

## 10<sup>™</sup> MEETING OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO

## **BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**



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• 12524 | Dispersion of plasmid-mediated colistin resistance by MCR-1 in porkassociated clinically relevant clones of Salmonella from Portugal

Campos, Joana, UCIBIO/REQUIMTE. Laboratório de Microbiologia, Faculdade de Farmácia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Cristino, Luís, Faculdade de Ciências da Nutrição e Alimentação, Portugal

Ribeiro, Sofia, Faculdade de Ciências, Portugal

Mourão, Joana, UCIBIO/REQUIMTE. Laboratório de Microbiologia, Faculdade de Farmácia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Peixe, Luísa, UCIBIO/REQUIMTE. Laboratório de Microbiologia, Faculdade de Farmácia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Antunes, Patrícia, UCIBIO/REQUIMTE. Laboratório de Microbiologia, Faculdade de Farmácia, Universidade do Porto, Portugal; Faculdade de Ciências da Nutrição e Alimentação, Portugal

The first transferable gene conferring colistin (Col) resistance, mcr-1 gene, was recently described in Enterobacteriaceae from several sources in China. Further worldwide reports of mcr-1, and of its variant mcr-2 until now sporadic, have been associated mostly with animal sources, suggesting that its emergence is due to extensive Col use in food-producing animals. In this study, the presence of mcr genes in several Salmonella serotypes/clones obtained from different sources and regions of Portugal (2002-2016) was studied.

We analysed 1351 Salmonella isolates (66 serotypes), from several sources/regions (2002-2016) for the presence of mcr-1/mcr-2 genes (PCR/sequencing). The susceptibility to Col and other antibiotics (AB) (microdilution/disk diffusion methods-EUCAST/CLSI), detection of other AB/metal (MT) resistance genes (PCR/sequencing), conjugation assays, plasmid characterization (ISApl1/PCRPBRT/pMLST/sequencing), genomic location (I-Ceul/S1-PFGE-hybridization) and clonality (XbaI-PFGE/MLST) were also performed.

MCR-2 was not detected, but MCR-1 was present in 1.3% of the isolates, (clinical/CL-n=5, pork/P-n=11 and animal-production/FP-n=1) from several regions (2011-2016). All presented resistance MICCol=4-8 mg/L and co-resistance to other AB and mostly carried several MT genes. They belonged to clinically relevant MDR serotypes/clones of S.1,4,[5],12:i:- [n=13/European clone-CL+P], S.Typhimurium [n=2-European clone-P/n=1-DT104 clone-CL] or S.Rissen (n=2-P), frequently associated with pig production and human infections. The mcr-1 was located in 2 plasmid types, IncX4 or IncHI2 (ST4/non-typeable), most trasnferable.

Our study evidenced the acquisition of mcr-1 by clinically relevant MDR Salmonella clones, with probable origin in pigs, in Portugal since at least 2011. The dissemination of those successful MDR clones and/or plasmids with mcr-1 is of concern, since Col is frequently the only therapeutic alternative in infections with MDR Gram-negative bacteria.