
Salmonella typhi Vi antigens possible cross reactive antigenic epitopes with others from Brucella species and Shigella species

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Enteric fever remains a major problem in developing countries. It is believed that in salmonella species their core structure which shows serological cross-reactivity with some members of the Enterobacteriaceae. Several factors are observed in determining the pathogenesis of Salmonella in causing enteric fever. In this study 10 (23.8%) from 42 clinically suspected cases of typhoid fever had positive blood culture for *S. typhi*. Four strains showed a strong positive reaction for Vi antigen as shown by ELISA. SDS-PAGE and silver stain were done to characterize separated bands at different molecular weight. Immunoblotting of tested *Brucella abortus*, *Brucella melitensis* antisera and *Shigella* different antisera showed that there is no cross reactivity with specific bands for Vi antisera with *Brucella abortus* and *Brucella melitensis* while there is a cross reaction with *Shigella sonnei* phase I & 2 antisera at 2 bands (34, less than 10 KDa). *Shigella boydii* polyvalent 1,2,3 showed a cross reaction at one band (less than 10 KDa). No bands cross react with *Shigella Dysenteriae* polyvalent (3-10) or with *Shigella flexneri* polyvalent (1-6x & y). SDS-PAGE and silver stain were done for crude LPS antigen of *S. typhi* to characterize bands at different molecular weights. Immunoblotting of tested *Brucella abortus* and *Brucella melitensis* against LPS antigen of *S. typhi* showed there is no cross reactivity. With *Shigella sonnei* 2 bands at 80, 60 KDa showed cross reactivity with LPS of *S. typhi* and also *Shigella boydii* polyvalent 1,2,3 and *Shigella flexneri* polyvalent (1-6, x & y). With *Shigella dysenteriae* there is no cross reactivity with LPS of *S. typhi*. A key pathogenic mechanism of *S. typhi* is their ability to invade the cells of intestinal epithelium. Also, a cytotoxin production may play a role in pathogenesis of *S. typhi*. All strains of *S. typhi* in this study showed invasive power ranged between 1 to 12%; when tested on Henle 407 human intestinal cell lines. This confirms the invasiveness role in the pathogenesis of *S. typhi*. 2 strains of *S. typhi* in this study showed a degree of morphological changes of Henle 407 cell lines with the inverted microscope; there was a partial detachment of monolayer with dilution 1/10, 1/50, while the other strains of *S. typhi* showed intact cell monolayer in most of the wells. These results may suggest the production of cytotoxin in some strains. These coincide with previous studies that stated that the *S. typhi* produce cytotoxin. Thus from the aforementioned review, it can be concluded that: 1- There is no cross reactivity between Vi and LPS antigens of *S. typhi* and *Brucella abortus* and *Brucella melitensis* antisera and *Shigella*

dysenteriae polyvalent antisera.2- There is no cross reactivity between Vi antigen of *S. typhi* and *Shigella flexneri* polyvalent (1-6, x & y) antisera.3- There is cross reactivity between Vi and LPS antigens of *S. typhi* and *Shigella Sonnei* (phase 1&2) antisera and to lesser extent with *Shigella boydii* polyvalent 1,2,3, antisera.4- There is cross reactivity between LPS antigen of *S. typhi* and *Shigella flexneri* polyvalent (1-6, x & y) antisera.5- Invasiveness of *S. typhi* plays a major role and the key in pathogenesis rather than toxin production which may play a role also in pathogenesis of *S. boydii*. Recommendation:1- Use sodium dodecyl sulfate-gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) to separate different antigenic preparations into bands of definite molecular weights and can be transferred to nitrocellulose sheets and use of silver stain to detect LPS and protein in these preparations.2- Immunoblotting technique can be used to detect different antibodies in antisera raised against bacteria of gram-negative bacilli and its use to detect cross reactions with other *Enterobacteriaceae*.3- More studies about the toxin production of *S. boydii* must be done to evaluate more data about its role in the pathogenesis of typhoid fever.