

## Isolation of *Enterobacteraerogenes* from urine of patient with urinary tracts infection and studying pathogenicity of *Enterobacteraerogenes* in mice

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### الخلاصة:

جريت الدراسة لعزل جراثيم الانتيروبيكترايريجنوسا من ادرار المصابين بالتهاب المجاري البولية ، تم جمع 150 عينة ادرار وزرعت على اكار الماكونكي واستخدمت الفحوصات الكيموحيوية لتأكيد تشخيص الجرثومة ، بعدها استعملت اربع مجاميع من الفئران المختبرية لتحديد امراضيه الجرثومة وذلك بحقن هذه الحيوانات بتركيز مختلفة من الجرثومة الحية ( $10^8$ ,  $10^9$  and  $10^{10}$  CFU/ml) على التوالي بينما تركت المجموعة الرابعة كسيطرة ، وتم استخلاص الجدار الخلوي من جرثومة الانتيروبيكترايريجنوسا لمعرفة دوره الحقيقي بالامراضية ، اظهرت النتائج بان هناك عزل جرثومي عالي من الحيوانات المحقونة بالجرعة العالية وان الجراثيم الحية ومستخلص الجدار الخلوي سبب نفس التغيرات المرضية الشديدة للأعضاء الداخلية مقارنة بحيوانات السيطرة .

### Abstract:

The present study aimed to isolate *Enterobacteraerogenes* from urine of patient with UTI and showing its pathogenicity in mice, a total 150 urine specimens were collected and cultured on MacConky agar then tested biochemically and with API- 20 to confirm diagnosis of *Enterobacter aerogenes*, after that injected 4 groups of mice with ( $10^8$ ,  $10^9$  and  $10^{10}$  CFU/ml) respectively, while fourth group consider as a control group, also extracted the cell wall from *Enterobacteraerogenes* and used four groups of mice to injected with different concentration (300, 200 and 150  $\mu$ /ml) of extracted cell wall respectively, while fourth group consider as a control group. Results shows that 11 isolates of *Enterobacter* were obtained from urine and out of 11 isolates 8 isolates were belong to *Enterobacter aerogenes*. Bacterial isolation from internal organs showed very heavy isolation of Bacteria in dose  $10^{10}$  CFU/ml as compared with other dose, histopathological changes of organs for mice injected with live bacteria and extracted cell wall revealed same the tissue damage as compared with control groups.

### Introduction

These organisms are Gram-negative capsulated bacilli and are similar to *Klebsiella* species with large round mucoid colonies, but can be differentiated by a few tests such as motility and urease tests (1). The organisms are distributed in water, soil, sewage, dairy products and vegetables, are part of the commensal enteric flora and usually are not pathogenic (2). *Enterobacteraerogenes*, *E. Cloacae* and *E. sakazakii* are commonly encountered *Enterobacter* spp. in most clinical specimens (3) However, some strains are known to produce shig-

like toxin *Enterobacter* species have also been associated with nosocomial infections and a variety of opportunistic infections involving the urinary and respiratory tracts, and cutaneous wounds, enterobacter organisms cause significant morbidity and mortality. They can also cause community acquired infections resulting in endocarditis, intra-abdominal infections, septic arthritis, osteomyelitis and ophthalmic infections Risk factors for nosocomial infections include hospitalization for more than 2 weeks (4). In *Enterobacter* bacteria LPS is one of the major structural and

immunodominant molecules of the outer membrane. It consists of three domains: lipid A, core oligosaccharide (5). Lipid-A plays a major role in sepsis. Lipid-A, which is an endotoxin, is the major stimulus for the release of cytokines which are the mediators of systemic inflammation

and its complications (6) *Enterobacter* species are resistant to most antibiotics, especially the cephalosporins. Their resistance to  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics, chloramphenicol, quinolones and tetracyclines have

been well documented (7). Reports abound in the literature on the increasing resistance of *Enterobacter* species to the penicillins and all generations of cephalosporins, and their emergence in clinical specimens. The aim of study was to know role of *Enterobacter* cell wall in pathogenesis.

### Materials and methods:

#### 1-specimens collection:

Hundred and fifty urine specimens were collected from patient aged between 14 and 66 years (mean age of 34 years) attended to Al Hussian hospital in Al Samawa city from July to October 2013.

#### 2-Isolation and identification:

urine samples were centrifuged for 15 minutes (3000 cycle/minutes) then from sediment will take a loopful for culturing on MacConky agar. They were incubated for 24 hours at 37°C then certified *enterobacter* growth by staining the bacteria with Gram stain and by biochemical tests (catalase, VP, citrate utilization, TSI with CO<sub>2</sub> production and negative for H<sub>2</sub>S, oxidase, indole and MR) also using the API 20 according to Cowan (8)

#### 3-Pathogenicity of *E. aerogenes* in mice:

The preparation of the bacterial suspension and the counting were made using Macfarlands tubes according to procedure described by Baron (9). Four groups (5 mice for each group) of mice were used, first group was infected with

$1 \times 10^8$  CFU/ml, second group infected with  $1 \times 10^9$  CFU/ml and third group infected with  $1 \times 10^{10}$  CFU/ml, while the fourth group as a control group and given phosphate buffer saline, after bacterial inoculation, bacterial isolation from the internal organ were carried from the infected mice at day 7 post infection, the organ samples were cultured on brain heart infusion agar and incubated at 37°C for 2 days. The results recorded according to the density of the bacterial growth (8).

### Bacterial cell wall Extraction:

1-Cell wall was extracted according to Hirschfeld (10). The carbohydrate content in the extracted cell wall was estimated according to Westphal and Jann (11) and the protein content was determined according to Biuret procedure Henry, *et al.*, (12).

2-Measurement of the LD<sub>50</sub> of extracted cell wall:

Four groups (5 mice for each group) of mice were used, inoculated intraperitoneally with of extracted cell wall (300, 200 and 150  $\mu$ /ml) each group, while control groups injected with PBS. After one week LD<sub>50</sub> was measured according to Read and Muench (13)

#### pathological study:

macroscopic examination (gross): postmortem examination were done for infected mice. The macroscopic features was recorded to detect any abnormal gross changes in the internal organs, including location, color, size, shape, consistency and appearance of cut section (14).

#### Histopathological examination:

Specimens (1\*1\*1cm) were taken from infected internal organs (spleen, liver, lung, and kidney). the tissues were kept in 10% formalin immediately after removal, then a tissue section were done to observe the histopathological under light microscope.

## Results

Twelve samples were positive for enterobacter, out of 11 samples 8 were positive for *E. aerogenes* when cultured on macConky agar where lactose ferment on macConky agar, with smooth, round and mucoid colonies, enterobacter were positive for catalase, VP, citrate utilization and give acid results on TSI with CO<sub>2</sub> production and negative for H<sub>2</sub>S, oxidase, indol and MR, all strain were motile as well as all strains unproduced for hemolysin on blood agar. Results of APi- 20 showed in Figure (1) and table (1) .



Figure(1) Results of API -20 of *E. aerogenes*

Table (1) showed results of APi-20 test

|  |                       |            |
|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Orthonitropheny I- β-<br>D-galactopyranoside | <b>ONPG</b>           | Coler less |
| Arginine dihydrolyase                        | <b>ADH</b>            | yellow     |
| Lysine decarboxylase                         | <b>LDC</b>            | red        |
| Ornithine<br>decarboxylase                   | <b>ODC</b>            | red        |
| Citrate utilization                          | <b>CIT</b>            | green      |
| Hydrogen sulfide                             | <b>H<sub>2</sub>S</b> | -          |
| Urease production                            | <b>URE</b>            | -          |
| Tryptophan deaminase                         | <b>TDA</b>            | yellow     |
| Indole production                            | <b>IND</b>            | pink       |
| Vogas proskaur                               | <b>VP</b>             | red        |
| Gelatin liquefactions                        | <b>GEL</b>            | -          |
| Glucose                                      | yellow                |            |
| Mannitol                                     | yellow                |            |
| Inositol                                     | yellow                |            |
| Sorbitol                                     | yellow                |            |
| Rhamnose                                     | yellow                |            |
| Sucrose                                      | yellow                |            |
| Melibiose                                    | yellow                |            |
| Amygdalin                                    | yellow                |            |
| Arabinose                                    | yellow                |            |

The Protein concentration of extracted cell wall was 8.37 mg/ml and CHO of extracted cell wall was 0.17 mg/ml, while the LD<sub>50</sub> of extracted cell wall show only 2 animals dead in first group that inoculated with 300μ/ml , while other animals showed emaciation, loss of appetite, dullness and weakness.

From results showed that isolated bacteria from internal organ were very heavy in animals inoculated with  $1 \times 10^{10}$  CFU/ML, heavy in animals inoculated

with  $1 \times 10^9$  CFU/ML and moderate to mild in animals inoculated with  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU/ML respectively, table(2).

Table(2) colonial growth of *E. aerogenes* isolated from internal organs of infected mice

| Group | No. | spleen | Liver | Kidney | Lung |
|-------|-----|--------|-------|--------|------|
| I     | 1   | ++     | ++    | ++     | ++   |
|       | 2   | ++     | ++    | +      | -    |
|       | 3   | +++    | -     | -      | +    |
|       | 4   | ++     | +     | +      | ++   |
| II    | 1   | ++++   | +++   | +      | +++  |
|       | 2   | ++++   | +++   | ++     | ++   |
|       | 3   | +++    | ++    | +++    | +    |
|       | 4   | ++++   | +     | -      | +++  |
| III   | 1   | ++++   | +++   | ++     | ++++ |
|       | 2   | ++++   | ++++  | ++     | ++++ |
|       | 3   | +++    | ++++  | +      | ++   |
|       | 4   | ++++   | +++   | +      | ++   |
| IV    | 1   | -      | -     | -      | +    |
|       | 2   | -      | -     | -      | -    |
|       | 3   | +      | -     | -      | -    |
|       | 4   | -      | -     | -      | -    |

+++ = moderate (11-15) colony

- = negative (0) colony

++++ = heavy (16-20) colony

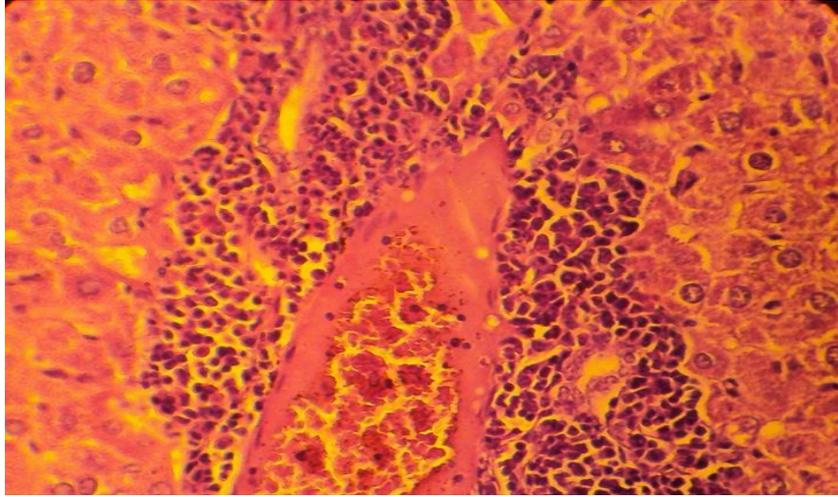
+ = very mild (1-5) colony

+++++ = very heavy (20-more)

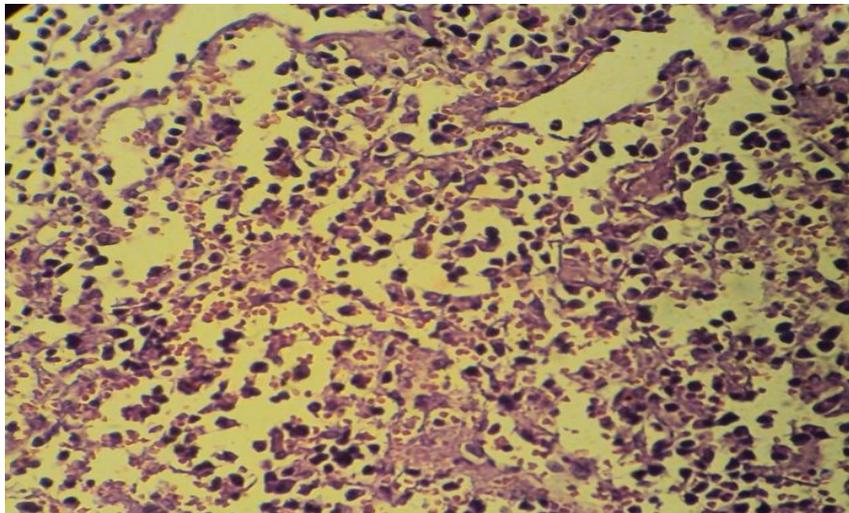
++ = mild (6-10) colony

Histopathological examination of animal infected with *Enterobacter* spp showed inflammatory cells infiltration in the interstitial tissue of lung and in the lumen of the alveoli mainly macrophages, lymphocytes with few neutrophil (figur 1) also there is severe centrilobular congestion and hepatocellular necrosis of liver the lumen of the blood vessels contain inflammatory cells mainly, neutrophils and macrophages (figure 2). While changes in spleen were acute congestion of the red pulp, infiltration of macrophages, plasma cells and few neutrophils throughout white and red pulp as well as depletion of the splenic follicle and deposition of amyloid like substance.

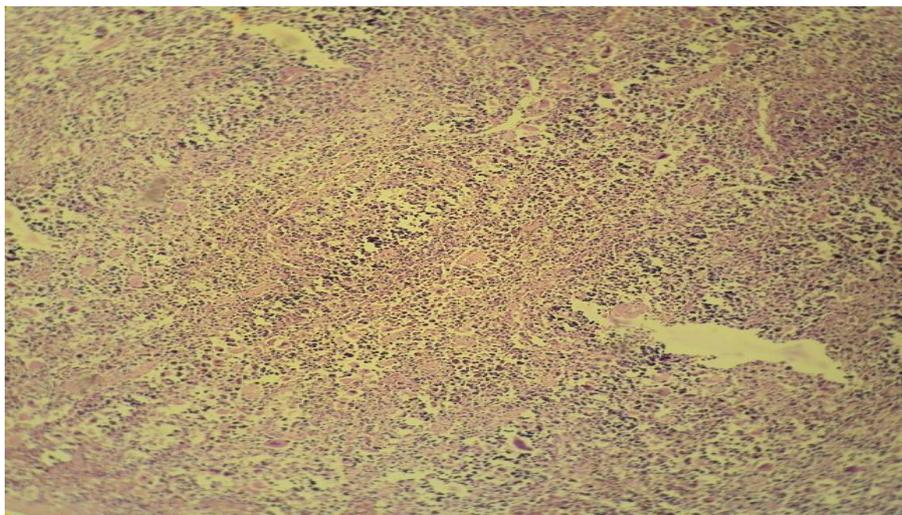
Histopathological changes in animals injected with extracted cell wall were extended in sinusoid, edema, degeneration and hemorrhage in liver tissue, while spleen tissue were showed enlargement of white pulp with accumulation of giant cells, neutrophil and lymphocytes (figure 3).



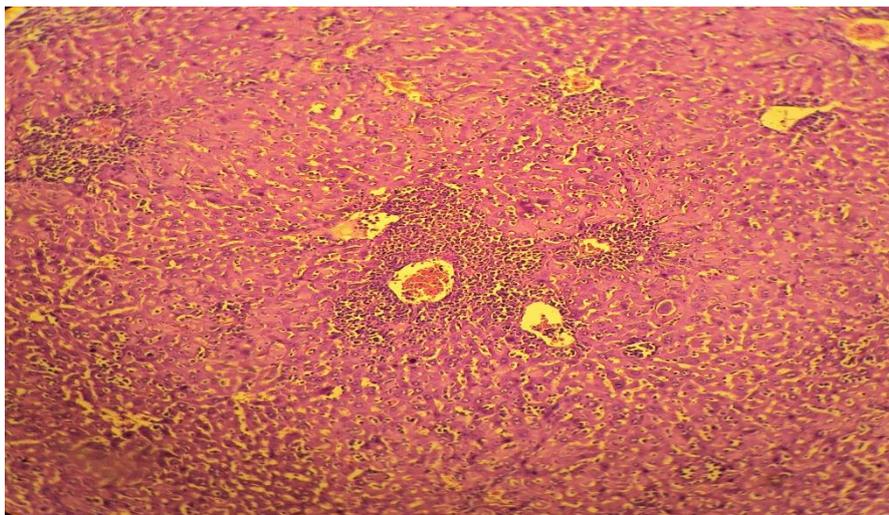
Figure(2)Section of liver of mice infected with *E. aerogenes* shows inflammatory cells infiltration and hepatocellular necrosis of liver (H&E).



Figure(3) section of spleen of mice infected with *E. aerogenes* shows depletion of the splenic follicle and deposition of amyloid like substance (H&E).



Figure(4) Section of liver of mice injected with extracted cell wall shows degeneration and hemorrhage in liver tissue (H&E).



Figure(5) Section of spleen of mice injected with extracted cell wall shows enlargement of white pulp with accumulation of giant cells(H&E).

## Discussion

The study showed *E. aerogenes* in urine samples. It is known to be associated with a variety of opportunistic infections (15). Growth culture of *Enterobacter* like that reported by (9). *E. aerogenes* shows negative for urease test which can differentiate it from *E. Cloacae* as a (3). From results shows very heavy bacterial isolated from internal organs of mice injected with and heavy bacterial isolated from mice injected with as compared with control groups and animals injected with small dose and revealed the role of live bacteria in invasiveness and causes multiplication in internal organs as that reported with (16). *Enterobacter* can produce extracellular enzymes that have a role in pathogenesis. Attachment properties may be important in the firm or maintenance of bacterial infections. Adhesins are often also hemagglutinins (HA) and may or may not be located on fimbriae. Most strains of *Enterobacter* produce a mannose sensitive hemagglutinin (MS-HA) associated with type 1 fimbriae, i.e., thick, channelled fimbriae of external diameter 7 to 8 nm. These fimbriae can be coated by type 1 fimbrial antiserum against *E. cloacae* 035 but not by type 1 fimbrial antiserum against

*Klebsiella pneumoniae* K55/1. No other hemagglutinin and fimbriae, Aerobactin was first isolated from a strain of *E. aerogenes* (then called "*Aerobacter aerogenes*") Aerobactin and cloacin DF13 bind to the same receptor sites located in the outer membrane (17), also the results were in agreement with histopathological study were show severe histopathological changes include infiltration of inflammatory cells with necrosis of internal organs also animals injected with extracted cell wall showed severe tissue changes of organs. The lipopolysaccharide from *E. agglomerans* (commonly found in cotton dust) can bind to the pulmonary lipid-proteinaceous lining material (surfactant) and alter its surface tension properties. Thiolas (18) said that the binding in the lung may change the physiological properties of surfactant and be a possible mechanism for the pathogenesis of byssinosis, an occupational respiratory disorder caused by the inhalation of cotton dust.

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