

**CHARACTERIZATION OF *PSEUDOMONAS*
AERUGINOSA ISOLATED FROM INTENSIVE CARE
UNITS IN SHAHID GANGALAL NATIONAL HEART
CENTER**

A

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Master of Science in Microbiology
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By

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ABSTRACT

Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a gram negative bacterium responsible for several nosocomial infections in highly immunocompromised and catheterized patients in Intensive Care Unit (ICU). In order to characterize and determine the prevalence of *P. aeruginosa* in the ICUs of Shahid Gangalal National Heart Center, a six month cross sectional microbial study was undertaken. A total of 700 clinical specimens and 360 surface swab samples from ICU were collected and analyzed for bacteriological profile. The bacterial isolates were identified by biochemical testing. Antibiotic susceptibility testing of isolated bacteria was performed by Kirby Bauer disc diffusion technique. In all clinical samples analyzed, *P. aeruginosa* was detected in 66 (9.43%) samples while in all surface swab samples analyzed, *P. aeruginosa* was detected in 60 (16.67%) samples. 48 (72.7%) of clinical samples yielded mucoid strains while it was only 24 (40%) for surface swab samples. Among clinical samples, 61 (92.4%) were pigment producing strains while 5 (7.6%) were non-pigmented strains. Likewise, among the surface swab samples, 45 (75.0%) were pigment producing strains of *P. aeruginosa* while 15 (25.0%) were non-pigmented strains. Antibiotic Susceptibility Test demonstrated that among clinical isolates 56 (84.8%) were sensitive to cefoparazone-sulbactam followed by 42 (63.6%) to polymixin-B and 36 (54.5%) to piperacillin-tazobactam, while among surface swab sample isolates more than 90% isolates were sensitive to most of the common antibiotics used. 59 (89.4%) Multi-drug Resistant *P. aeruginosa* (MDRPA) were isolated from clinical samples while it was only 7 (11.7%) from surface swab samples. This study signified that *P. aeruginosa* was an important cause of infection in patients admitted in the ICUs and it could be present in the inanimate surfaces of ICUs posing threat to the ICU patients. Regular monitoring of antimicrobial susceptibility and rational use of antibiotics would be the essential steps to eliminate possible outbreaks of MDRPA in the ICUs.

Key words: *P. aeruginosa*, MDRPA, Clinical Samples, Surface Swab Samples

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	i
RECOMMENDATION	ii
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL	iii
BOARD OF EXAMINERS	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
ABSTRACT	vi
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xiii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xiv
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER II: OBJECTIVES	4
2.1 General Objective	
2.2 Specific Objectives	
CHAPTER III: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
3.1 Medical importance of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	5
3.2 Epidemiology of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> in ICUs	6
3.3 Virulence Factors	8
3.3.1 Bacterial cell surface	8
3.3.2 Secreted virulence factors	8
3.4 Pathogenesis	9
3.5 <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> related nosocomial infections	11
3.5.1 Respiratory infections	12

3.5.2 Urinary tract infections	12
3.5.3 Wound infections	13
3.5.4 Heart and blood stream infections	13
3.5.5 Endocarditis	14
3.5.6 Central nervous system infections	14
3.5.7 Gastro-intestinal infections	14
3.6 Laboratory Identification of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	14
3.6.1 Morphological, Cultural, and Metabolic Characteristics	15
3.6.2 Biochemical Properties	15
3.7 Antibiotic resistance in <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	16
3.7.1 Intrinsic resistance	16
3.7.2 Acquired resistance	16
3.7.3 Emergence of resistance	17
3.7.4 Multidrug resistant <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	17
3.8 Treatment and control	19
3.8.1 Antibiotic options	19
3.8.2 Combination therapy	20
3.8.3 Restriction of use	20
3.8.4 Prevention of infection	21
CHAPTER IV: MATERIALS AND METHODS	22
4.1 Sample collection and processing	22
4.2 Culture	22
4.3 Examination of plates	23
4.4 Characterization of isolates	23

4.5 Purity Plate	23
4.6 Antibiotic susceptibility testing of isolates	24
4.7 Quality control	24
CHAPTER V: RESULTS	25
5.1 Distribution of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	25
5.2 Consistency of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	27
5.2 Pigmentation of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	29
5.3 Antibiotic susceptibility test of <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	30
CHAPTER VI: DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION	37
6.1 Discussion	37
6.2 Conclusion	44
CHAPTER VII: SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION	45
7.1 Summary	45
7.2 Recommendations	46
CHAPTER VIII: REFERENCES	47
APPENDICES I-V	i-xv

LIST OF TABLES

No.	Table	Page No.
	Table 1: Ward wise Distribution of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	26
	Table 2: Sample wise Distribution of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (Surface sample)	27
	Table 3: Sample wise Distribution of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (Clinical sample)	27
	Table 4: Consistency of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Surface Sample	28
	Table 5: Consistency of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Clinical Sample	28
	Table 6: Colony's consistency of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	29
	Table 7: Pigment wise Distribution of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Surface Sample	29
	Table 8: Pigment wise distribution of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Clinical Sample	30
	Table 9: Antibioqram for Isolated <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (Clinical Samples)	30
	Table 10: Antibiotic Susceptibility Test of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Clinical Sample	32
	Table 11: Antibioqram for Isolated <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (Surface Swab Samples)	32
	Table 12: Antibiotic Susceptibility Test of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> from Surface Sample	34
	Table 13: Colony wise verification of AST of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	34

LIST OF FIGURES

No.	Figure	Page No.
Figure 2:	Resistivity pattern of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> against various antibiotics	36
Figure 3:	MDRPA isolates	36

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- Photograph 1. Pigment production by *P. aeruginosa* in BHI broth
- Photograph 2. Biochemical Tests for isolated *P. aeruginosa*
- Photograph 3. AST of *P. aeruginosa* isolated from clinical samples
- Photograph 4. AST of *P. aeruginosa* isolated from surface swab samples

LIST OF APPENDICES

	Page No.
APPENDIX-I Record keeping	i
APPENDIX-II Equipments and materials used during the study	ii
APPENDIX-III A. Composition and preparation of different culture media	iv
B. Composition and preparation of different biochemical tests	vi
C. Staining and test reagents	ix
APPENDIX-IV A. Gram staining procedure	xii
B. Capsule staining procedure	xiii
C. Procedure for Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing	xiii
APPENDIX-V Zone size of interpretation chart of antibiotics	xiv

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AK	Amikacin
ASICU	Adult Surgical Intensive Care Unit
AST	Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing
BA	Blood Agar
BHI	Brain Heart Infusion
BSI	Blood Stream Infection
CAZ	Ceftazidime
CFM	Cefixime
CIP	Ciprofloxacin
COPD	Cardiac Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CR-BSI	Catheter Related Blood Stream Infection
CSL	Cefoparazone+Sulbactam
CTR	Ceftriaxone
CVC	Central Venous Catheter
CVP	Central Venous Pressure
GEN	Gentamicin
GI	Gastro Intestinal
GNB	Gram Negative Bacteria
GPC	Gram Positive Cocci
GPR	Gram Positive Rods
HCW	Health Care Worker
HEPA	High Efficiency Particulate Air
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
LF	Lactose Fermenter
MA	Mac Conkey Agar

MDR	Multiple Drug Resistance
MDRPA	Multi-drug Resistance <i>P. aeruginosa</i>
MHA	Mueller Hinton Agar
MICU	Medical Intensive Care Unit
MEM	Meropenem
NA	Nutrient Agar
NI	Nosocomial Infection
NLF	Non Lactose Fermenter
NNIS	National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance
PABSI	<i>P. aeruginosa</i> bloodstream infection
POL	Polymixin B
PSICU	Pediatric Surgical Intensive Care Unit
PT	Piperacillin+Tazobactam
SGNHC	Sahid Gangalal National Heart Center
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
VAP	Ventillator Associated Pneumonia
WHO	World Health Organisation