

Molecular characteristics of extended-spectrum-beta-lactamase-producing *Escherichia coli* isolates causing bacteremia in a Regional Hospital

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Strains of *Escherichia coli* were isolated from patients with bacteremia during 2008 to 2009 from a middle Taiwan hospital. These strains were resistant to ampicillin, gentamicin, amikacin and cefotaxime, while most of them were highly susceptible to ceftazidime (MIC \leq 0.5 μ g/ml) and meropenem (MIC \leq 0.5 μ g/ml). Forth-one (43.2%) out of a total 95 clinical isolates had a greater than four-fold decrease in cefotaxime MIC in the presence of clavulanic acid. Therefore, these strains were speculated to produce extended-spectrum class A β -lactamases. By PCR and nucleotide sequencing, we detected the presence of CTX-M-3, and CMY-2 in 1 strain, CTX-M-3, CTX-M-14, and CMY-2 in 3 strains, CTX-M-14 and CMY-2 in 24 strains and CTX-M-14 only in 9 strains. These multiple drug resistance genes were shown to be transferred by the conjugative plasmid. Based on PCR, the sequence of the class I integron with gene cassette in 33 strains and *tnpA* transposase gene of the insert sequence ISEcp1 in some strains were also detected. In this study, the presence of *Escherichia coli* strains with high percentage CTX-M-14 of extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBLs) was first demonstrated in a regional hospital.

※ 論文性質：

- AM (應用微生物) BM (基礎微生物)
 CM (臨床微生物) V (病毒)

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