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1 Impact of mutations in DNA gyrase genes on quinolone resistance in *Campylobacter jejuni*

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17

18 Running Head: Quinolone resistance mechanism of *C. jejuni*

19

20 Abstract

21 Amino acid substitutions providing quinolone resistance to *Campylobacter jejuni* have been
22 found in the quinolone resistance-determining region of protein DNA gyrase subunit A
23 (GyrA), with the highest frequency at position 86 followed by position 90. In this study,
24 wild-type and mutant recombinant DNA gyrase subunits were expressed in *Escherichia coli*
25 and purified using Ni-NTA agarose column chromatography. Soluble 97 kDa GyrA and 87
26 kDa DNA gyrase subunit B were shown to reconstitute ATP-dependent DNA supercoiling
27 activity. A quinolone-inhibited supercoiling assay demonstrated the roles of Thr86Ile,
28 Thr86Ala, Thr86Lys, Asp90Asn, and Asp90Tyr amino acid substitutions in reducing
29 sensitivity to quinolones. The marked effect of Thr86Ile on all examined quinolones
30 suggested the advantage of this substitution in concordance with recurring isolation of
31 quinolone-resistant *C. jejuni*. An analysis of the structure-activity relationship showed the
32 importance of the substituent at position 8 in quinolones to overcome the effect of Thr86Ile.
33 Sitafloxacin (SIT), which has a fluorinate cyclopropyl ring at R-1 and a chloride substituent at
34 R-8, a characteristic not found in other quinolones, showed the highest inhibitory activity
35 against all mutant *C. jejuni* gyrases including ciprofloxacin-resistant mutants. The results
36 suggest SIT as a promising drug for the treatment of campylobacteriosis caused by
37 CIP-resistant *C. jejuni*.

38

39 Keyword; *Campylobacter jejuni*, quinolone resistance, DNA gyrase, mutation

40

41 **1. Introduction**

42 *Campylobacter* is an intestinal infection-causing bacterium that affects an estimated
43 400-500 million people globally each year^[1,2]. *Campylobacter jejuni*, commonly found in the
44 gastrointestinal tract of animals, is considered one of the most important pathogenic bacteria
45 for humans. Generally, most patients infected with *C. jejuni* do not require treatment, except
46 for severely ill or immune-compromised patients^[3]. Quinolones are the antimicrobials
47 recommended as first-line drugs against *Campylobacter* infections in severe cases. Recently,
48 *C. jejuni* has shown increased resistance to quinolones, which has become a major concern for
49 public health^[3-5]. A high percentage of *C. jejuni* resistant to quinolones has been reported in
50 animal products, especially chicken meat^[6], with the wide use of quinolones in poultry
51 farming suggested as the cause^[7].

52 Quinolones belong to a family of broad-spectrum synthetic antimicrobials. The
53 bacterial targets of quinolones include the essential microbial enzymes DNA gyrase and DNA
54 topoisomerase IV, which are classified as Type II topoisomerases^[8]. DNA gyrase is unique in
55 that it catalyses the negative supercoiling of DNA and is essential for DNA replication,
56 transcription and recombination. By contrast, topoisomerase IV has a specialised role in
57 chromosome segregation. Moreover, complete genome sequencing revealed that *C. jejuni*
58 lacks the genes encoding topoisomerase IV^[9-11] and that DNA gyrase is the sole target of
59 quinolones in *Campylobacters*.

60 Quinolone resistance is mediated by a point mutation in the quinolone
61 resistance-determining region (QRDR) of gene *gyrA*. An amino acid substitution from
62 threonine to isoleucine at codon 86 (Thr86Ile) has been identified as the predominant
63 mutation and shown to associate with high-level quinolone resistance, whilst other

64 substitutions, i.e., Thr86Ala, Thr86Lys, Asp90Asn, and Asp90Tyr, were found as minor
65 mutations ^[10, 12 - 14]. Han *et al.* showed the association of these amino acid substitutions with
66 quinolone resistance in *C. jejuni* DNA gyrase by *in vitro* DNA supercoiling assays with
67 recombinant proteins ^[15]. They also showed a deteriorative effect by the Thr86Ile substitution
68 on the gyrase function, which was inconsistent with an *in vivo* study that found mutated
69 strains to be predominant in chickens ^[15]. To explain this disagreement, in the present study
70 we investigated by *in vitro* DNA supercoiling assays the impact of amino acid substitutions at
71 positions 86 and 90 in DNA gyrase subunit A (GyrA) of *C. jejuni* on quinolone resistance.

72

73 **2. Materials and Methods**

74 *2.1 Drugs and kits*

75 Ciprofloxacin (CIP) was purchased from LKT Laboratories, Inc. (St. Paul, MN,
76 USA) and Sitafloxacin (SIT) was donated by Daiichi-Sankyo Pharmaceutical, Co., Ltd.
77 (Tokyo, Japan). Moxifloxacin (MXF) was purchased from Toronto Research Chemicals Inc.
78 (Toronto, Canada), oxolinic acid (OXO) and nalidixic acid (NAL) from Wako Pure Chemicals
79 Industries, Ltd. (Osaka, Japan), and ampicillin from Meiji Seika Pharma Co., Ltd. (Tokyo,
80 Japan). The structures of the used quinolones are shown in Fig. 1. A Ni-nitrolotriacetic acid
81 (Ni-NTA) protein purification kit was purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
82 (Waltham, MA, USA). Restriction enzymes, *NdeI* and *SacI*, were obtained from New England
83 BioLabs Inc. (Ipswich, MA, USA). Supercoiled DNA and relaxed pBR322 DNA were
84 purchased from John Innes Enterprises Ltd. (Norwich, United Kingdom). Protease inhibitor
85 cocktail tablet (Complete Mini, EDTA free) was purchased from Roche Applied Science
86 (Mannheim, Germany).

87 *2.2 Bacterial strains and plasmids*

88 DNA was extracted from *C. jejuni* ATCC33560. *Escherichia coli* strain TOP-10
89 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was used as the host for bacterial DNA cloning purposes. *E.*
90 *coli* strain BL-21 (DE3)/pLysS (Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany) was used for protein
91 expression, and vector plasmid pET-20b (+) (Merck KGaA) was used to construct expression
92 plasmids for GyrA and DNA gyrase subunit B (GyrB) of *C. jejuni*.

93 *2.3 Construction of wild-type and mutant DNA gyrase expression vectors*

94 Mutations corresponding to Thr86Ile, Thr86Ala, Thr86Lys, Asp90Asn, and
95 Asp90Tyr were introduced in wild-type (WT) *gyrA* gene by PCR using pairs of
96 complementary primers containing the mutation of interest (Table 1). The reaction mixture
97 (25 μ L) consisted of primeSTAR GXL buffer (Mg²⁺ plus), 200 μ M of dATP, dCTP, dGTP,
98 and dTTP each, 10 ng of WT GyrA expression plasmid, 2.0 units of PrimeSTAR GXL DNA
99 polymerase (Takara Bio Inc., Shiga, Japan), and 0.4 μ M of each primer. PCR was carried out
100 in an iCycler Thermal Cycler (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA, USA) under the
101 following amplification conditions: pre-denaturation at 98 °C for 2 min, 35 cycles of
102 denaturation at 98 °C for 20 s, annealing at 55 °C for 30 s, extension at 68 °C for 4 min, and
103 final extension at 68 °C for 4 min. *gyrA* N-terminal cassettes with base substitutions were
104 digested with *NdeI* and *SacI*, ligated into WT *gyrA* similar to our previous studies ^[16 - 18], and
105 digested with the same restriction endonucleases to obtain the mutant *gyrA* expression
106 plasmid. Nucleotide sequences of the DNA gyrase genes in the plasmids were confirmed
107 using the ABI Prism BigDye Terminator v3.1 cycle sequencing kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific
108 Inc.). Sequencing reactions were carried out according to the manufacturer's instructions.

109 Cycle sequencing products were subsequently analysed by an ABI PRISM 3130x automated
110 genetic analyser (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.).

111 *2.4 Recombinant expression and purification of DNA gyrase*

112 Recombinant DNA gyrase subunits were expressed and purified as previously described^{[16 -}
113 ^{18]}. Briefly, expression vectors carrying the *gyrA* and *gyrB* genes of *C. jejuni* were
114 transformed in *E. coli* BL 21(DE3)/pLysS. Transformants were grown to the log phase in
115 Luria-Bertani (LB) medium with 100 µg/mL ampicillin, and the expression of GyrA and
116 GyrB was induced by the addition of 1 mM of isopropyl β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (Wako
117 Pure Chemicals Industries, Ltd.) and incubation at 18 °C for 16 h. Harvested *E. coli* were
118 sonicated on ice at 30% duty cycle, with 10 cycles of 40 s on and 40 s off (Sonifier 250;
119 Branson, Danbury, CT, USA). After centrifugation (10000 × g for 30 min), recombinant DNA
120 gyrase subunits in supernatants were purified by column chromatography using Ni-NTA
121 agarose resin and dialysed against DNA gyrase dilution buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5; 100
122 mM KCl; 2 mM DTT; 1 mM EDTA). The protein fractions were examined by sodium
123 dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) with Prestained Protein
124 Marker, Broad Range (7-175 kDa) (New England Biolabs Inc.).

125 *2.5 DNA supercoiling assay and inhibition by quinolones*

126 The DNA supercoiling activity of recombinant DNA gyrase was assayed by
127 monitoring the conversion of relaxed pBR322 to its supercoiled form. DNA supercoiling
128 activity was tested with a combination of purified GyrA and GyrB. The reaction mixture
129 consisted of DNA gyrase assay buffer (35 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 24 mM KCl, 4 mM MgCl₂, 2
130 mM DTT, 1.8 mM spermidine, 1 mM ATP, 6.5% glycerol, and 0.1 mg/mL of BSA), 0.3 µg of
131 relaxed pBR322 DNA, and 32 nM of GyrA and GyrB in a total volume of 30 µL. Reactions

132 were run at 37 °C for 30 min and stopped by the addition of 30 µL of chloroform-isoamyl
133 alcohol (24:1 mixture) and 3 µL of 10× DNA loading dye (10mM Tris-HCl pH 7.6, 0.03%
134 bromophenol blue, 0.03% xylene cyanol FF, 60% glycerol, and 60 mM EDTA). Total
135 reaction mixtures were subjected to electrophoresis in 1% agarose gel in Tris-borate-EDTA
136 (TBE) buffer. The gels were run for 1 h at 80 mA and stained with ethidium bromide (0.7
137 µg/mL). The extent of supercoiled DNA was quantified with ImageJ software
138 (<http://rsbweb.nih.gov/ij>). The inhibitory effects of quinolones on DNA gyrase were assessed
139 by determining the drug concentrations required to inhibit the supercoiling activity of the
140 enzyme by 50% (IC₅₀) in the presence or absence of serial 2-fold increases in the
141 concentrations of CIP, MXF, SIT, OXO, and NAL. Distinct ranges of quinolone
142 concentrations were used for WT and mutant DNA gyrases. Namely, 0.08 – 20, 0.08 – 20,
143 0.08 – 20, 20 – 5120, and 20 – 5120 µg/mL were employed for CIP, MFX, SIT, NAL, and
144 OXO, respectively, against WT DNA gyrase. In contrast, 5 – 128, 5 – 128, 5 – 128, 31.3 –
145 8000, and 31.3 – 8000 µg/mL were employed for CIP, MFX, SIT, NAL, and OXO,
146 respectively, against mutant DNA gyrases. Enzymatic assays were conducted at least three
147 times to confirm reproducibility.

148

149 **3. Results**

150 *3.1 Expression and purification of recombinant WT and mutant DNA gyrase subunits*

151 DNA fragments with mutations causing amino acid substitutions at position 86 or
152 90 in GyrA were successfully amplified from WT *gyrA* gene and inserted in-frame
153 downstream of a T7 promoter in the expression vector pET-20b (+). Recombinant mutant
154 DNA gyrases were expressed as N-terminus hexa histidine-tagged (His-tag™, Roche Applied

155 Science) proteins, as His-tagTM has been previously shown not to interfere with the catalytic
156 function of GyrA or GyrB [15, 17, 19 - 22]. WT and mutant DNA gyrase subunits were
157 successfully expressed and purified. The amount of purified GyrA-WT, Thr86Ile, Thr86Ala,
158 Thr86Lys, Asp90Asn, Asp90Tyr, and GyrB-WT obtained from 500 mL cultures was 2.8, 1.5,
159 1.1, 1.2, 0.8, 1.7 and 1.3 mg, respectively. The high purity (>95%) of recombinant proteins
160 was confirmed by SDS-PAGE (Figure 2).

161 *3.2 ATP-dependent DNA supercoiling activities of WT and mutant DNA gyrases*

162 The combination of GyrA-WT or mutant GyrA (Thr86Ile, Thr86Ala, Thr86Lys,
163 Asp90Asn, and Asp90Tyr) with GyrB-WT was examined for DNA supercoiling activity with
164 relaxed pBR322 DNA as the substrate in the presence or absence of ATP (Figure 3). DNA
165 supercoiling activities were observed in the presence of ATP and recombinant DNA gyrase
166 subunits, which demonstrated that they reconstituted functional DNA gyrase. No subunit
167 alone exhibited DNA supercoiling activity. In addition, no supercoiling was observed when
168 ATP was omitted. Consequently, ATP-dependent DNA supercoiling activities were confirmed
169 in WT and the five mutant DNA gyrases. WT DNA gyrase showed incomplete supercoiling of
170 DNA as a second band above the supercoiled DNA is visible. The reason of this phenomenon
171 should further be investigated in our future study. DNA gyrase with Thr86Ile, Asp90Asn, and
172 Asp90Tyr amino acid substitution showed similar activities to WT whereas DNA gyrase with
173 Thr86Lys and Thr86Ala showed significantly lower activities than WT (Figure 4).

174 *3.3 Inhibition of DNA supercoiling by quinolones*

175 Quinolone-inhibited DNA supercoiling activities were assessed to determine IC₅₀.
176 Figure 5 shows a representative result of the inhibitory effect of CIP; the results for the other
177 quinolones are presented in Figure S1. The results showed a dose-dependent inhibition of five

178 quinolones against WT and mutant DNA gyrases, as summarized in Table 2. The three
179 fluoroquinolones (FQs) investigated, CIP, MXF and SIT, inhibited the DNA supercoiling
180 activities of WT DNA gyrase at low concentrations ($IC_{50} < 1 \mu\text{g/mL}$), whereas IC_{50} values for
181 customary quinolones, such as OXO and NAL, were significantly higher at 19.7 and 145
182 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. Amongst the five amino acid substitutions, Thr86Ile showed the highest
183 IC_{50} values for all five quinolones, suggesting a higher resistance potential to quinolones
184 compared with the other mutants. This effect was clearly seen when the degrees of resistance
185 were shown as fold increases of IC_{50} to WT, e.g., the inhibitory concentrations of CIP and
186 OXO were 200 to 300-fold higher for Thr86Ile than they were for WT (Figure 6). In contrast,
187 the degree of resistance was lower in Thr86Ala compared with other mutants. Amongst the
188 quinolones, SIT showed the lowest IC_{50} for all mutants, as even its highest IC_{50} was
189 significantly lower than that of other quinolones.

190

191 **4. Discussion**

192 Amino acid substitutions at positions 86 and 90 in GyrA of *C. jejuni* have been
193 linked to quinolone resistance ^[3, 10]. Our data suggested a strong contribution of Thr86Ile to
194 the resistance of DNA gyrase to CIP. Han *et al.* reported that whilst *C. jejuni* strain with
195 Thr86Ile mutation showed dominance in chicken infection model, this amino acid substitution
196 had a destructive effect on DNA gyrase function both *in vivo* and *in vitro*, which disagree with
197 our data. The possible reason for this discrepancy may be that Han *et al.* used an extremely
198 high concentration of recombinant proteins for the supercoiling assays, which involved
199 non-functional protein components that caused low activity of the recombinant DNA gyrase.

200 Thus, the results of the present study suggest that our system more effectively assayed the
201 contribution of Thr86Ile to quinolone resistance in DNA gyrase.

202 Most of the mutations causing quinolone resistance were found at position 86 in
203 GyrA of the field isolates. Our results suggest that Thr86Ile provides some advantage for the
204 acquisition of quinolone resistance. This claim is supported by the fact that Thr86Ile was the
205 most commonly observed mutation in quinolone-resistant *Campylobacter* isolates and
206 provided high-level (CIP minimum inhibitory concentration [MIC] ≥ 16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) resistance to
207 quinolones. In contrast, the other four mutations studied in the present study were less
208 common and associated with intermediate level resistance to quinolones ^[10, 13]. Regarding
209 these mutations, Thr86Lys and Thr86Ala had different effects on DNA gyrase resistance
210 despite sharing the same location with Thr86Ile. Threonine and lysine are both hydrophilic
211 amino acids, whereas isoleucine and alanine are hydrophobic residues. The substitution of a
212 hydrophilic with a hydrophobic amino acid may weaken the interaction between DNA gyrase
213 and quinolones via hydrogen bonding to cause resistance. Moreover, the low prevalence of
214 Thr86Lys in the field isolates may be due to the cationic characteristics of lysine, which may
215 affect the function of DNA gyrase. This was proved by the analysis of relative activity to WT
216 DNA gyrase (Figure 4). IC₅₀ values of all five quinolones against Thr86Ala were significantly
217 lower than those against Thr86Ile and Thr86Lys. This observation may be due to an exclusion
218 effect that depends on the size of the amino acids. Alanine is a small amino acid with only one
219 methyl group as the side chain, whereas isoleucine and lysine carry side chains consisting of
220 at least 4 carbon atoms. The exclusion effect might have been smaller due to the smaller size
221 of alanine.

222 In this study, the IC₅₀ values of CIP were 186.8-, 5.6-, 44.5-, 31.3-, and 35-fold

223 higher for Thr86Ile, Thr86Ala, Thr86Lys, Asp90Asn, and Asp90Tyr, respectively, than those
224 for WT DNA gyrase (Figure 6). Interestingly, Thr86Ile provided significantly high resistance
225 to mutant gyrases. A very similar pattern was observed for the IC₅₀ values of OXO, but less
226 so in the case of MXF. The existence of a substituent at position 8 in quinolones is a common
227 feature in both CIP and OXO (Figure 1). A substituent at this position seems to be important
228 for reducing the drastic effect of Thr86Ile on the acquisition of quinolone resistance.

229 Amongst the five quinolones studied, SIT was shown to be the most effective
230 inhibitor of WT and mutant DNA gyrases. An analysis of the structure-activity relationship
231 showed that SIT has a fluorinated cyclopropyl ring at R-1, whilst the other FQs have a
232 cyclopropyl or N1-C8 bridge (Figure 1), which may explain the stronger activity of SIT ^[15].
233 Furthermore, the presence of a chloride substituent at R-8 may also contribute to this effect.

234 A number of previous studies have focused on the *in vitro* efficacy of SIT on
235 microbes other than campylobacters. SIT exhibits stronger activity than other available FQs
236 against several enterobacterial species, including CIP-resistant strains ^[23]. Deguchi *et al.*
237 reported that SIT exhibited stronger activity against quinolone-resistant *Klebsiella*
238 *pneumoniae* and *Enterobacter cloacae* isolates with alterations in GyrA and ParC ^[24]. Our
239 results along with previous data suggest that SIT may be a promising candidate for the
240 treatment of campylobacteriosis caused by CIP-resistant bacteria with mutated gyrases,
241 including *C. jejuni*.

242 In conclusion, our study showed the importance of mutations causing amino acid
243 substitutions in GyrA, especially Thr86Ile, on the acquisition of quinolone resistance. In
244 addition, we elucidated the association between the structure of quinolones and amino acid
245 substitutions in GyrA that exert an effect on the level of resistance. Finally, our results suggest

246 that SIT may be a promising drug for CIP resistant *C. jejuni*.

247

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253

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337 **Figure legends**

338 **Fig. 1.** Structure of quinolones.

339 A: Basic structure of quinolones, B: sitafloxacin, C: ciprofloxacin, D: moxifloxacin, E:
340 oxolinic acid, and F: nalidixic acid. Numbers in A denote the position of substituents.

341

342 **Fig. 2.** SDS-PAGE analysis of recombination DNA gyrase subunits.

343 The His-tagged proteins were overexpressed by an *E. coli* expression system and purified by
344 nickel resin chromatography, and approximately 3 μ M of each protein was loaded onto a
345 5-20% gradient polyacrylamide gel. Following electrophoresis, proteins were stained with
346 Quick CBB. Lanes (sizes in kilodaltons are indicated on the left): M: protein marker, 1: WT
347 GyrA, 2: WTGyrB, 3: GyrA-Thr86Ile, 4: GyrA-Thr86Ala, 5: GyrA-Thr86Lys, 6:
348 GyrA-Asp90Asn, and 7: GyrA-Asp90Tyr.

349

350 **Fig. 3.** DNA supercoiling assay.

351 WT, wild-type. Supercoiling activity of (A) WT DNA gyrase, (B) DNA gyrase bearing
352 GyrA-Thr86Ile, (C) GyrA-Thr86Ala, (D) GyrA-Thr86Lys, (E) GyrA-Asp90Asn, and (F)
353 GyrA-Asp90Tyr. Relaxed pBR322 DNA (0.3 μ g) was incubated with DNA gyrase
354 reconstituted with GyrA (32 nM), GyrB (32 nM) or both. Lanes: 1: relaxed pBR322 DNA, 2:
355 relaxed pBR322 and both recombinant GyrA and GyrB, 3: relaxed pBR322 and only GyrB, 4:
356 relaxed pBR322 and only GyrA, and 5: absence of ATP.

357

358 **Fig. 4.** Comparison of supercoiling activities of WT and mutant DNA gyrases. WT, wild-type.
359 Amino acid substitutions in protein DNA gyrase subunit A: Thr86Ile; from threonine to

360 isoleucine at codon 86, Thr86Ala; from threonine to alanine, Thr86Lys from threonine to
361 lysine, D90N, Asp90Asn; from aspartic acid to asparagine at codon 90, Asp90Tyr; from
362 asparagine to tyrosine. Y-axis denotes the % activity of mutant DNA gyrases comparing to
363 WT DNA gyrase.

364

365 **Fig. 5.** CIP-inhibited DNA supercoiling assay.

366 WT, wild-type. Relaxed pBR322 (0.3 µg) was incubated with 32 nM of GyrA and GyrB in
367 the presence of the indicated concentration of CIP. Quinolone-inhibited supercoiling activity
368 was performed with combinations consisting of (A) WT GyrB-WT GyrA, (B) GyrA-Thr86Ile,
369 (C) GyrA-Thr86Ala, (D) GyrA-Thr86Lys, (E) GyrA-Asp90Asn, and (F) GyrA-Asp90Tyr. R:
370 relaxed pBR322 DNA, SC: supercoiled pBR322 DNA.

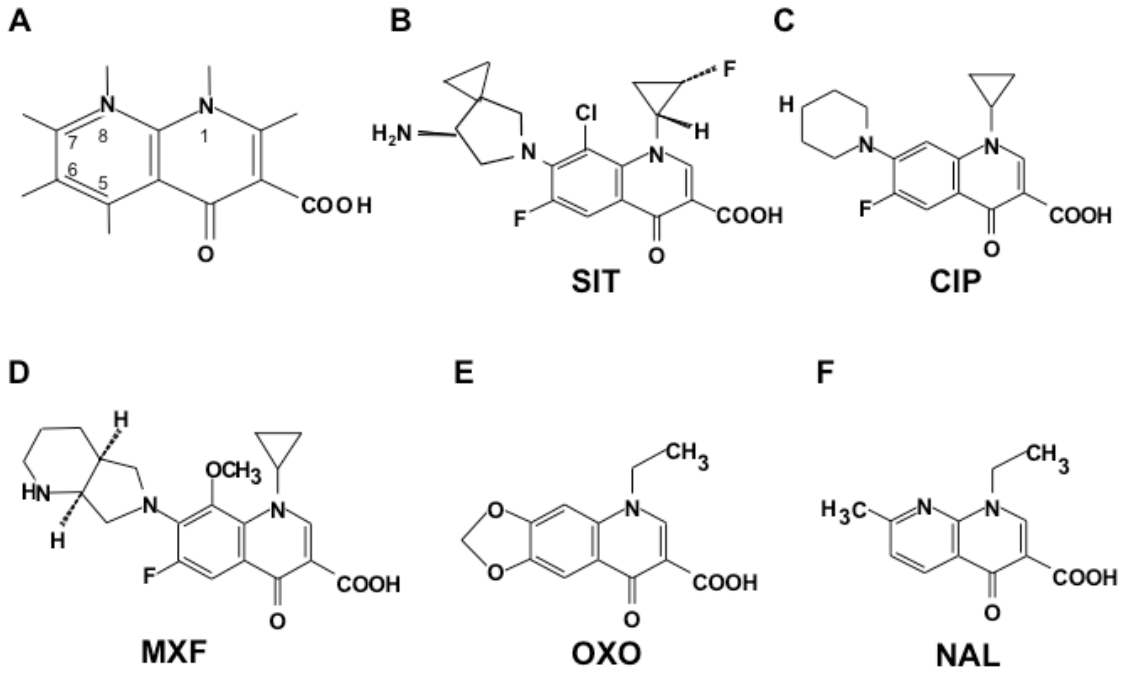
371

372 **Fig. 6.** Fold increases of IC₅₀ of quinolones for mutant DNA gyrase.

373 WT, wild-type. Amino acid substitutions in protein DNA gyrase subunit A: Thr86Ile; from
374 threonine to isoleucine at codon 86, Thr86Ala; from threonine to alanine, Thr86Lys from
375 threonine to lysine, D90N, Asp90Asn; from aspartic acid to asparagine at codon 90,
376 Asp90Tyr; from asparagine to tyrosine. Drugs: CIP, Ciprofloxacin; SIT, Sitaifloxacin; MXF,
377 Moxifloxacin; OXO, oxolinic acid; NAL, nalidixic acid. Drug concentrations required to
378 inhibit the supercoiling activity of DNA gyrase by 50% (IC₅₀) were calculated by the
379 quinolone-inhibited supercoiling assay. The IC₅₀ of NAL against WT DNA gyrases are not
380 shown because they were considered too high for clinical use

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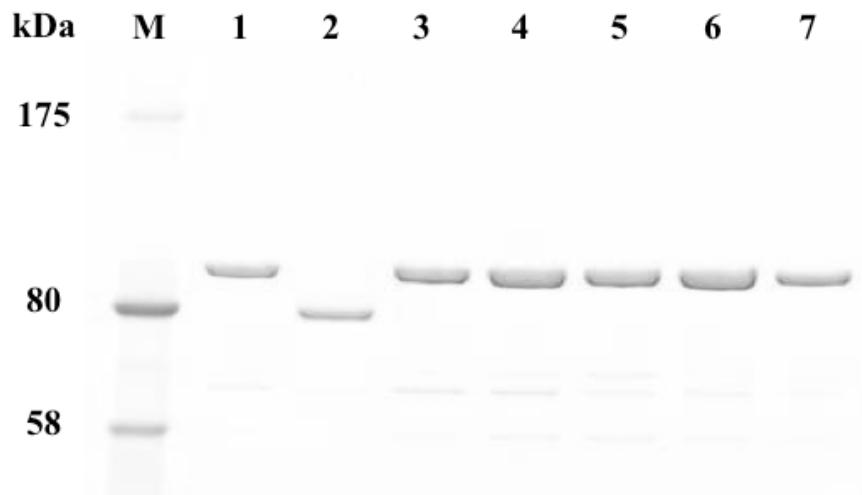
Changkwanyeon et al. Fig. 1.



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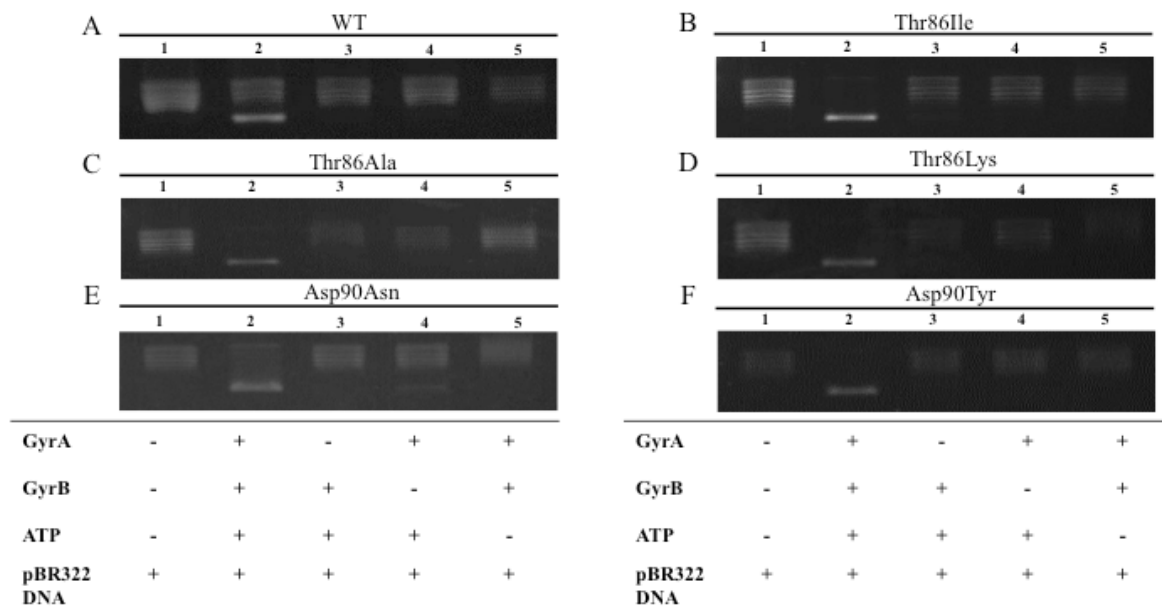
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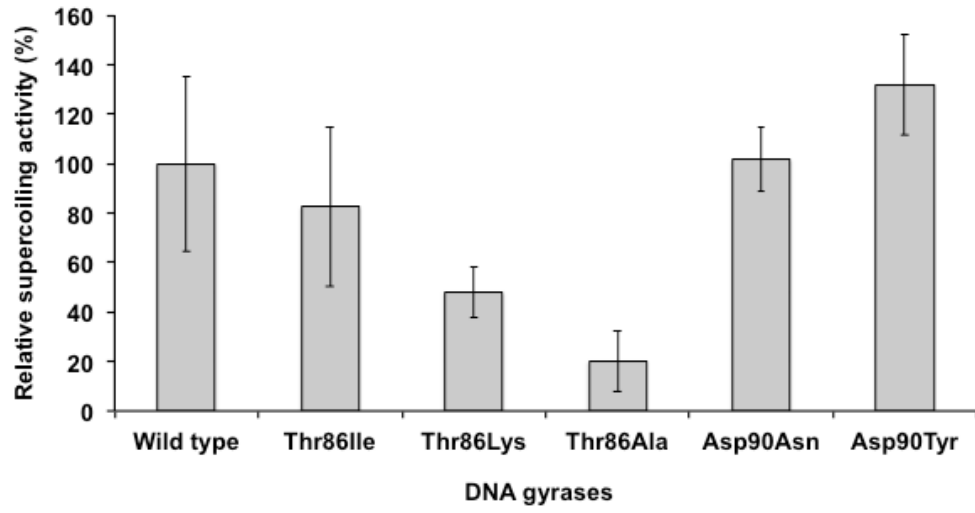
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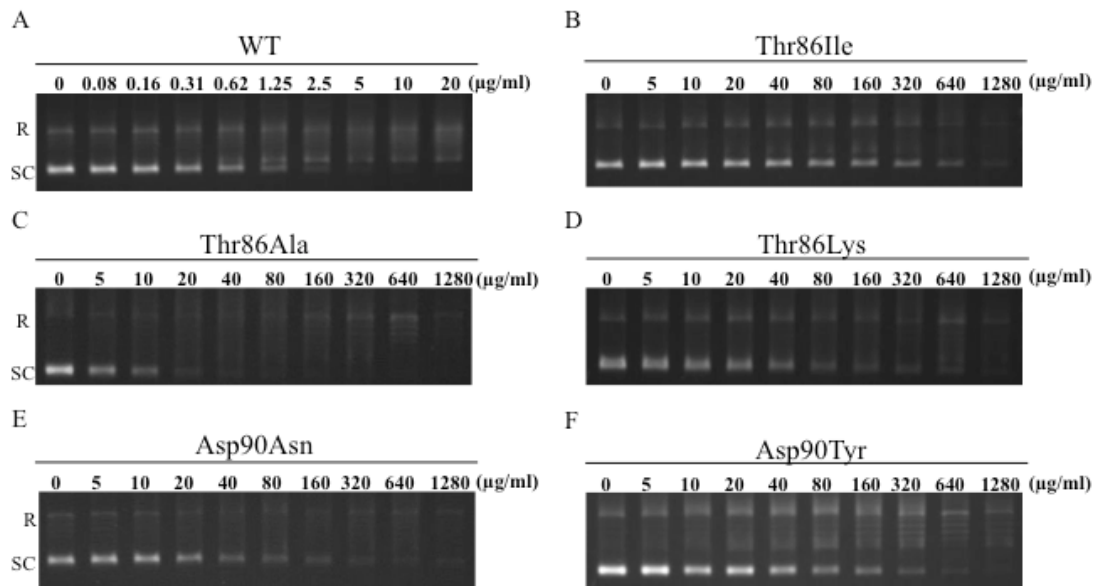
Changkwanyeon et al. Figure 4



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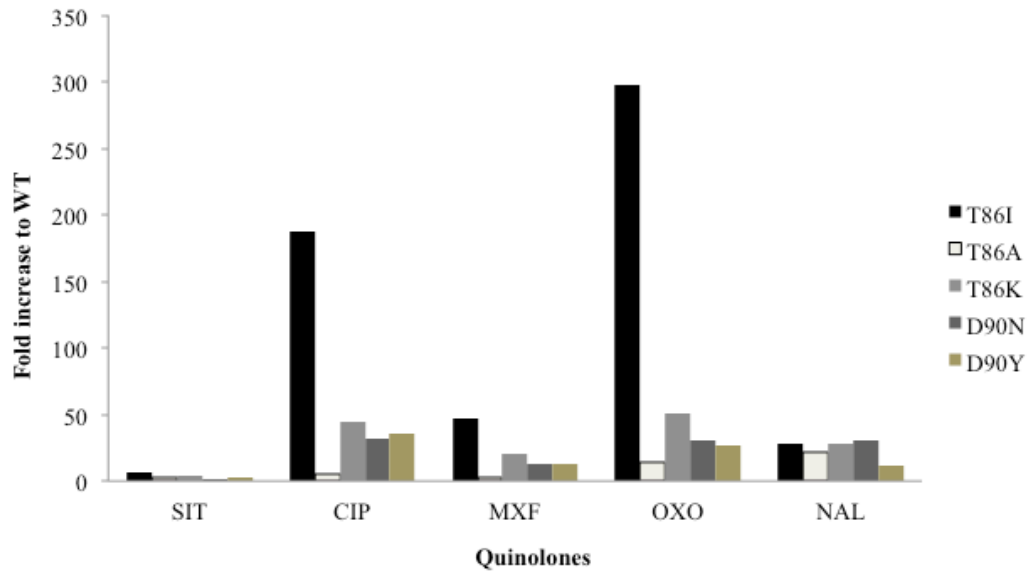
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Changkwanyeon et al. Figure 5



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393

394

TABLE 1. Nucleotide sequences of primers used in this study

Primer name	Primer sequence (Nucleotide position)	Proteins and genes
R-5	5'- <u>CCCATATGG</u> GAGAATATTTTTAGCAAAG, <i>NdeI</i> site	WT GyrA
R-46	5'-CTAAAATAT <u>GAGCTC</u> TTGCTCTTG, <i>SacI</i> site	WT GyrA
T86I_Fw	5'-CACATGGAGATATAGCAGTTTATG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
T86I_Rv	5'-CATAAACTGCTATATCTCCATGTG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
T86A_Fw	5'-CACATGGAGATGCAGCAGTTTATG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
T86A_Rv	5-CATAAACTGCTGCATCTCCATGTG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
T86K_Fw	5-CACATGGAGATAAAGCAGTTTATG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
T86K_Rv	5-CATAAACTGCTTTATCTCCATGTG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
D90N_Fw	5-CAGCAGTTTATAATGCTTTGGTTAG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
D90N_Rv	5-CTAACCAAAGCATTATAAACTGCTG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
D90Y_Fw	5-CAGCAGTTTATTATGCTTTGGTTAG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>
D90Y_Rv	5-CTAACCAAAGCATAATAAACTGCTG	Mutant <i>gyrA</i>

WT, wild-type. Restriction endonuclease recognition sequences are underlined. Mutated codons are indicated in bold.

395

396

Table 2. IC₅₀ of quinolones against wild-type and mutant DNA gyrases

Drug	IC ₅₀ (µg/ml)					
	Wild-type	Thr 86 Ile	Thr 86 Ala	Thr 86 Lys	Asp 90 Asn	Asp 90 Tyr
SIT	0.21 ± 0.11	1.25 ± 0.28	0.46 ± 0.05	0.93 ± 0.07	0.38 ± 0.16	0.60 ± 0.16
CIP	0.68 ± 0.21	127 ± 1.70	3.82 ± 0.93	30.3 ± 6.51	21.3 ± 2.96	23.8 ± 1.83
MXF	0.76 ± 0.03	36.0 ± 6.63	1.77 ± 1.01	15.3 ± 2.74	9.51 ± 1.94	9.65 ± 0.69
OXO	19.7 ± 4.52	5850 ± 607	274 ± 68.1	1010 ± 267	611 ± 229	536 ± 198
NAL	145 ± 7.40	4140 ± 464	3080 ± 418	4080 ± 810	4480 ± 473	1700 ± 107

IC₅₀, Drug concentration required to inhibit the supercoiling activity of DNA gyrase by 50%.

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