Rapid metagenomic diagnosis of hospital acquired pneumonia

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Conflict of interest statement

- I receive free flow cells and reagents on occasion as a new technology testing site for Oxford Nanopore
- I have received expenses for travel and accommodation to speak at Oxford Nanopore Conferences
- Oxford Nanopore co-fund a PhD student in my laboratory





In a world of rising antimicrobial resistance, is culture based diagnosis fit-for-purpose?



Current situation

• Problems: e.g. UTIs

- Trimethoprim replaced with nitrofurantoin, a worse agent
- E.g. Gonorrhoea
 - Ciprofloxacin replaced with cephalosporins
- Trimethoprim/Cipro could be used in 60-70% cases if susceptibility rapidly detected

Out of 4om people who get given antibiotics for respiratory issues, annually in the US:

27M get antibiotics unnecessarily 13M who need antibiotics get them



O'Neill report Oct 2015: RAPID DIAGNOSTICS: STOPPING UNNECESSARY USE OF ANTIBIOTICS



Metagenomics sequencing based infection diagnostics

- Sequencing based diagnosis has great potential
 - Detection of bacterial, viral, fungal pathogens
 - Detection of antibiotic resistance markers
 - Epidemiology, infection control, transmission, virulence
 - Enable narrow spectrum antibiotic development, trial and use

O'Neill report Oct 2015: **RAPID DIAGNOSTICS:** STOPPING UNNECESSARY USE OF ANTIBIOTICS

WHAT RAPID DIAGNOSTICS COULD TEST





MinION





MinION papers

nature biotechnology

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Nanopore sequencing and assembly of a human genome with ultra-long reads

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The need for host DNA depletion

- Major challenge
 - Sequencing the pathogen DNA in a vast excess of human DNA
 - Up to 10⁵:1 human:bacterial DNA in respiratory samples
- Solution host DNA depletion or pathogen DNA enrichment
- We have developed depletion methods
- Up to 99.9999% human DNA removal





Hospital acquired pneumonia

- ♦ HAP respiratory infection > 48 h after admission
- 1.5% of inpatients in UK approx 200k patients/year
- HAP associated with mechanical ventilation is VAP
- Mortality rate for HAP/VAP is approx 25-50%, which increases to 75% if MDR pathogen
- HAP/VAP adds approx 8 days to ICU stay costing an additional \$30,000 - \$37,000





INHALE – Pneumonia diagnosis study

- 5 year NIHR programme grant on rapid diagnosis of HAP
- Diagnostics evaluation study followed by RCT
- Impact of rapid diagnosis on antibiotic stewardship
- 2 commercial PCR based tests
- Also assessing targeted/shotgun metagenomic sequencing

Curetis UnyVero and Biofire Filmarray Tests









Respiratory sample DNA quality





INHALE



• World first comprehensive clinical evaluation of *rapid* metagenomics for the diagnosis of infection (600 specimens over 9 months)



Shotgun metagenomics of VAP

- Saponin based method for host DNA depletion (approx. 99.99% removal of human)
- Library preparation using Rapid Low Input kit
 - Transposon based library prep with long range PCR
 - As little as 10-100 pg DNA starting material required
 - Up to 3 million reads at 2-3 kb average fragment length
- Turnaround from sample to pathogen genome and AMR resistance results approx 8 hours



HAP/VAP diagnostics workflow

- ♦ Human DNA depletion 1 hr
- ♦ DNA extraction (MagNA Pure, Roche) 40 min
- ♦ RLB001 library preparation 4 hours
- ♦ MinION sequencing 2 hrs
- ♦ Albacore basecalling, WIMP, ARMA real-time

~8 hour turnaround time



Good human depletion



Human qPCR assay

Bacterial qPCR assay (16S rDNA V3-V4 region)



Human DNA depletion

E Species Identification - Key Figures

23,976 MinION Reads Analysed

| Classified | 21,744 Reads |
|--------------|--------------|
| Unclassified | 2,232 Reads |
| | |



Taxon shown in the Selection Summary panel to the right. Click to select a row



Pilot study

♦ 42 suspected bacterial pneumonia samples

- Sputum, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) and endotracheal tube aspirates
- Human DNA depleted and sequenced on the MinION
- 1-6 samples per flowcell
- Approx cost per sample \$120





- Introduced bead-beating instead of enzyme cocktail for lysis
- Streamlined enrichment procedure to reduce time
- Reduced PCR elongation time from 6 to 4 minutes
- Optimised PCR cycle number for low input samples (BAL)
- Optimised sample storage conditions
 - Fresh vs frozen
 - -20C vs -80C
 - Glycerol and PEG



PCR extension time optimisation

S. aureus positive sputum - 20 PCR cycles with 6 minute extension





S. aureus positive sputum - 20 PCR cycles with 4 minute extension







HAP/VAP diagnostics workflow

- ♦ Human DNA depletion 45 min
- ♦ DNA extraction (MagNA Pure, Roche) 40 min
- ♦ RLB001 library preparation 3 hours
- ♦ MinION sequencing 1-2 hrs
- ♦ Albacore basecalling, WIMP, ARMA real-time

~5-6 hour turnaround time





- Metagenomic diagnosis of HAP is feasible
- Sample preparation is key host depletion makes metagenomic diagnosis faster and cheaper
- Real-time pathogen ID and resistance marker detection
- Percision medicine modify empiric treatment before second dose



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