



First Report on the Molecular and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Studies of *Staphylococcus Pseudintermedius* Colonizing Shelter Dogs and Dog Owners in Abakaliki, Eastern Nigeria

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Abstract:

Background: The increase in antibiotic-resistant staphylococci among pets and its transfer to humans threaten veterinary medicine and public health.

Objectives: This study was designed to determine the prevalence, antibiotic resistance patterns, and the molecular characteristics of *S. pseudintermedius* obtained from dogs and dog owners in Abakaliki, Nigeria.

Methods: Exactly 112 swab samples and 97 nasal swabs were obtained from shelter dogs and dog owners respectively. Samples were processed and isolates were identified using standard microbiological procedures. MIC was determined by broth micro-dilution using the sensititre system. Isolates were screened for *mecA*, *mecC*, *cfr*, *tetM*, *tetK*, *tetL*, *tetO*, *sec*, *siet*, *exi*, and *lukD* genes by PCR. Sequencing of *tetM* genes was also done.

Results: Exactly 99 *S. pseudintermedius* isolates [86 (76.8 %) from dogs and 13 (13.4 %) from dog owners] were obtained, out of which 52 (52.5 %) were identified as MRSP strains as they harboured *mecA* genes. Isolates were resistant (100 % - 51.2 %) to beta-lactams, fluoroquinolones, clindamycin, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, and erythromycin. Isolates also exhibited resistance to gentamycin (46.5 %), chloramphenicol (23.1 %), tetracycline (19.8 %), and tigecycline (8.1 %). Tetracycline-resistant isolates harboured *tetM* gene and their DNA sequences were deposited in the NCBI database with their respective accession numbers. *Cfr* and *mecC* genes were not detected in the isolates. Isolates harboured *sec* (73.7 %), *exi* (2 %), *siet* (62.6 %), and *lukD* (55.6 %) virulence genes. Isolates in our study were multi-drug resistant and exhibited homogeneity in their pathogenic factors, thus depicting a possible zoonotic transmission event.



Biography:

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Publication of speakers:

1. Ani, S. & Iroha, Ifeanyi & Moses, Ikechukwu & Ugbo, E. & Nwakaeze, E. & Okoli, S. & Brownson, G. & Ngwu, J. & Omale, J. & Okorie, Chidinma & Mohammed, D. & Igwe, O. & Dieke, Adaobi & Ezugworie, Flora & Agbo, E.. (2020). Antibacterial activities of ethyl acetate and methanol leaf extracts of *Psidium guajava* and *Carica papaya* on bacterial pathogens isolated from manual toothbrushes. *Journal of Medicinal Plants Research*. 14. 559-569. 10.5897/JMPR2020.7013.
2. Moses, Ikechukwu & Nwuzo, A.C. & Iroha, Ifeanyi. (2020). Isolation and Characterization of Bacterial Species Associated with Edible Snails (*Achatina achatina*) sold in Major Markets within Abakaliki Metropolis.
3. Moses, Ikechukwu & Emmanuel, Ugbo. (2020). Prevalence of *bla*TEM, *bla*SHV, and *bla*CTX-M genes among extended spectrum beta-lactamase-producing *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* of clinical origin. *Gene Reports*. 21. 10.1016/j.genrep.2020.100909.