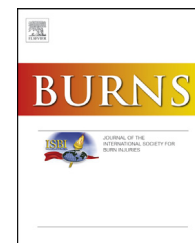


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Letter to the Editor

Reply to: Molecular methods require for confirmation *bla*_{AIM} (Adelaide imipenemase) producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

We appreciated the comments by Dr. Banerjee and Dr. Singh about our recent paper [1].

In our study, 80 out of 92 isolates of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* that were typed via RAPD-PCR had identical patterns which were nominated as pattern A and other patterns included only one or two isolates. Frequencies of ESBL and MBL genes of *P. aeruginosa* isolates possessing pattern A have been shown in Table 1. Among assessed isolates, 26 (32.5%) had OXA-10, TEM and VIM genes, 14 (17.5%) had OXA-10 and TEM genes and 14 (17.5%) had OXA-10 and VIM genes and due to presence of producing OXA-10, VIM, PER and IMP beta-lactamases among isolates with pattern A, the mentioned conclusion has been cited in the study. On the other hand, in typing methods, isolates may be similar for genetic patterns but different for phenotypic characteristics or variety of genes that this phenomenon may occur due to gene acquiring horizontally [2].

There is not any difference between CLSI 2011 and CLSI 2013 for performing antibiogram, MIC, ESBLs via combinational disk with clavulanic acid and carbapenemase via MHT methods [3,4]. All conditions for identification of resistance to polymyxin, ceftazidime, azteronam, cefotaxime, cefepime, ciprofloxacin and gentamicin are identical between CLSI 2011 and CLSI 2013 [3,4]. Also, since the diameter of clear zone

around disks, in disk diffusion method, for all *P. aeruginosa* isolates resistant to carbapenem was zero for imipenem, meropenem and ertapenem and has been reported as resistant in this study, therefore there is no difference between interpretation of results via CLSI 2011 and CLSI 2013 [1,3,4]. The issues raised by Dr. Banerjee and Dr. Singh are important and should have been addressed in our paper. However, in all PCR reactions in this study, control isolates were used but were not cited in the study. Meanwhile, *bla*_{AIM} gene with special primer was traced and sequenced (but was not cited in the study) [5] which possessed 100% similarity with gene *bla*_{AIM} recorded as AM998375.1 in GenBank [6].

1. Conflict of interest statement

None declared.

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Table 1 – Distribution of the ESBL and MBL genes among carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* RAPD type A isolates.

Resistance genes	Number of isolates
OXA-10	14
IMP	1
TEM + VIM	1
OXA-10 + IMP	2
OXA-10 + TEM	14
OXA-10 + VIM	15
OXA-10 + TEM + PER	2
OXA-10 + TEM + VIM	26
OXA-10 + PER + VIM	3
OXA-10 + TEM + PER + VIM	2

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