

Third International Conference on Clinical Metagenomics





University of Geneva Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine, Geneva, Switzerland



WHO Collaborating Centre on Patient Safety Infection Control & Improving Practices

How can WGS help in nosocomial outbreaks? The point of view of the hospital epidemiologist

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Geneva, 19 October 2018

Infection Control Programme, University of Geneva Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine, Geneva, Switzerland



GENEVE

Making epidemiological inferences based on molecular data

We expect epidemiologically linked isolates to be genetically identical or similar, therefore:

We expect the bacterial population to have a clonal structure => Detection of monoclonal clusters of isolates.





Making epidemiological inferences based on molecular data







Indication for molecular typing?

- Do I have an epidemiologic hypothesis ?
- ➔ Molecular fishing expedition?



Indication for molecular typing?

- Do I have an epidemiologic hypothesis ?
- Molecular fishing expedition?
- Do I expect any impact on infection control interventions ? Or futile academic exercise ?
- Priority action item for changing preventive measures?



MAJOR ARTICLE



Genomic Surveillance Reveals Diversity of Multidrug-Resistant Organism Colonization and Infection: A Prospective Cohort Study in Liver Transplant Recipients

Nenad Macesic,^{1,2} Angela Gomez-Simmonds,¹ Sean B. Sullivan,^{1,3} Marla J. Giddins,^{1,3} Samantha A. Ferguson,¹ Gautam Korakavi,¹ David Leeds,¹ Sarah Park,¹ Kevin Shim,¹ Madeleine G. Sowash,¹ Melanie Hofbauer,¹ Ryan Finkel,¹ Yue Hu,¹ Jared West,¹ Nora C. Toussaint,^{4,a} William G. Greendyke,¹ Benjamin A. Miko,¹ Marcus R. Pereira,¹ Susan Whittier,⁵ Elizabeth C. Verna,⁶ and Anne-Catrin Uhlemann^{1,3}

Results. We collected 998 stool samples and 119 rectal swabs from 128 patients. MDRO colonization was detected in 86 (67%) patients at least once and was significantly associated with subsequent MDRO infection (0 vs 19.8%, P = .002). Child-Turcotte-Pugh score at LT and duration of post-LT hospitalization were independent predictors of both MDRO colonization and infection. Temporal dynamics differed between MDROs with respect to onset of colonization, clearance, and infections. We detected an unexpected diversity of CRE colonizing isolates and previously unrecognized transmission that spanned Ceph-RE and CRE phenotypes, as well as a cluster of *mcr-1*-producing isolates.

Conclusions. Active surveillance and WGS showed that MDRO colonization is a highly dynamic and complex process after LT. Understanding that complexity is crucial for informing decisions regarding MDRO infection control, use of therapeutic decolonization, and empiric treatment regimens.



Infection control measures in high-quality CPE control studies -- Systematic WHO review & meta-analysis --

Intervention	EPOC studies
Active surveillance	10/11
Contact precautions	10/11
Cohorting	9/11
Monitoring, audit and feedback	9/11
Patient isolation	9/11
Hand hygiene education & monitoring	6/11
Education	4/11
Antibiotic stewardship	4/11
Enhanced environmental cleaning	3/11
Daily chlorhexidine gluconate baths	3/11
Flagging positive patients in medical record (alerts)	3/11
Environmental surveillance	1/11
Temporary ward closure	1/11

Tomczyk S et al. Clin Infect Dis 2019 (in press)



Containment of a Country-wide Outbreak of Carbapenem-Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in Israeli Hospitals via a Nationally Implemented Intervention **Clinical Infectious Diseases** 2011;52(7):1–8

Mitchell J. Schwaber,¹ Boaz Lev,² Avi Israeli,² Ester Solter,¹ Gill Smollan,¹ Bina Rubinovitch,¹ Itamar Shalit,¹ Yehuda Carmeli,¹ and the Israel Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae Working Group^a





Month

Stalking a lethal superbug by whole-genome sequencing and phylogenetics: Influence on unraveling a major hospital outbreak of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

Thorsten Kaiser MD^a, Knut Finstermeier PhD^a, Madlen Häntzsch MSc^a, Sarah Faucheux MD^b, Martin Kaase MD^c, Tim Eckmanns MD^d, Sven Bercker MD, PhD^e, Udo X. Kaisers MD, PhD^e, Norman Lippmann MD^{fg}, Arne C. Rodloff MD, PhD^{fg}, Joachim Thiery MD, PhD^a, Christoph Lübbert MD, PhD, DTM&H^{g,h,*}

- 34-month outbreak in Leipzig University Hospital
- 84/105 KPC-2-kp (ST258) available
- Index case transferred from Rhodes, Greece
- 19 wards affected



WGS & Spread of KPC-2

- Positioning pillow to maintain patient prone in ICU, might have been the link
- Additional cases after screening
- 34 median number of single nucleotide variants

Epidemiology

Pathways explained for 11 (12.4%) patients



Pathways explained for 15 extra patients & confirmed 5 of epidemiology

Exact mode of transmission unknown for 63 (71%) patients

Am J Infect Control 2018; 46: 54-59



Indication for molecular typing?

- Do I have an epidemiologic hypothesis ?
- Molecular fishing expedition?
- Do I expect any impact on infection control interventions ? Or simply academic exercise ?
- Priority action item for modified preventive measures?

Sampling?

- Do I have a strong, robust sampling strategy ? (Who, How, When)
- Avoid detection & selection & misclassification bias
- Adequate screening for asymptomatic carriers
- If possible, select the right colonies by selective cultures (multiresistant organisms).
- How many morphologically similar isolates to sample from the same clinical culture ?



Multiple Variants of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Producing Carbapenemase in One Patient

- 82 yr man
- Michael R. Mulvey, Ph.D.

National Microbiology Laboratory Winnipeg, MB, Canada michael.mulvey@phac-aspc.gc.ca

Louis-Patrick Haraoui, M.D.

McGill University Health Centre Montreal, QC, Canada

Yves Longtin, M.D.

Jewish General Hospital Montreal, QC, Canada

- Admitted to the same hospital 21 times (2011-2015)
- Often grouped with patients colonized with KPC-producing Enterobacteriaceae (KPE)
- Numerous antibiotic courses



DF GENEVE

Mulvey et al. NEJM 2016; 375: 2408-10



Typing methods for outbreak investigations and epidemiologic surveillance



Various targets

PFGE MLVA



POS: Established method **CONS**: Little discriminatory power, cannot establish exact transmission routes Monocentric outbreak

Selected loci

POS: Robust, reproducible method; allows to observe longterm trends **CONS**: Little discriminatory power

Long-term Surveillance / Multicenter outbreaks

> UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE



RAPID COMMUNICATION

Outbreak of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus faecium clone ST796, Switzerland, December 2017 to April 2018

Nasstasja Wassilew¹, Helena MB Seth-Smith^{2,3}, Eveline Rolli¹, Yvonne Fietze¹, Carlo Casanova⁴, Urs Führer⁵, Adrian Egli^{2,3}, Jonas Marschall¹, Niccolò Buetti¹

- 1. Department of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 2. Division of Clinical Microbiology, University Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 3. Applied Microbiology Research, Department of Biomedicine, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 4. Institute for Infectious Diseases, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 5. Infectious Diseases Department, Biel Hospital, Biel, Switzerland

Correspondence: Niccolò Buetti (niccolo.buetti@gmail.com)

FIGURE 3

Distribution of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus faecium ST796 in four different hospitals, Canton of Bern, Switzerland, ührer 30 December 2017 to 30 April 2018 (n = 89) April 20. 18 Canton of Bern



Epidemic curve of vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) cases by sequence type, Canton of Bern outbreak, Switzerland, December 2017–April 2018 (n = 89)



The largest outbreak at University hospital is shown by the largest circle.



EuroSurv 2018

FIGURE 1





Various targets

CONS: Little discriminatory power, cannot

establish exact transmission routes

POS: Established method

Typing methods for outbreak investigations

and epidemiologic surveillance

PFGE MLVA

MLST



Selected loci

POS: Robust, reproducible method; allows to observe longterm trends **CONS**: Little discriminatory power

Monocentric outbreak

Long-term Surveillance / Multicenter outbreaks

WGS



Core genome

POS: High discriminatory power **CONS**: Still expensive and requires special analytical skills Outbreaks or epidemiologic surveillance

DE GENÈVE



Global spread of three multidrug-resistant lineages of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*

Jean Y. H. Lee¹, Ian R. Monk¹, Anders Gonçalves da Silva^{2,3}, Torsten Seemann^{3,4}, Kyra Y. L. Chua⁵, Angela Kearns⁶, Robert Hill⁶, Neil Woodford⁶, Mette D. Bartels⁷, Birgit Strommenger⁸, Frederic Laurent⁹, Magali Dodémont¹⁰, Ariane Deplano¹⁰, Robin Patel¹¹, Anders R. Larsen¹², Tony M. Korman¹³, Timothy P. Stinear^{13,15} and Benjamin P. Howden^{2,3,14,15*}

Uncovered the previously unrecognized international spread of a near pandrug-resistant nosocomial pathogen, identifiable by a rifampicin-resistant phenotype.



A Candida auris Outbreak and Its Control in an Intensive Care Setting

David W. Eyre, D.Phil., Anna E. Sheppard, Ph.D., Hilary Madder, F.A.N.Z.C.A., Ian Moir, Ruth Moroney, M.Sc., T. Phuong Quan, M.Sc., David Griffiths, B.Sc.,
Sophie George, M.Sc., Lisa Butcher, M.Sc., Marcus Morgan, M.Sc., Robert Newnham, Mary Sunderland, B.Sc., Tiphanie Clarke, B.A., Dona Foster, Ph.D.,
Peter Hoffman, B.Sc., Andrew M. Borman, Ph.D., Elizabeth M. Johnson, Ph.D., Ginny Moore, Ph.D., Colin S. Brown, F.R.C.Path., A. Sarah Walker, Ph.D.,
Tim E.A. Peto, F.R.C.P., Derrick W. Crook, F.R.C.Path., and Katie J.M. Jeffery, Ph.D.

➔ The transmission of *C. auris* was found to be linked to reusable axillary temperature probes, indicating that this emerging pathogen can persist in the environment and be transmitted in health care settings.









Storage parameters:

T°C, time, media, UV, container

Extraction parameters: *enzymatic, mechanical (fav. GPB)*

Size selection:

gels (melting~dec. AT-rich sequences)

Library preparation:

PCR approaches (heterogeneous affinities)







What is close enough ?

Relatedness thresholds SNPs: nb of SNPs differences MLST: nb of alleles variations

Post-analytic

Table 1

Examples of relatedness criteria for wg/cgMLST and SNP typing schemes of representative clinically relevant bacteria

Organism	Relatedness threshold ^a		References		
	wg/cgMLST (allele) SNPs				
Acinetobacter baumannii	≤8	≤3	[25,26]		
Brucella spp.	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b		http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Campylobacter coli, C. jejuni	≤14	≤15	[27,28]		
Cronobacter spp.	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b		http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Clostridium difficile	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b	≤ 4	[29], http://www.cgmlst.org/ncs, http://www.applied- maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Enterococcus faecium	≤20	≤16	[30]		
Enterococcus raffinosus	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b		http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Escherichia coli	≤10	≤10	[31,32], https://enterobase.warwick.ac.uk/		
Francisella tularensis	≤1	≤ 2	[33,34]		
Klebsiella oxytoca	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b		http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Klebsiella pneumonia	≤10	≤18	[35,36]		
Legionella pneumophila	≤4	≤15	[37]		
Listeria monocytogenes	≤ 10	≤ 3	[38,39]		
Mycobacterium abscessus		\leq 30	[40]		
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	≤12	≤12	[41]		
Neisseria gonorrhoeae	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b	≤ 14	[42], http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst		
Neisseria meningitidis	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^D		http://www.cgmlst.org/ncs		
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	≤14	≤ 37	[31,43]		
Salmonella dublin	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^D	≤13	[44], https://enterobase.warwick.ac.uk/		
Salmonella enterica	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b	≤ 4	[45], http://www.cgmlst.org/ncs, http://www.applied-		
			maths.com/applications/wgmlst, https://enterobase.warwick.ac.uk/		
Salmonella typhimurium	Epidemiologic validation in progress ^b	≤ 2	[46], https://enterobase.warwick.ac.uk/		
Staphylococcus aureus	≤ 24	≤15	[47,48]		
Streptococcus suis		≤ 21	[49]		
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	≤ 10		[50]		
Yersinia spp.	0		[51]		

cg, core genome; MLST, multilocus sequence typing; SNP, single nucleotide polymorphism; wg, whole genome.

^a Data often represent single studies that can be used to begin formulation of species-specific interpretation criteria. Thus, these data should be coupled with newly published similar studies to ensure that resulting values are not atypical and can be generally applied.

^b Proposed wg/cgMLST schemes are available online (http://www.cgmlst.org/ncs, http://www.applied-maths.com/applications/wgmlst, https://enterobase.warwick.ac.uk/) but as yet have not been epidemiologically validated.

BUT THUS

- Intra-individual variation
- Genetic recombination events
- Clock speed is different among pathogens
- Consider suggested thresholds more as a guideline
- → Interprete epidemiological links on a case by case basis
- \rightarrow Interprete organism by organism (specific population genetics)



Universitaires

Genève

Outbreak investigations from Geneva

MRSA CPE VRE Serratia



Friday, June 30

Phone rings:

"Hello...! We have a problem down here at the NICU – can you help us ?"









Veni vidi ... (vici ?) Julius Caesar, De Bello Gallico

You go in there and have a look...

- What?
 MRSA outbreak
- Who?11 neonates, 2 mothers
- Where? NICU & nursery
- When?

 Over the last 3 months
- Severe? No mostly carriage



What would you recommend for the next week – priority action items <u>except</u>?

- A. Isolate or cohort MRSA carriers
- B. Reinforce hand hygiene
- C. Screening of all hospitalized neonates
- D. Implement active MRSA surveillance for all new admissions
- E. Molecular typing of MRSA isolates



What would you recommend for the next week – priority action items <u>except</u>?

- A. Isolate or cohort MRSA carriers
- B. Reinforce hand hygiene
- C. Screening of all hospitalized neonates
- D. Implement active MRSA surveillance for all new admissions

E. Molecular typing of MRSA isolates



Epidemic curve MRSA outbreak, NICU (HUG)



(1)×1	(2)×3
SCN.	MRSAe
Interpré.	Interpré.
RESIST	RESIST
RESIST	RESIST
RESIST	RESIST
S	RESIST
RESIST	RESIST
RESIST	RESIST
RESIST	RESIST RESIST
IN TERM RESIST	5 5 5
5	s
5	s
5	s
	(1)×1 SCN. Interpré. RESIST RESIST RESIST RESIST RESIST S RESIST INTERM RESIST S S S

16 UU 25 - .6/U//UU U8HUU frottis inquinal	
IBONA+ 18 U145 &/U//UU 12HU5 urine poche a urines	1
IBOMA+ 25 U1:30 SVU//UU 10H55 frottis de nez	f
IBOMA+ 25 U131 S/U//UU 10H55 frottis inguinal	Ī
180 8 9+	

	Heticilline-resistant	(1) T 25.07
1UE5	Flore M1xte	T 21.07
1054	Heticilline-resistant	T 21.07
ABS	Staph. aureus Meticilline-resistant	T 28.07
PRES	Staph. aureus Meticilline-resistant	(1) T U2.08
PRES	Staph. aureus Meticilline-resistant	(1) T U2.08

E = En cours. T = Terminé.

QUANTIFICATION: le chiffre (1004 = 10°0, prélèvement ou par cm de cathèter. ABS = absence de, PRES = présence de, Mit, POS = positit, + = rare, ++ = nombreux, +++ = très nombreux.

ANTI BIOGRAMME	(1)xö MRSAe Interpré.
Penicilline G	RESIST
Flucioxacilline	RESIST
Amikacine	s
Gentamicine	s
Mortloxacine Ciprotloxacine	s i
ClindaHycine ErythroHycine	s s
Acide fusidique	RESIST
Co-trimoxazole	S
Fostomycine	S
Ritampicine	S
Vancomycine	S
Teicoplanine	S

Control measures MRSA outbreak, NICU (HUG)



- A. Isolate or cohort MRSA carriers
- B. Reinforce hand hygiene
- C. Screening of all neonates & mothers
- D. Implement active MRSA surveillance (admission & discharge)

Epidemic curve MRSA outbreak, NICU (HUG)





Molecular Epidemiology

General internal medicine ward, Geneva

Sporadic, imported CPE (OXA-48 cluster in 2011)

KPC outbreak in Geneva, 2015

- Mr CV, Italian origin, known KPC carrier since 2012
- Admitted in January 2015 for severe KPC urosepsis
- Control measures were applied (private room)

Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genèv

Courtesy: F. Olearo, D. Pires

Richbielia pneumoniaeProteus pneumoniaeProteus pneumoniaeProteus pneumoniaeRichbielia pneumoniae <th< th=""><th>voir sous MS- Excel</th><th>06/03/2015 10:25:00</th><th>04/03/2015 11:45:00</th><th>04/03/2015 11:45:00</th><th>27/02/2015 19:00:00</th><th>27/02/2015 19:00:00</th><th>20/02/2015 17:00:00</th><th>19/02/2015 10:55:00</th></th<>	voir sous MS- Excel	06/03/2015 10:25:00	04/03/2015 11:45:00	04/03/2015 11:45:00	27/02/2015 19:00:00	27/02/2015 19:00:00	20/02/2015 17:00:00	19/02/2015 10:55:00
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Case TC: KPC crosstransmission despite single room isolation of index patient

Sepsis due to Colistin-R KPC, HUG, March 2015

Total: 3 cases of KPC crosstransmission

(2 clinical infections + 1 asymptomatic colonization)

Need of a bundled intervention

- Contact tracing with widespread screening
- Cohorting / strict contact precautions
- Electronic re-admission alert system
- Information (HCWs, patients, families)

Results of extensive screening

Not one single additional KPC case detected!

Courtesy: F. Olearo, D. Pires

SNVs analysis from whole common DNA

Whole genome analysis: KPN7 had 3 SNV differences with others, KPN10 has another SNV

➔ Index strain slightly different from the strains recovered from secondary cases, likely because prior long-term carriage (3 years) by the index patient allowed for genetic mutations over time with intra-individual strain variation

*ParSNP, all strains against strain KPN7 (index case)

Hôpitaux

Universitaires

E. Ruppé et al. Clin Micro Infect 2018

VRE outbreak

- Geneva, surgical unit

Incidence density of hospital-acquired VRE HUG, January 2010 – June 2018

Figure 1. Arbre de maximum de parcimonie entre les souches du cluster ST117-B. La distance entre chaque souche indique le nombre de loci de différence.

Serratia outbreak

Geneva ICU

Routine Serratia Surveillance => Epidemic curve in the ICU

Epidemiologic outbreak investigation => nosocomial transmission?

HH compliance: 66 % (1st semestre) to 52% (3d Trimestre)

Genomic investigation

Cluster 26/28 : 2 isolats prélevés de différents patients mais dans un intervalle de 25 jours (4.7.2017, 29.7.2017). Les profils cgMLST de ces deux souches sont identiques.

Cluster 1/3/6/18/30/32/34/43 : 8 isolats, tous provenant d'échantillons respiratoires mais de différents patients, prélevés dans un intervalle de deux ans (29.08.2015, 30.01.2015, 30.05.2016, 26.10.2016, 10.08.2017, 29.08.2017, 21.03.2017, 17.08.2017). Dans ce cluster, les cgSNPs ont été trouvés en 20 positions (sur un total de 1'485'517 positions), avec 0–8 cgSNPs dans les comparaisons par paires de souches (Table1). Le Neighbour-joining tree (cgSNP) est représenté dans la Figure 2. Les profils cgMLST sont identiques pour les isolats 34 et 43.

-Selection and sequencing of multiple *S.marcescens* isolates (incl. outbreak strains) stored in the microbiological laboratory

Epidemiologic investigation

-Data collection to retrieve epidemiological links based on genomic data (small monoclonal cluster from 2015 to 2017)

-Epidemiological investigation based on geospatial, microbiological and medical information (respiratory procedures, respiratory therapy, surgery etc...)

BUT

Selection & detection
bias (missing cases)
Misclassification bias
Information bias
(retrospective study)

Conclusions

WGS can reveal detailed spatial and temporal dynamics of nosocomial transmission events and MDRO evolution, <u>but we need</u>:

- Quality standards, proficiency testing for routine use
- Standard-operating procedures for sampling, data extraction...
- Agreements on data sharing practices (larger outbreaks)
- Shorter TAT
- Reduced costs
- Streamlined data analyses
- Thresholds to determine clustering and transmission events
- <u>Most importantly</u>: demonstrate impact of WGS on preventive measures and clinical decision making (compared to less expensive tools)

Thanks for your attention!