

Detection hla and spi gene of Staphylococcus aureus and it is relation with agr system presence

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Abstract

Background: Staphylococcus aureus genomes size are almost 2.8 Mbp , these genomes are having a very similar architecture and differ in their function like accessory genome that encoded to virulence factors of Staphylococcus aureus pathogen's caused broad range of diseases .

Methods: Identification of Staphylococcus aureus bacteria that isolated from urine specimens have been done according to the cultured on the mannitol salt agar and biochemical tests, then confirm the identification by amplification 16srRNA gene, virulence factor gene hla and sbi genes amplification by conventional PCR and agr gene amplification by multiplex PCR

Result: Thirty isolates of Staphylococcus aureus diagnosed and found all this isolates have agrI,II,III,IV that related with hla gene and sbi gene

Conclusion: Urinary tract system was more infected with S. aureus bacteria and agr system was regulated virulence gene (hla gene and sbi gene).

Keywords: *S. aureus genome, 16srRNA gene, agr system, virulence factor.*

INTRODUCTION

Staphylococcus aureus genomes size are 2.8 Mbp and the genomes having a very similar architecture and difference in their function like accessory genome that encoded to Staphylococcus aureus virulence factor caused broad range of diseases, the genome contains from mobile genetic elements (transposons, plasmids, insertion sequences , pathogenicity islands and antibiotic resistance determinants, Staphylococcus aureus composed of the:

-The core genome is present with percentage 75% of 95% of Staphylococcus aureus isolates.

- The accessory component are present in (1 - 95%) of Staphylococcus aureus isolates.

-The foreign genes.

(Cheung et al ., 2021: Kadhim et al., 2022) .

Staphylococcus aureus in most carry single or multiply plasmids carry different gene in a single cell and this plasmid are divided into three groups:

1-Small multicopy plasmids that have one resistance gene.

2-Larger about (15 – 30 kb) plasmid , allow copes (4 – 6 copies per cell) which have many of resistance gene .

3-Conjugative multiresistance plasmids. (Khudher and Jabur, 2020).

Staphylococcus aureus have specific structure is agr quorum sensing contain of two-component responsible about critical toxin genes to survey *Staphylococcus aureus* infection and regulate number of genes (hla gene, sbi gene) in addition this complexity system of *Staphylococcus aureus* activation toxin production and decreased adherence genes which be as counterproductive for *Staphylococcus aureus* pathogenicity during chronic infection (Miller and Gilmore, 2020: Aburesha et al, 2018 : Abdrabaa and Aburesha, 2023).

Material and method

Sample collection: Collected 150 clinical samples during the period (February to May, 2022) used sterile swap for taken sample from tonsil and sterile cup for collected urine sample all they from the people return to Tuz general Hospital in the Salah al-Din Governorate and from patient broadcasts in hospitals.

Bacterial identification: Used various methods for *Staphylococcus aureus* identification include cultured all isolates on the Mannitol salt agar media that differentiate *Staphylococcus aureus* isolates by fermentation of mannitol (Obaid and Abdulwahhab, 2021: Najem and Lafta, 2020) , microscopic examination by Gram's stain, taking smears of samples and investigated under light microscopes as Gram positive cocci clustered mostly in grape-like irregular clusters circular in clusters , single, paired or short chains (Gnanamani et al., 2017 :Chotigarpa et al., 2018) and biochemical test include Catalase test was distinguished by transport some pure colonies of bacterial

isolates to clean glass slide by sterilized loop, then add few drops of 3% H₂O₂ on it air bubbles production is refer to positive result that evidence enzyme production (Omran & Hussein, 2019: Mahdi et al., 2020). In coagulase test evaluated to distinguished free plasma coagulase enzyme that lead to coagulation product from interaction between blood and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria, which indicates positive result While the clotting did not emerge at room temperature that refer to negative result (Rakotavao-Ravahatra et al., 2019) at last confirmed this identification method by detection 16srRNA gene of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria by PCR .

Extraction and determine *Staphylococcus aureus* DNA:

genomic DNA extraction according to (Geneaid Biotech kit instruction) used agarose gel electrophoresis was stained by ethidium bromide used for determined DNA extracted presence and integrity the total DNA concentration and conserved at - 20 °C until uses in PCR process.

genomic DNA of *Staphylococcus aureus* before loaded inside the wells of the gel must mixed together with the loading buffer (DNA: loading 7/2 v/v) .

16srRNA gene amplification:

Commonly used 16srRNA gene for identification *Staphylococcus aureus* species and classification it, this genes codes for the small subunit of bacterial ribosome have some factors make it perfect target to complete phylogeny studies.

Used specific primer (Gumaa et al., 2021) in PCR program according the TRANS protocol to detection 16srRNA .

Table (1) PCR reaction components for detection 16srRNA according to Trans protocol

| Primer | Type of reaction | Master mix volume | Volume of F-primer (10pmol/ml) | Volume of R-primer (10pmol/ml) | Nuclease free water | DNA | Final volume |
|----------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------|--------------|
| 16s rRNA | uniPCR | 10 | 1 | 1 | 6 ml | 2 ml | 20 ml |

Table (2) PCR program to amplify 16srRNA

| Steps | °C | Minute-Second | Cycle | Product band |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95 °C | 4 Minute | 1 | 257 |
| Denaturation | 95 °C | 4 Minute | 30 | |
| Annealing | 53 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Extension | 72 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Final extension | 72 °C | 7 Minute | 1 | |

Detection Staphylococcus aureus hla , sbi and agrI, II, III, IV genes

hla, sbi and agr gene amplification:

Detection Staphylococcus aureus hla, sbi and agr genes that were encoding for virulence factor was carried out by the amplification the extraction DNA of Staphylococcus aureus with target gene by used PCR that include using various specific set of primers encoding for each target gene mixed with the template

(DNA sample) and master mix reagent (PCR buffer, MgCl₂, Taq polymerase and dNTPs) the end constituent was the deionized water, then the mixture were mixed and centrifuged for 3second to collect the drops from walls for ensure the final volume of 25ml, transferred mixture to a thermal cycler to start reaction according to the steps of the specific program (Alwash and Aburesha, 2021: Fadhil and Mohammed, 2022:).

Table (3) PCR reaction components of hla, sbi and agr genes according to (Trans protocol)

| Primer | Type of reaction | Master mix volume | Volume of F-primer (10pmol/ml) | Volume of R-primer (10pmol/ml) | Nuclease free water | DNA | Final volume |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------|--------------|
| <i>hla gene</i> | uniPCR | 10 | 1 | 1 | 6 ml | 2 ml | 20 ml |
| <i>Sbi gene</i> | uniPCR | 10 | 1 | 1 | 6 ml | 2 ml | 20 ml |
| <i>Agr gene</i> | Multiplex PCR | 10 | 1 | 1 | 6 ml | 2 ml | 20 ml |

To amplify hla gene used specific primer (Rossato et al., 2018) in PCR program.

Table (5) PCR program to amplify hla gene

| Steps | °C | Minute - Second | Cycle | Product band |
|----------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95 °C | 4 Minute | 1 | 209 |
| Denaturation | 95 °C | 30 Second | 30 | |
| Annealing | 58 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Extension | 72 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Final extension | 72 °C | 7 Minute | 1 | |

Table (6) PCR program to amplify spi gene using specific primer (Gonzalez et al., 2015).

Table (6) PCR program to amplify sbi gene

| Steps | °C | Minute-Second | Cycle | Product band |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95 °C | 4 Minute | 1 | variable |
| Denaturation | 95 °C | 30 Second | 30 | |
| Annealing | 58 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Extension | 72 °C | 45 Second | | |
| Final extension | 72 °C | 7 Minute | 1 | |

PCR program to amplify agr gene using specific primer (Zhang et al., 2018).

Table (7) PCR program to amplify agr gene

| Steps | °C | Minute-Second | Cycle | Product band |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--------------|
| Initial denaturation | 95 °C | 4 Minute | 1 | 1.441 |
| Denaturation | 95 °C | 30 Second | 30 | 2.575 |
| Annealing | 54 °C | 45 Second | | 3.323 |
| Extension | 72 °C | 1 Minute | | 4.659 |
| Final extension | 72 °C | 10 Minute | 1 | |

Result and discussion:

Identified 30 isolates of *Staphylococcus aureus* from 150 clinical sample are growth on the mannitol salt agar and appearance with golden yellow colonies because it was fermented mannitol salt in media, Gram-positive cocci, catalase positive, coagulase positive, and oxidase, motility negative. More strain hemolysis it is lysis the red blood cell and then confirmed this methods of

identification by 16srRNA genes amplification through PCR technique.

extraction *Staphylococcus aureus* DNA: Extracted DNA and purified from all *Staphylococcus aureus* using the manufacturer's DNA purification kit (DNA extraction kit) used agarose gel electrophoresis and stained by adding ethidium bromide for determined DNA extracted presence and integrity the optimum DNA concentration,

figure (1) showed the result the result showed and used PCR technique to amplifying the 16srRNA gene that helped to identify bacterial genome it was as developed and effective tool helped to recognize the specific bacterial strains this step applied on the 30 isolates taken from urinary tract and found all isolates are *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria. figure (2) clarify 16srRNA amplification.

Figure (1) showed *Staphylococcus aureus* DNA extraction used 1 % of agarose gel electrophoresis to visualized that stained with ethidium bromide by 1xTBE and used UV light transiluminiator at 350nm.

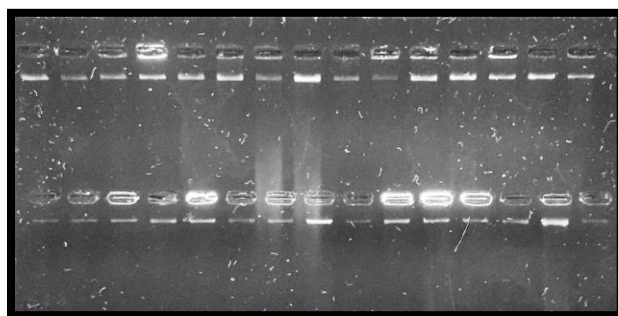
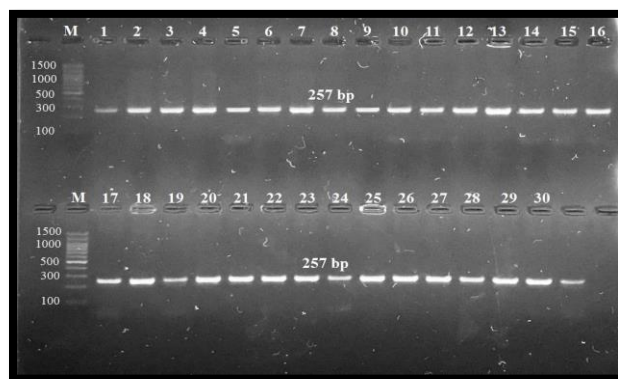


Figure (2) PCR amplification of 16srRNA gene (257bp) of *Staphylococcus aureus*, used 1 % of agarose gel electrophoresis to visualized that stained with ethidium bromide by using TBE, for 30 min at 90 Volt. Lane M: Marker. Lane (1-30): Urinary tract sample from people return to Hospital.



In last year's found the amplification of 16srRNA gene be a common genetic marker

to identify *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria and determine the reason of taxonomy increasing prevalent, that return to the increasing multidrug resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections number all that lead to research about the relation between genetic variation and bacterial antibiotic resistance.

In fact, *Staphylococcus aureus* interfamilial transmission jointed with local communities and another important cause the mutations of 16srRNA lead the research uses the 16srRNA technique to identify this bacteria (Gumaa et al., 2021).

Detection *Staphylococcus aureus* hla, sbi and agr genes

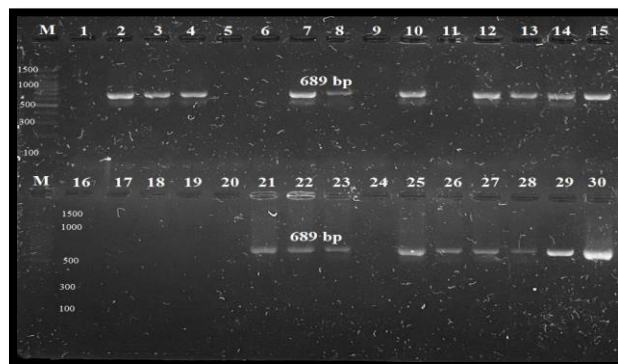
Used conventional PCR to Investigated about 2 genes include (hla gene and sbi gene) and used multiplex PCR to investigated about (agrI,II,III,IV gene) all this gene responsible of virulence factor to 30 isolates of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria. After DNA extraction by use (Mini gDNA Bacteria Kit) from *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated then determine virulence gene.

hla gene of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria responsible about red blood cell lysis which causes a-hemolysis or B-hemolysis where as sbi gene responsible about bacterial adhesion on the host cell surface, these genes function controlled by accessory gene regulator (agr) system controls the expression number of virulence factors in *Staphylococcus aureus* (Khan et al., 2021: Kretschmer et al., 2021: Hamdan-Partida et al., 2022).

hla gene were detected in this study with percentage, 63.3% from all stains of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria, (Afzal et al., 2022) showed in their study, hla gene percentage 94% they were more proportion of the result obtained, In(Wang and Zhang , 2022 : Ali and Maarooof, 2020) get in their study hla gene with percentage 98.0%, 90.0% respectively these result were approach to Afzal result but more from obtained result and

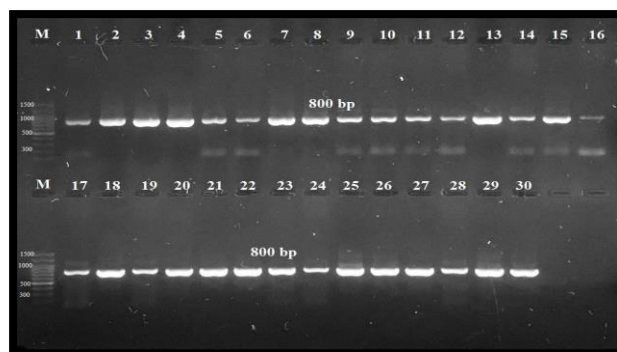
in (Rasmi et al., 2022) study isolated hla gene from *Staphylococcus aureus* with percentage 37.3% it was lowest from this study . (Khan et al., 2022) showed the hla gene were responsible about antibiotic resistant that lead to evolution and development has hyper virulent and spread in hospitals and community. figure (3) showed hla gene in *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria isolated.

Figure (3) PCR amplification of hla gene (689bp) of *Staphylococcus aureus*, used 1 % of agarose electrophoresis to visualized that stained with ethidium bromide by using TBE, for 30 min at 90 Volt. Lane M: 1500 Marker



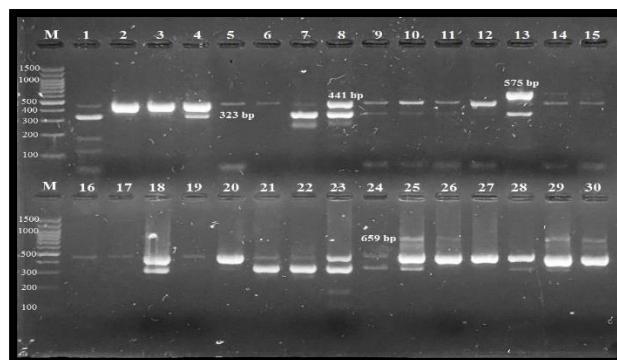
sbi gene detected in this study with percentage 96.7% figure (4) showed sbi gene in *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated, in (Lin et al., 2021) study get approach result was 81.82% of sbi gene helps bacteria to induction inflammatory avoid innate immune defenses and play an important role in the induction of inflammatory (Gonzaleza et al., 2019).

Figure (4) PCR amplification of spi gene (800bp) of *Staphylococcus aureus* , used 1 % of agarose electrophoresis to visualized that stained with ethidium bromide by using TBE, for 30 min at 90 Volt. Lane M: 1500 Marker



All isolated showed has agr gene with percentage 100%, because it is play important role in *Staphylococcus aureus* pathogenesis and antibiotic resistance (Bernabe et al., 2021). Also (Adeyanju et al., 2022) studied was also showed all isolated of *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria won agr gene. figure (5) showed agr gene in all isolated,

Figure (5) PCR amplification of agr gene (323bp, 441bp, 575:323, 659bp) of *Staphylococcus aureus* , used 1 % of agarose electrophoresis to visualized that stained with ethidium bromide by using TBE, for 30 min at 90 Volt. Lane M: 1500 Marker.



hla and sbi genes of Staphylococcus aureus relation with agr system

The accessory gene regulator (agr) system acts as regulator of staphylococcus aureus virulence factors, it activates some gene to production several extracellular toxins and enzyme helped bacteria to invasive the host tissue like α -, β -, γ -hemolysis enzyme, lipases, leukotoxins and toxic shock syndrome toxins(Mahdally et al., 2021) that explained the result the agr found in all isolates with percentage 100% regulated sbi gene found with percentage 96.7% helped Staphylococcus aureus isolates to evade the immune system by different mechanisms , hla gene found with percentage 63.3 % is located on the Staphylococcus aureus chromosome cause different disease like sepsis ,pneumonia and lethal propertise (Butrico, and Cassat 2020 : Divyakolu et al., 2019).

Table (8) the relation between hla , sbi genes and agr system in Staphylococcus aureus isolates

| Virulence gene | Positive | %100 | Negative | %100 |
|-----------------|----------|------|----------|------|
| <i>agrgene</i> | 30 | 100 | 0 | 0.0 |
| <i>Sbi gene</i> | 29 | 96.7 | 1 | 3.3 |
| <i>Hla gene</i> | 19 | 63.3 | 11 | 36.7 |

Conclusion:

1-Urinary tract system was more infected with Staphylococcus aureus bacteria.

2-agr system was regulated virulence gene (hla gene and sbi gene).

3- The diagnosis method 16sRNA polymerase chain reaction was a confirmation method for distinction Staphylococcus aureus strain from other type of bacteria.

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