COMPARISON OF CLONAL COMPLEXITY OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TROUT IGM AND IGT RESPONSE USING DEEP SEQUENCING.

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Fish infection or vaccination induces the production of antigen-specific antibodies by B lymphocytes. These B cells are recruited based on the specificity of their surface Ab, among the vast diversity of receptors produced through the random and imprecise genomic rearrangement of V, D and J genes during lymphocyte differentiation. In fish, the monitoring of B cell response to infections or vaccines has been mainly performed by serological and molecular techniques that provide a limited insight into the complexity of humoral adaptive immune response. We have developed a deep sequencing based approach to compare the clonal structure of the rainbow trout B cell primary and secondary response against the fish rhabdovirus VHSV. In this approach, unique barcode labels are incorporated on each starting cDNA molecule before amplification, allowing the correction of PCR/sequencing errors by generating consensus sequence and a safer quantification of sequence relative abundance. We characterized the clonal complexity of the IgM and IgT repertoire during the primary and secondary responses: we identified B cell clonal expansions generated in primary response to VHSV that are still detectable five months after immunization, and analyzed their frequency after a challenge with the same virus. Our data will be useful to model the development of the Ig landscape, and to understand the mechanisms of B-cell memory after infection by pathogens or vaccination in fish.

Key words: Immunoglobulin, repertoire, NGS, trout.

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