

## Molecular Characterization of TEM, SHV and CTX-M Extended Spectrum Beta Lactamase Among *Escherichia coli* And *Klebsiella pneumoniae* In Urinary Isolates.

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### Abstract:

**Objective:** To determine the prevalence and molecular characterization of ESBLs produced by *E.coli* and *K.pneumoniae* from urinary isolates.

**Material And Method:** Urinary isolates of patients in Rama Medical College, Kanpur (U.P), India from November 2015 to December 2016. ESBLs were determined by disk diffusion test, double disk diffusion test, E-test and Vitek 2 ESBLs. All ESBLs producing isolates were investigated for the presence of *bla*(TEM), *bla*(SHV) and *bla*(CTX-M) genes by polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

**Results:** Total of 341 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolated from urinary isolates were processed. 207 were *E. coli* and 134 were *K. pneumoniae*. ESBL screening test was performed. Of the 90 screening test positive *K. pneumoniae* isolates, ESBL production was detected in 48.8% (44/90) by E-test and the beta-lactamase genes were *bla*(SHV) (34/90, 37.7%), *bla*(TEM) (25/90, 27.7%), and *bla*(CTX-M-like) (35/90, 38.8%) and for 161 screening test positive *E. coli*, ESBL production was detected in 36.6% (59/161) of *E. coli* that carried *bla*(TEM) *bla*(CTX-M-like) and *bla*(SHV) genes in 5.5% (9/161), 28.57% (46/161) and 22.36% (36/161), respectively.

**Conclusion:** The double disk diffusion test should be added routinely in the antibiotic susceptibility test for the Enterobacteriaceae. It is simple to perform, easy to interpret, and economical. The presence of *bla*(CTX-M), *bla*(SHV) and *bla*(TEM) in ESBL-producing *E. coli* and *K. pneumoniae* indicates the high prevalence of these genes in North India.

**Keywords:** Extended spectrum beta lactamase (ESBL), E-Test, *bla*(TEM) *bla*(CTX-M-like) and *bla*(SHV)

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### I. Introduction

In the battle against  $\beta$ -lactamase mediated bacterial resistance, development of third generation cephalosporins in early 1980s was a major breakthrough. But soon, a new plasmid encoded  $\beta$ -lactamase capable of hydrolyzing the extended spectrum cephalosporins was reported [1-3]. The ESBL genes are mostly plasmid encoded. Most ESBL genotypes are TEM, SHV, CTX-M. Classical ESBLs have been evolved from the widespread plasmid encoded enzyme families Temoniera (TEM), Sulfhydryl variable (SHV) and Oxacillin (OXA), have an extended substrate profile which allows hydrolysis of all cephalosporins, penicillins, and aztreonam [4-5]. The ESBL enzyme that are most produced by *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella* spp. ESBLs were first reported in *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in 1983, from Germany. [4]

Production of beta lactamase is the most common mechanism of antibiotic resistance to beta lactam antibiotics. These are produced by aerobic Gram positive, Gram negative bacteria and also in anaerobes [4]. Because of their increased spectrum of activity, especially against the oxyimino-cephalosporins, these enzymes were called extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamases (ESBLs) [5]. During the last three decades, ESBLs among urinary *E. coli* have been reported worldwide, and their occurrence has increased in both outpatients and inpatients diagnosed with UTIs. The present study aims to determine the prevalence of ESBL-producing *E. coli* of both community and nosocomial origin isolated from urine samples taken from patients diagnosed with UTIs, to detect their drug resistance pattern to commonly used antibiotics in medical practice and to detect *bla*SHV, *bla*TEM and *bla*CTX-M genes in these multi-drug resistant isolates.

## II. Material And Methods

The present study was conducted in the Department of Microbiology, Rama Medical College, Kanpur over a period from November 2015 to December 2016. A total of 341 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolated from urinary isolates from various clinical departments including OPD and IPD of all age groups including both the genders. Out of them 207 were *E. coli* and 134 were *K. pneumoniae* were obtained. All samples were routinely cultured on Blood agar, Macconkey agar and CLED agar plates at 37°C aerobically for 18 hours and gram negative isolates were further characterized by standard biochemical test. Isolates were screened for ESBL production by using disc diffusion test on Muller Hinton agar according to CLSI guidelines, 2016.[11] Isolates showing inhibition zone size of  $\geq 22$ mm with ceftazidime (30µg),  $\geq 25$ mm with ceftriaxone (30µg),  $\geq 27$ mm with cefotaxime (30µg),  $\geq 27$  mm with aztreonam (30 µg) were suspected for ESBL production. All screening test positive isolates were further confirmed by Phenotypic confirmatory test for ESBL producers by double disc diffusion test (DDDT) by two methods which were ceftazidime and ceftazidime plus clavulanic acid (CAZ/CAZC) and cefotaxime and cefotaxime plus clavulanic Acid (CTX/CTXC). And Phenotypic confirmatory test for ESBL was done by E- Test and Vitek- 2 method. *E. coli* ATCC 25922 was used as negative control and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ATCC 700603 used as positive control. The phenotypically confirmed ESBL were tested genotypically.

Ethical clearance was taken from ethical committee. Rama Medical College, Kanpur.

### Genotypic characterization of ESBL genes by PCR:

The Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) was extracted from all phenotypic ESBL confirmatory test positive *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolates. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification was done with specific gene primers for TEM SHV and CTX-M types. The genomic DNA from *E. coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* strains was extracted by using bacterial gDNA isolation kit (CHROMOUS BIOTECH) <sup>5</sup>.

#### PCR cycling temperature for SHV

- Denaturation at 94 for 2 min
- Denaturation at 94°C for 1 min
- Annealing at 52°C for 30 sec 30 cycles
- Extension at 72°C for 45 sec
- Final Extension at 72°C for 5 min
- Holding at -40C for 5 min

#### PCR cycling temperature for TEM

- Denaturation at 94°C for 2 min
- Denaturation at 94°C for 1 min
- Annealing at 58°C for 1 min 30 cycles
- Extension at 72°C for 1 min
- Final Extension at 72°C for 7 min
- Holding at -4°C for 5 min

#### PCR cycling temperature for CTX-M

5 min at 94°C and 32 cycles of amplification consisting of 30 s at 95°C, 1 min at 54°C, and 2 min 72°C, with 5 min at 72°C for the final extension.

#### Analysis of PCR products (amplicons)

After amplification, the amplicons were visualized on 1.5% agarose gel for the presence of band. The agarose gel were scanned under UV illumination, visualized and digitized with the gel documentation system.

**Table 1:** Primers used in a master cyler

Primers	Primer sequence (5'- 3')	Product size (bp)
SHV	SHV-F 5- TCAGCGAAAAACACCTTG	471
	SHV-R 5- TCCCGCAGATAAATCACC	
TEM	TEM-F 5- CTCCTGTTTTTGCTCACCCA	717
	TEM-R 5- TACGATACGGGAGGGCTTAC	
	CTX-M-	
CTX-M	F 5' ACCGCCGATAATTCGCAGAT	588
	CTX-M. R- 5'	
	GATATCGTTGGTGCCATAA	

### III. Results And Discussion

In the present study total of 341 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolated from urinary isolates were processed. 207 were *E. coli* and 134 were *K. pneumoniae*. ESBL screening test was performed. Of the 90 screening test positive *K. pneumoniae* isolates, ESBL production was detected in 48.8% (44/90) by E-test, Vitek-2 and the beta-lactamase genes were bla(SHV) (34/90, 37.7%), bla(TEM) (25/90, 27.7%), and bla(CTX-M-like) (35/90, 38.8%) and for 161 screening test positive *E. coli*, ESBL production was detected in 36.6% (59/161) of *E. coli* that carried bla(TEM) bla(CTX-M-like) and bla(SHV) genes in 5.5% (9/161), 28.57% (46/161) and 22.36% (36/161).

In our study blaTEM + bla CTX-M both genes were found in 2 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and 4 isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. bla TEM+ bla SHV both genes were found in 1 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and 2 isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. bla SHV+ bla CTX-M both genes were found in 8 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and 8 isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. bla TEM+ bla SHV+ bla CTX-M genes were found in 4 isolates of *Escherichia coli* and 18 isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* were detected. The results are in accordance with a study by Yazdi et al., 2012 (87.1% TEM, followed by 70.6% SHV)[12] but disagreed with the results of studies by Eftekhari et al., 2012, in which SHV (43.1%) exceeded TEM (35.2%),[4] by Shahid et al., 2011, in which CTX-M (28.8%) exceeded SHV (13.7%),[3] and by Ahmed et al., 2013, in which CTX-M (71.4% in *E. coli* and 68.4% in *Klebsiella pneumoniae*) exceeded TEM (55.1% *E. coli* and 58% *Klebsiella pneumoniae*).[11] Several other studies performed throughout the world showed variable results. In a Chinese study, the TEM gene predominated followed by SHV. A report from Canada showed SHV as the main group of ESBLs. However, reports from South America, Israel, Spain, New York, the United Kingdom, and several parts of Indian subcontinent revealed CTX-M as the predominant gene.

Until the year 2000, TEM was the most prevalent ESBL gene in the Indian bacterial population but was replaced by CTX-M in the following decade. In urine isolates in our setting, CTX-M is again predominant. The differences between our study results and those of other authors indicated that the prevalence and type of ESBL genes may vary from one geographical region to another. The present study clearly demonstrates the dramatic change in the gene pool in Indian Enterobacteriaceae.

**Table-2**

Total urine sample	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	Others
1169	207	134	398

**Table-3** ESBL screening method

Organisms	Positive	Negative
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	161	46
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	90	44

**Table-4** ESBL confirmatory method

Organisms	Double Disk Diffusion test	E-Test	Vitek- 2
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	59	62	65
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	42	44	44

**Table-4 :** Distribution of various genes in the ESBL producers

Distribution of various genes in the ESBL producers			
Organisms	Bla CTX-M	Bla- TEM	Bla- SHV
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	46	9	36
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	35	25	34

**Table-5:** Individuals and combination of bla genes among ESBL- *Escherichia coli* and ESBL – *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

	Genes	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>
1.	bla- CTX-M	32	5
2.	bla- SHV	23	6
3.	bla- TEM	2	1
4.	bla- TEM + CTX-M	2	4
5.	bla- TEM + SHV	1	2
6.	bla- SHV + CTX-M	8	8
7.	bla- TEM + SHV + CTX-M	4	18
	<b>Total samples</b>	64	44

**Table- 6:** (a and b) contingency table

(a)

PCR	DDST		E-TEST		VITEK 2	
	POS	NEG	POS	NEG	POS	NEG
POS - 64	TP 56	FN 9	TP 62	FN 3	TP 63	FN 2
NEG- 143	FP 3	TN 139	FP 0	TN 142	FP 2	TN 140
<b>Total - 207</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>142</b>

(b)

TP: true positive, TN: True negative, FP: False positive, and FN: False negative.

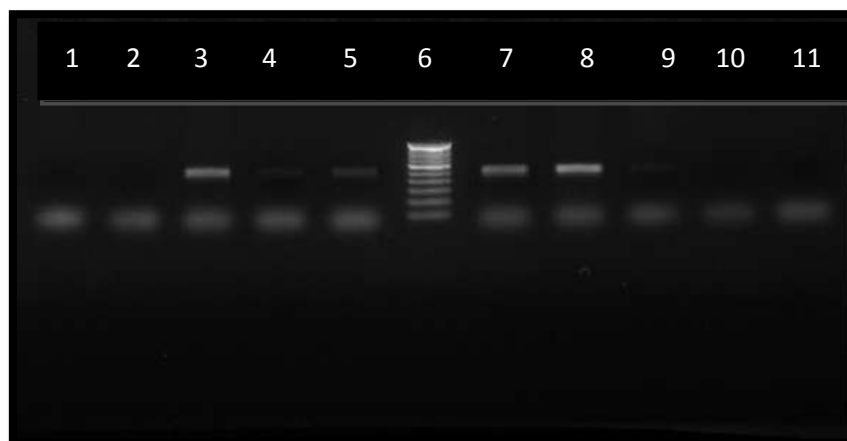
PCR	DDST		E-TEST		VITEK 2	
	POS	NEG	POS	NEG	POS	NEG
POS - 44	TP 39	FN 10	TP 44	FN 5	TP 48	FN 0
NEG- 90	FP 3	TN 82	FP 0	TN 85	FP 1	TN 85
<b>Total - 134</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>85</b>

**Table: 7** ESBL producing *Escherichia coli*

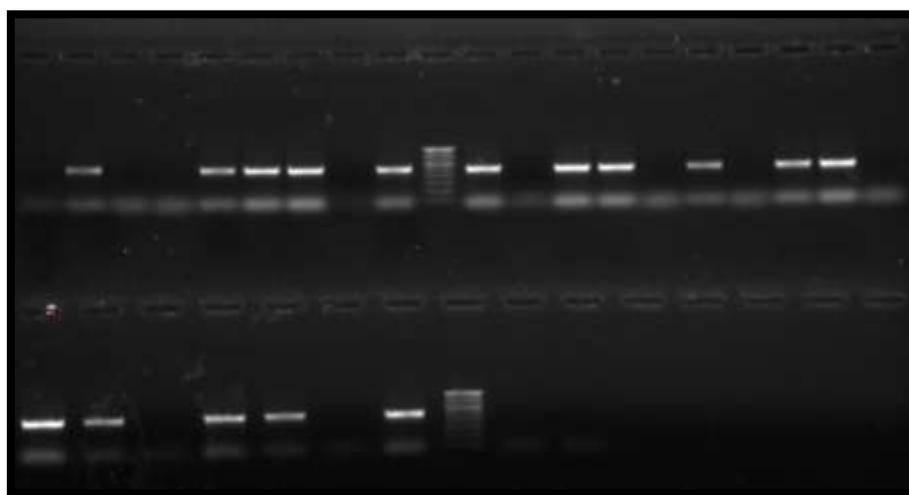
	DDST	E-TEST	VITEK 2
<b>Pravelance</b>	31.4%	31.4%	31.4%
<b>Sensitivity</b>	0.86(0.74- 0.93)	0.95(0.86- 0.98)	0.96(0.88-0.99)
<b>Specificity</b>	0.97 (0.93 -0.99)	1(0.96-1)	0.98(0.94- 0.99)
<b>Probability positive</b>	0.28	0.29	0.31
<b>Probability Negative</b>	0.71	0.70	0.68
<b>Positive predictive value</b>	0.94	1	0.96
<b>Negative predictive value</b>	0.93	0.97	0.98
<b>Likely hood ratio</b>			
<b>Conventional (C)</b>	40.77	0	68.81
<b>Weighted by prevalence(W)</b>	18.66	0	31.5

**Table: 7** ESBL producing *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

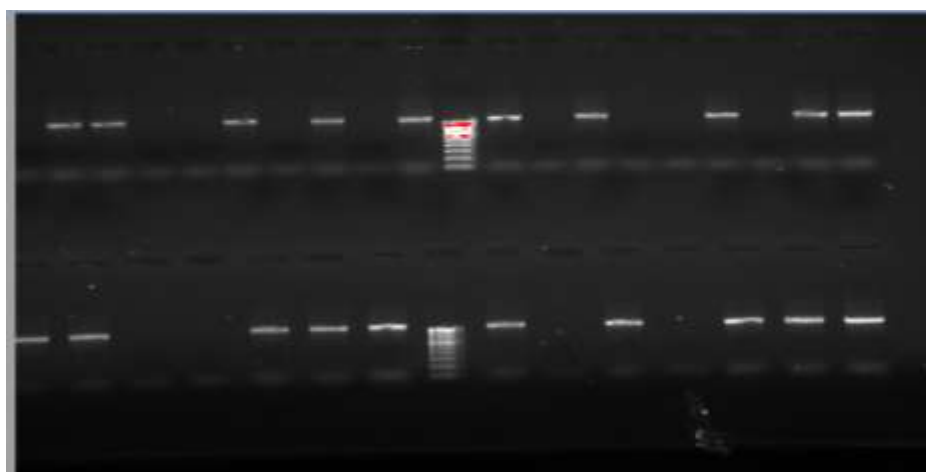
	DDST	E-TEST	VITEK 2
<b>Pravelance</b>	36.5%	36.5%	36.5%
<b>Sensitivity</b>	0.79(0.65 -0.89)	0.89 (0.76- 0.96)	0.97 (0.87- 0.99)
<b>Specificity</b>	0.96 (0.89- 0.99)	1(0.94 - 1)	1(0.94 - 1)
<b>Probability positive</b>	0.31	0.32	0.35
<b>Probability Negative</b>	0.68	0.67	0.64
<b>Positive predictive value</b>	0.92	1	1
<b>Negative predictive value</b>	0.89	0.94	0.98
<b>Likely hood ratio</b>			
<b>Conventional (C)</b>	22.55	0	0
<b>Weighted by prevalence(W)</b>	13	0	0



**Figure 1:** Detection of bla CTX-M gene. 6 th lane is DNA ladder and 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9th lane is sample positive for CTX-M gene.



**Figure 2:** Detection of bla SHV gene. 10 th lane is DNA ladder



**Figure 3:** Detection of bla TEM gene. 6 th lane is DNA ladder and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11th lane is sample positive for TEM gene.

### III. Conclusion

The double disk diffusion test should be added routinely in the antibiotic susceptibility test for the Enterobacteriaceae. It is simple to perform, easy to interpret, and economical. The presence of bla(CTX-M), bla(SHV) and bla(TEM) in ESBL-producing *E. coli* and *K. pneumoniae* indicates the high prevalence of these genes in North India. Molecular methods are sensitive, but they are expensive and require specialized equipment

and expertise. Furthermore, genotypic methods can only detect those genes with known sequences. Phenotypic tests need to be evaluated periodically: Their performance may change with the introduction of a new enzyme, and they may detect new enzymes not included within the laboratory's test algorithm. For best results, phenotypic methods of ESBL detection should be improved.

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