate instrument to deal with infection in hospital specially ICU. Regards to this issue that *Staphylococcus* spp. as a main pathogen which has potency to form biofilm and show high resistance to extended broad antibiotics therefore it is suggested to prepare proper guideline to cope with bacteria dissemination and resistance emergence in hospital.

**Keywords:** *Staphylococcus saprophyticus*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, ICU, hospital, Ilam

## Frequency of Non-tuberculosis Mycobacterium by PCR Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism Analysis (PRA) Method

*Azadeh Nahavandi Araghi<sup>1</sup>, Mahnaz Saifi<sup>2</sup>, Mahrooz Dezfolian<sup>1</sup>, Esmail Jabbarzadeh<sup>2\*</sup>*

1-Azad University- Karaj branch- Microbiology Department-Karaj-Iran ,2-Mycobacteriology Department- Pasteur Institute of Iran- Tehran-Iran

\*ismail.jabbary@yahoo.com

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** Atypical Mycobacterium cause various infections and some of them lead to Tuberculosis-like disease. Treatment of atypical mycobacterium is different from tuberculosis so identification of mycobacterium species is important for better control of tuberculosis. PRA is a more rapid and accurate method in comparison with phenotypic ones. During the present study using 3 restriction enzymes for digestion of 644 bp PCR product of hsp65 gene, identification of 50 mycobacterium isolates were accomplished.

**Materials and methods:** All of the 50 different atypical mycobacterium isolates from patients referred to the Pasteur Institute of Iran over 89-90 years were tested for PRA. A 644 bp fragment of hsp65 gene was amplified by PCR. Subsequently, PCR products were digested with *Ava*II, *Hph*I and *Hpa*II enzymes. Digested fragments were compared with standard algorithm and identified with *Gelcompar*II software.

**Results:** Forty nine of 50 atypical Mycobacteria were identified in to 13 groups including 15 *M.fortuitum*, 12 *M.simiae*, 6 *M.kansasii*, 3 *M.szulgai*, 2 *M.triviale*, 2 *M.gordonae*, 2 *M.aichiense*, 2 *M.gallinarum*, 1 *M.hassiacum*, 1 *M.malmoense*, 1 *M.aurum*, 1 *M.marinum*, 1 *M.abscessus* and one unknown species.

**Conclusion:** The results showed PRA using *Ava*II, *Hph*I و *Hpa*II is a simple, fast and accurate for identification of atypical mycobacterial isolates into species or sub species level. Rapid and exact identification of atypical mycobacterium from Mycobacterium tuberculosis is essential for effectiveness of TB surveillance programs.

**Keywords:** Rapid identification, atypical mycobacterium, PRA

## Antibacterial Activity of Melittin Derived from Honey Bee Venom

*Mohsen Momenzadeh<sup>1</sup>, Delavar Shahbazzadeh<sup>2</sup>, Mohammad Dakhili<sup>3</sup>, Mohammad Reza Zolfaghari<sup>4</sup>, Kamran Pooshang Bagheri\*<sup>5</sup>*

1- Department of Microbiology, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran ,2- Pasteur Institute of Iran, Biotechnology Research Center, Biotechnology Dept, Venom and , Biotherapeutics Molecules Lab., Tehran-Iran ,3- Department of Medicine, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran ,4- Department of Microbiology, Qom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qom, Iran ,5- Pasteur Institute of Iran, Biotechnology Research Center, Biotechnology Dept, Venom and Biotherapeutics Molecules Lab., Tehran-Iran

\* [k\\_bagheri@pasteur.ac.ir](mailto:k_bagheri@pasteur.ac.ir)

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** Bacterial peritonitis is one of the nosocomial infections that is due to direct invasion of bacteria to peritoneal membrane. Resistance to antibiotic is of great significance in this disease and could be led to morbidity and mortality of patients. During the past decade, tracing for natural antimicrobial peptide is more considered. Among them, melittin has been extracted from honey bee venom and its antibacterial activity is being examined. The main goal of this study was isolation of melittin from honey bee venom and evaluation of its antibacterial activity against the agents of bacterial peritonitis.

**Materials and methods:** Honey bee venom prepared using electrical stimulation and the quality of venom confirmed by SDS-PAGE. Melittin isolated from the venom using a linear gradient of acetonitrile and C18 column by Reverse Phase-High Performance Chromatography (RP-HPLC). Minimal Inhibition and Bactericidal concentration for melittin examined on *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

**Results:** Honey bee venom composed of twenty distinct fraction in which melittin was the major one. Melittin inhibited *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* growth at 0.39, 6.25, and 12.5 µg and was bactericide at 1.56, 25, and >50 µg respectively.

**Conclusion:** Melittin specifically invade the corresponding bacteria and induce significant inhibitory and bactericidal activity against the main agents of bacterial peritonitis. Complementary studies in animal model would be overcome bacterial drug resistance issue specifically in bacterial peritonitis.

**Key words:** Honey bee venom, Antimicrobial peptide, Melittin, Peritonitis, HPLC

## **Inhibitory and Lethal Effects of Aqueous and Ethanolic Extracts of *Kelussia odoratissima* on *Bacillus cereus* , *Listeria innocua* and *Escherichia coli* "in vitro"**

*Maryam Heidari Sureshjani*<sup>\*1</sup>, *Faride Tabatabaei Yazdi*<sup>2</sup>, *Ali Mortazavi*<sup>3</sup>, *Fakhri Shahidi*<sup>4</sup>

1- MSc Student, Department of Food science and technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad ,2- Associate Professor, Department of Food science and technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad ,3- Professor, Department of Food science and technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad ,4- Professor, Department of Food science and technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad

\* [Maryam.heidari67@yahoo.com](mailto:Maryam.heidari67@yahoo.com)

### **Abstract**

**Background and objectives:** Karafs Koochi with the scientific name of *Kelussia odoratissima* and the local name of Keloss belongs to the Apiaceae family, and is a biannual or perennial plant. The present study aims at investigating the antimicrobial effects of the ethanolic and aqueous extracts of *Kelussia odoratissima* on *Bacillus cereus* , *Listeria innocua* and *Escherichia coli*

**Materials and methods:** In this study, different concentration levels (20, 40, 60, 80 mg/ml) of ethanolic and aqueous extracts of *Kelussia odoratissima* leaves were prepared. The antibacterial effect of extracts were investigated using spreading of the extract on medium surface (pour plate) and disk agar diffusion test. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) and Minimum Bactericidal Concentration (MBC) were also studied using the dilution method .Statistical analysis was carried out by analysis of variance (ANOVA).

**Results:** In disk agar diffusion Method all concentrations of ethanolic extract have inhibitory effect against *Bacillus cereus* and *Listeria innocua*. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) of *Kelussia odoratissima* leaves of aqueous and ethanolic extracts for *Bacillus cereus* and *Listeria innocua* was 16 and 8 mg/ml and for *Escherichia coli* was 32 and 16 mg/ml, respectively . Minimum *Bactericidal* Concentration (MBC) of *Kelussia odoratissima* leaves of aqueous and ethanolic extracts for *Bacillus cereus* and *Listeria innocua* was 32 and 16 mg/ml and for *Escherichia coli* was 64 and 32mg/ml, respectively. *Escherichia coli* exhibited the most resistance against aqueous and ethanol extracts of *Kelussia odoratissima* leaves.

**Conclusions:** The results showed that the ethanolic extract of *Kelussia odoratissima* leaves had greater inhibitory effects on the strains studied compared to aqueous extracts in vitro.

**Keywords:** *Kelussia odoratissima*, Ethanolic and aqueous extract, Antibacterial effects

## Simultaneous Specific Detection of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* in Sputum Samples from Patients with Suspected Influenza by Multiplex-PCR

*Amin Moazami*<sup>1</sup>, *Mohammad Hassan Shirazi*<sup>2\*</sup>, *Mohammad Reza Pourmand*<sup>3</sup>, *Neda Akbari*<sup>4</sup>,  
*Davod Afshar*<sup>5</sup>, *Sara Hjikhani*<sup>6</sup>

1. M.Sc of microbiology, Islamic Azad University science & research, Arak, Iran ,2- PHD of microbiology,

Department of microbiology, faculty of health science, Tehran medical university, Tehran, Iran ,3- PHD of

microbiology, Department of microbiology, faculty of health science, Tehran medical university, Tehran, Iran

4. PHD of microbiology, Department of microbiology, Islamic Azad University science & research, Arak, Iran

5. PHD of bacteriology, Department of microbiology, faculty of health science, Tehran medical university, Tehran, Iran

6. Department of microbiology, faculty of health science, Tehran medical university, Tehran, Iran

\* [mhshirazi@tums.ac.ir](mailto:mhshirazi@tums.ac.ir)

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* are the most common cause in bacterial pneumonia. Also these agents can cause bacterial superinfection in patients with influenza. Aim of this study was Simultaneous specific detection of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* in sputum samples from patients with suspected influenza by Multiplex-PCR.

**Materials and methods:** In this study, 170 sputum samples in patients with suspected influenza with age from 3 months to 70 years, received the Influenza Reference Laboratory – Tehran Medical university were tested by Multiplex PCR. Amplified DNA fragments size was 394 bp for *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, 199 bp for *Haemophilus influenzae* and 416 bp for *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*.

**Results:** of all 170 samples, 30 samples were positive for *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Haemophilus influenzae*. Of the 30 positive samples, 27 samples (15/8 %) and 3 samples (1/7 %) were positive for *S. pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae* respectively.

**Conclusion:** This study showed that Multiplex-PCR able to diagnosis desired bacteria in short time and so this molecular method can use as complementary technique especially when the results of gram stain, culture or serological test are negative.

**Keyword:** Detection, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, Multiplex-PCR

## Seroepidemiology of Hepatitis E in Children in Kashan , 2012

*Ali Reza Sharif<sup>1</sup>, Mohammad Reza Sharif<sup>\*2</sup>, Abbas Taghavi Ardakani<sup>3</sup>, Mahla Madani<sup>4</sup>, Davood Kheirkhah<sup>5</sup>, Hasan Afzali<sup>6</sup>*

1- Infectious Diseases specialist, Associate professor, Department of Infection Diseases, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I. R. Iran. 2- Pediatric Infectious Diseases Subspecialist, Associate professor, Department of Pediatrics, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I. R. Iran. 3- Pediatric Gastroenterologist, Assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I. R. Iran. 4- Graduate student, Student Research Committee, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I.R. Iran. 5- Pediatrician, Assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I. R. Iran. 6- Infectious Diseases specialist, Associate professor, Department of Infection Diseases, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, I. R. Iran.

\*[mrsharifmd@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsharifmd@yahoo.com)

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** Hepatitis E is a viral disease that is transmitted through contaminated water and foods. This disease is variable from a simple asymptomatic infection to a fulminant disease. Its mortality is about 1-4% but in pregnant women increases the amount of about 20%. This study was performed in children in Kashan to determine prevalence of hepatitis E serological positive and relationship by age and sex.

**Materials and methods:** This cross-sectional study using cluster sampling was conducted on 558 children 1 to 15 years in Kashan and Anti-HEV IgG was evaluated using the ELISA method.

**Results:** The prevalence of hepatitis E in the study population was 3.7% (21 people). The prevalence of positive cases was significantly correlated with age and number of family members, but was not related to child sex.

**Conclusion:** The findings suggest that HEV infection is endemic in the region. Thus, the use of appropriate health programs, public health, public education will be effective in controlling the infection.

**Key words:** Hepatitis E, Seroepidemiology, Children

## Antibiotic Resistance Pattern of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus epidermidis Isolated from Clinical Samples in Tehran

*Rahimi Fateh*<sup>1\*</sup>, *Arabestani MR*<sup>2</sup>, *Karimi Sharmin*<sup>3</sup>

1.Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Isfahan ,2.Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Haamedan University of Medical Science,3.Department of Agricultural Engineering, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Tehran

\*f.rahimi@sci.ui.ac.ir

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** Staphylococcus epidermidis, the most frequently isolated species of coagulase-negative staphylococci (CONS), is the leading cause of infections related to implanted medical devices and became a serious problem in antimicrobial chemotherapy. The aim of the study was to detect and analyze the antibiotic resistance pattern among methicillin resistant S. epidermidis isolated from two hospitals in Tehran in 2012-2013.

**Materials and methods:** Totally 193 isolates of S. epidermidis from clinical samples were collected from two hospitals in Tehran. All isolates were identified at the species level using standard biochemical tests. Susceptibility to eighteen antibiotics was determined using disc diffusion method. MIC of oxacillin and vancomycin in MRSA isolates was also done using Etest according to CLSI recommendation. PCR was used to detect mecA gene.

**Results:** the frequency of oxacillin resistance was 37.3%. The highest level of resistance was observed to penicillin, erythromycin, ciprofloxacin, clindamycin, kanamycin, tobramycin, amikacin and tetracycline respectively. MIC results showed that 42% of isolates showed high level resistant to oxacillin (MIC $\geq$ 128  $\mu$ g/ml). None of the MRSA isolates were resistant to vancomycin, linezolid and synergid. One hundred percent of the isolates contained mecA gene.

**Conclusion:** This study showed that the prevalence of methicillin resistant S. epidermidis isolates was lower than the other studies in Iran. Synergid, linezolid and vancomycin are the most effective antibiotics against MRSA infections. High resistance of methicillin resistant strains to 1<sup>st</sup> and second line of antibiotics could be an urgent for public health

**Key words:** S. epidermidis, methicillin, Etest, vancomycin, mecA, Tehran

## Polymorphism Identification of VNTR30 and VNTR36 Loci in Pathogenic *Leptospira* Serovares in Iran

*Sama Reza Soltani*<sup>1</sup>, *Pejvak Khaki*<sup>\*2</sup>, *Soheila Moradi Bidhendi*<sup>2</sup>, *Majid Esmail Zad*<sup>3</sup>, *Maryam Sadat Soltani*<sup>4</sup>, *Shiva Modirrousta*<sup>1</sup>

1- Ms.c of Microbiology, Department of Microbiology, Zanjan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zanjan, Iran, 2- Ph.D of Bacteriology, Department of Microbiology, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Karaj-Iran, 3- Ph.D of Molecular Genetics, Department of Biotechnology, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Karaj-Iran, 4- Ms.c of Microbiology, Department of Microbiology, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Karaj-Iran

\* [Samasoltani88@yahoo.com](mailto:Samasoltani88@yahoo.com)

### Abstract

**Background and objective:** Leptospirosis, is the zoonotic disease which is characterized as an emerging infectious disease with large documented outbreaks. Epidemiological investigations are needed to distinguish outbreak situations or to trace reservoirs of the organisms. Today MLVA technique is used for segregating and identifying of *Leptospira* serovares. The method has potential application in furthering the understanding of Leptospiral molecular epidemiology. The propose of this study is rapid identification of pathogenic *Leptospira* serovares in Iran.

**Materials and methods:** A total 12 pathogenic Leptospiral serovares and 1 saprophytic serovar that maintained from microbial bank of Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute, Karaj, Iran. The Genomic DNA of *Leptospira* was extracted .PCR was performed with primers for loci VNTR30, VNTR36. The amplified fragments were analyzed by gel electrophoresis . The sizes of the amplified products were estimated by comparison with a 100 -bp ladder.

**Results:** All loci successfully amplified in all pathogenic leptospira serovars. The saprophytic serovar showed no amplified fragments. The results show VNTR30 has a wide range of polymorphism between Atumnalis, Hardjo St.Hardjo bovis, Pomona St. UT364, Icterohaemorrhagiae St. RGA and VNTR36 shows variation between Canicola St. Hondutrecht IV , Hardjo St.Hardjo bovis, Pomona St. UT364

**Conclusion:** Most of the VNTR patterns were similar in different serovares while showed significant differences with same serovares of South America and Europe. On the other our serovares resemble Southeast Asia serovares because of the same geographical area. Among serovares Canicola St. Hondutrecht IV and Canicola St. Fiocruz LV133 identified by MLVA, PFGE was unable to differentiate them. In conclusion MLVA technique with wide range of polymorphism is known as good marker for identification serovares.

**Key word:** VNTR, MLVA method, Leptospire



## **Frequency and Antibiotic Resistance Pattern in Staphylococcus aureus Strains Isolated from Clinical Samples of Tehran's Araad Hospital in 2007-2011**

*Hamed Molaabaszadeh<sup>1</sup>, Kobra Eslami<sup>\*2,3</sup>, Mehrdokht Hamidi<sup>4</sup>, Rashin Bahman Abadi<sup>5</sup>, Elnaz Mehrjoian<sup>6</sup>*

1- M.Sc microbiology, Department of microbiology, Marand Branch, Islamic Azad University, Marand, Iran.

2- M.Sc microbiology, Department of microbiology, Lahijan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Lahijan, Iran.

3- Department of Microbiology, Pathology Lab, Araad Hospital Tehran, Tehran, Iran. 4- Ph.D Pathobiology, Department of Microbiology, Pathology Lab, Araad Hospital Tehran, Tehran, Iran. 5- M.Sc microbiology, Department of microbiology, Shahid Sadoughi University of Medical Sciences Yazd, Yazd, Iran. 6- Department of microbiology, Tehran Medical Sciences Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

\*kobra.eslami2000@yahoo.com

### **ABSTRACT**

**Background and objective:** Today, the resistance to antibiotics among pathogenic bacteria is one of the main concerns of doctors all around the world, with consideration to different reports about Staphylococcus aureus bacteria's sensitivity, this study was done to examine the pattern of sensitivity and antibiotic resistance of Staphylococcus aureus strains collected from clinical samples of patients hospitalized in Tehran's Araad hospital.

**Materials and methods:** In this descriptive examination, after extracting Staphylococcus aureus derivations from clinical samples (urine, catheter, phlegm, wound, bronchial and blood), their sensitivity was measured using standard Kirby-Bauer test, in contrast with following antibiotics Amikacin, Ciprofloxacin, Vancomycin, Imipenem, Sulfametoxazole Trimetoprim, Tetracycline, Oxacillin, Ceftriaxone and Penicillin.

**Results:** In this study 260 samples of Staphylococcus aureus isolated from clinical specimens in three years. The most sensitivity was to Vancomycin and the most resistance was to Penicillin and Oxacillin.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study are indicating that Staphylococcus aureus strains resistance has increased against Penicillin and Oxacillin; presumably it is due to excessive consumption of these antibiotics. It is obvious that, with regard to increasing consumption of antibiotics and consequently, augmentation of antibacterial resistance, control of this resistance factor is necessary and inevitable, so it is recommended to avoid unnecessary usage of antibiotics.

**Key words:** Antimicrobial Resistance, Antibiotics, Staphylococcus aureus, Araad hospital.

## **The Risk of Avian Influenza and Salmonellosis Transmission from Pigeon in the Holy Shrine of Fatima Masooma.**

*Hossein Esmaeili\*<sup>1</sup> and Mona Hamedi<sup>2</sup>*

1. Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran. 2. Undergraduate student of veterinary medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran.

\* [hesmaeli@ut.ac.ir](mailto:hesmaeli@ut.ac.ir)

### **Abstract**

**Background and objective:** Pigeons are potential resources of spreading many zoonotic pathogens such as Salmonella and avian influenza. Therefore the presence of these species of birds which was exposed with human population would result in spreading of Salmonellosis and avian influenza within people. One of the prominent characteristics of religious places is the presence of pigeons, so pilgrims and service providers are highly exposed to these birds and their feces. Pigeons as reservoir of these agents would transmit these diseases to pilgrims and public as a whole.

**Materials and methods:** In this survey which was conducted in 2009, cloaca swabs and blood samples of 220 pigeons were taken in the holy shrine of Fatima Masooma. Serum samples were examined with haemagglutination inhibition test by using H7, H5 and H9N2 antigens and cloaca swabs were cultivated to detect salmonella spp.

**Results:** It was founded that none of the serum samples had antibodies titers against H5 and H7 antigens. However in 2 cases (1/8%), 1 and 3 titers of antibodies were detected against H9N2. Moreover, none of feces' samples were positive in salmonella culture.

**Conclusion:** Because these pigeons haven't had any history of influenza vaccination, the low titers of antibodies against this virus could represent infection by wild virus. Although the results of cultivating feces were negative, however because of the presence of Iranian and foreign pilgrims in the holy shrine and the important role of pigeons in maintenance and transmission of these pathogens, health and hygiene controls must be considered for the population of these birds as a reservoir of potential infection.

**Keywords:** Avian Influenza, Holy Shrine of Fatima Masooma, Pigeon, Salmonella

## **Escherichia coli O157:H7 Contamination Rates Using Chromogenic Medium in Selected Foods Consumed at some Restaurants in Tehran**

*Hamid Reza Tavakoli<sup>1</sup>, Meysam Sarshar<sup>\*2</sup>, Reza Ranjbar<sup>3</sup>, Mohammad Taghi Sadr Momtaz<sup>4</sup>, Hasan Rafati<sup>5</sup>*

1-Associate Professor, Health Research Center, Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran2-Master of Sciences, Molecular Biology Research Center, Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran3-Associate Professor, Molecular Biology Research Center, Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran4-Master of Sciences, Department of Statistics and Epidemiology, Faculty of Health, Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran5-Instructor, Health Research Center, Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran  
*\*meysam\_sarshar@yahoo.com*

### **Abstract**

**Background and objective:** Escherichia coli are considered as a contamination indicator of water and foods to coliform pathogens. Some E. coli serotypes such as E. coli O157:H7 cause serious complications such as hemorrhagic colitis and hemolytic uremia syndrome. The main objective of this study was to the determination of E. coli O157:H7 contamination rates using chromogenic medium in some selected foods consumed at some restaurants in Tehran.

**Materials and methods:** A total of 96 food samples, including 48 salads and 48 crushed kebabs were randomly collected from four restaurants in Tehran. Using sterile collection equipment, 12 samples from each restaurant were collected two times with two month interval. Standard biochemical and bacteriological methods and chromogenic medium were used for the detection of E. coli and E. coli serotype O157:H7.

**Results:** The results of this study showed that out of 96 tested samples, contamination to E. coli in 29 samples (30.2%) was confirmed in which 17 samples were contaminated to E. coli O157 however no E. coli O157:H7 strains were detected when all positive E. coli O157 isolates were subjected to serotyping.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study showed that the hygienic quality of ready-to-use salads and foods consumed in the restaurants under study was not ideal; therefore the implementation of more surveillance and supervision on those restaurants is recommended.

**Keywords:** Chromogenic medium, E. coli O157:H7, Restaurants