

## PRELIMINARY STUDY OF EMERGENCE MDR OF *PROVIDENCIA* SPP. ISOLATES PRODUCING ESBL, AmpC AND MBL AMONG PATIENTS WITH RTI AND IN WASTEWATER IN AL-DIWANIYA CITY, IRAQ

Firas Srhan Abd Al-Mayahi and Rawia Hussein Ali

Department of Biology, College of Science, University of Al-Qadisiyah, Iraq.

e-mail : firas.Abd@qu.edu.iq

(Accepted 27 April 2018)

**ABSTRACT :** Although, there are a global spread of studies on *Providencia* genus, it has been studied very little or rare in Middle East countries especially in Iraq. Species of these bacteria are verified presence, which are an uncommon as opportunistic pathogens in immunocompromised people or common in environment. It's gram negative bacilli belong to the family of Enterobacteriaceae. Due to wide and indiscriminate use of antibiotics, major problem has emerged the multi-drug resistance (MDR) of these bacteria. The samples were collected from different sources (n = 1209), which included clinical, environmental and food specimens from Al-Diwaniya city in September 2016 to December 2017. Patients profile included gender and age. The strains were identified, as well as, screened for antibiotic susceptibility pattern and for the presence of  $\beta$ -Lactamases. Moreover, the bacteria were stratified into MDR, extensively drug-resistant (XDR) and pandrug-resistant (PDR) depending on specific international standardized. The results of 1209 specimens were examined as 684 (63.39%) positive clinical and environmental cultures, 18 (2.63%) strains were identified as *Providencia* species. Of these, 3 (0.44%) strains from respiratory tract infection (RTI) patients were found to be *Providencia rettgeri*, results of the antibiotic susceptibility pattern of 31 antibiotics tested showed that all 100% for *Providencia* genus strains were resistance to minimum one antimicrobial of three class of antibiotics. The high frequent of resistance was nitrofurantoin (n=18, 100%), followed by ampicillin (n=17, 94.4%), azithromycin (n = 16, 88.9%), amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (n = 13, 72.2%), cephalexin (n=8, 44.4%), ampicillin/sulbactam (n=7, 38.8%), tetracycline and tigecycline (n=6, 33.3%). Resistance to nalidixic acid was found at rate of 16.7%, and at rate of 11.1% for each of the cefuroxime, trimethoprim and trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole. However, the percentages of resistance to imipenem and cefotaxime were 5.6% each one. Difference between the rates of resistance of CLFI and EUCAST for year 2017 of *Providencia* species were significant (P<0.01). MDR occurred in 11 strains (61.1%) and 9 strains (50%) of *Providencia* species depended on EUCAST and CLFI for year 2017, respectively. Furthermore, *P. rettgeri* exhibits a MDR phenotype were 25% and 12.5%, while *P. alcalifaciens* were 90% and 80% according to the EUCAST and CLSI for year 2017, respectively. Phenotypic tests of  $\beta$ -Lactamases production showed that all *Providencia* spp. strains (100%) gave positive results with this tests. Phenotypic tests revealed that ESBL, AmpC and MBL production were recognized in 66.7%, 37.5% and 80% of the *Providencia* spp., respectively. Coexistence of a ESBL with other types of  $\beta$ -Lactamases (MBL) were documented in 4 (22.2%) strains. Moreover, the vast majority of *Providencia* strains producing  $\beta$ -Lactamases and exhibits a MDR phenotype were observed in 8 (100%) strains in wastewater.

**Key words :** Bacteria, *Providencia*, waste water, multi drug resistance (MDR).

### INTRODUCTION

Organism of the genus *Providencia* is non-fermenting gram negative bacterium belong to Enterobacteriaceae family (Jneid *et al*, 2016; Perween *et al*, 2016; Kamga *et al*, 2012). *Providencia* genus is contains 5 species are *P. rettgeri*, *P. stuartii*, *P. alcalifaciens*, *P. heimbachae* and *P. rustigianii* (O'Hara *et al*, 2000; Manosand Belas, 2006; Sharma *et al*, 2017). This species are opportunistic pathogens in immunocompromised people (Jneid *et al*, 2016), which has been found in sputum (Feyziođlu *et al*, 2013), urine (Marquez-Ortiz *et al*, 2017; Liu *et al*, 2016), burns (Perween *et al*, 2016; Arpin *et al*, 2012), wounds

(Washington *et al*, 2015), and stool specimens (Shima *et al*, 2016). Additionally, it is found in fishes (Akinyemi *et al*, 2017; Oyelakin *et al*, 2016; Ololade *et al*, 2016), beef meat and chicken meat (Shima *et al*, 2016). As well as soil (Sharma and Gupta, 2016), water river (Kuczynski, 2016), cows water (Bento Rodrigues *et al*, 2017), chicken and bird feces (Nahar *et al*, 2016; Foti *et al*, 2017) and wastewater (Xia *et al*, 2013). On the other hand, the enormous evolution and increase of MDR in many bacterial pathogens, including *Providencia* is a significant public health challenging (Tshisevhe *et al*, 2017). The terms MDR, XDR and PDR are increasingly frequently used in the biomedical literature to describe various

degrees of antimicrobial resistance among bacteria. Unfortunately, there are currently no internationally accepted definitions for these terms for bacteria other than *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. As a result, these terms are used arbitrarily creating great confusion among researchers, health care professionals and the public (Falagas and Karageorgopoulos, 2008). So overall, the scientists agree on standardized definitions for MDR, XDR and PDR, depending on antimicrobial susceptibility pattern of organisms (Magiorakos *et al*, 2011). They have been creating a standardized international terminology in order to describe resistance pattern in bacteria, which is usually responsible for healthcare-associated infections and prone to one or more previous terms (Magiorakos *et al*, 2012). Furthermore, other researchers found the pathogens according to the species and the type of resistance and then classifying the results in three priority levels: critical, high and medium (Magiorakos *et al*, 2011). The critical level contains *Enterobacteriaceae* including *Providencia* spp., which are resistance to carbapenems and third generation cephalosporins (WHO, 2017). Several surveillance studies have revealed a relatively high incidence of MDR in *Providencia* spp. and  $\beta$ -Lactamases production (Ahasan *et al*, 2017; Marquez-Ortiz *et al*, 2017; Sharma *et al*, 2017; Voukeng *et al*, 2017; Foti *et al*, 2017; Perween *et al*, 2016; Jamal *et al*, 2016; Saavedra-Rojas *et al*, 2015; Feyziođlu *et al*, 2014). However, in the Middle East countries including Iraq have a limited studies focused on phenotypic characterization of *Providencia* spp. Therefore, present study seeks to detect the prevalence of *Providencia* spp. in, clinical, environmental and food specimens and their antibiotic susceptibility profiles as well as phenotypic  $\beta$ -Lactamases production.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Collection and handling sampling

The samples (n = 1209) was carried out in the laboratories of Biology Department, Science College, University of Al-Qadisiya, Iraq in September 2016 to December 2017, from different sources such as environmental and food specimens in Al-Diwaniya city. The total of 791 specimens were obtained from patients whom they suffering from different infections and admitted to the Al-Diwaniya city hospitals: RTI (n=305), burns (n=245), UTI (n=174), GIT (n= 37) and wounds (n=30). The total of environmental samples were investigated in chicken and bird feces (n=116), the wastewater (n=116), water of cows (n=32) and soil (n=32). Finally, the total of food samples were examined in fishes (n= 53), beef meat (n=42) and chicken meat (n = 35). All specimens or swabs were transported in

refrigeration conditions to the previous laboratories and streaked on the blood agar (Himedia, India) and MacConkey agar (Oxoid, UK) using sterile standard loop method. The media were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours (Collee *et al*, 1996; Brown, 2005).

### Identification of bacterial strains

The strains were identified depending on their cultural characteristics, Gram's stain, and reaction to standard biochemical tests (MacFaddin, 2000). All strains were further confirmed as *Providencia* species by API 20E system (BioMerieux, Marcy L'Etoile, France) and Vitek-2 identification system (BioMerieux, Marcy L'Etoile, France).

### Antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST)

Antibiotic sensitivity profiles of the bacterial strains performed identification to susceptibility testing by modified disc-diffusion method (Kirby-Bauer) (Bauer *et al*, 1966) on Mueller-Hinton agar (MHA) (Oxoid, UK) plates were inoculated by sterile swab dipped into the inoculums (0.5 McFarland). The selection of antibiotic disc was performed according to CLSI (2017), while the strains were considered resistant or susceptible according to CLSI (2017), EUCAST (2017). All strains tested for susceptibility of 12 antibiotic classes divided into 31 antimicrobial agents, which are: Ampicillin (AMP, 10 $\mu$ g), amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (AMC, 30  $\mu$ g), Ticarcillin/clavulanic acid (TIM, 85  $\mu$ g), Ampicillin/sulbactam (SAM, 20 $\mu$ g), Piperacillin/tazobactam (PTZ, 110  $\mu$ g), Cephalexin (CL, 30  $\mu$ g), Cefoxitin (CX, 30  $\mu$ g), Cefuroxime (CXM, 30  $\mu$ g), Ceftazidime (CAZ, 30  $\mu$ g), Cefotaxime (CTX, 30  $\mu$ g), Ceftriaxone (CTR, 30  $\mu$ g), Cefixime (CFM, 5  $\mu$ g), Cefepime (CPM, 30  $\mu$ g), Aztreonam (ATM, 30 $\mu$ g), Imipenem (IMP, 10 $\mu$ g), Meropenem (MEM, 10 $\mu$ g), Amikacin (AK, 30  $\mu$ g), Gentamicin (GM, 10 $\mu$ g), Tobramycin (TOB, 10 $\mu$ g), Ciprofloxacin (CIP, 5  $\mu$ g), Levofloxacin (LE, 5  $\mu$ g), Norfloxacin (NOR, 10 $\mu$ g), Ofloxacin (OFX, 5  $\mu$ g), Nalidixic acid (NA, 30 $\mu$ g), Tetracycline (T, 30 $\mu$ g), Tigecycline (TGC, 15  $\mu$ g), Trimethoprim (TM, 5 $\mu$ g), Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (TS, 25 $\mu$ g), Chloramphenicol (C, 30 $\mu$ g), Nitrofurantoin (NIT, 300  $\mu$ g), Azithromycin (ATH, 15  $\mu$ g) (Himedia, India and Mast Diagnostics, UK). For purpose of this study, the strains were considered a MDR, if a strain is resistant to representatives one of three or more classes of antibiotics above. While the definition of XDR is a strain that is resistant to all but one or two classes. A PDR in Gram-negative strains was defined if resistance of the isolates was observed to all available classes of antibiotics (Magiorakos *et al*, 2012). The control positive was used *E. coli* ATCC 25922.

## β-Lactamases production

### \* ESBL production

All isolates tested for confirmatory ESBL production according to Batchoun *et al* (2009). Antibiotic disks of cefotaxime, ceftazidime, ceftriaxone and aztreonam (30µg each) were placed 15 mm (edge to edge) around a central disk of amoxi-clav (20µg amoxicillin plus 10µg clavulanate) on MHA plates seeded with organism being tested for ESBL production. Plates were incubated aerobically at 37°C for 24 hours. Any augmentation (increase in diameter of inhibition zone) between the central amoxi-clav disk and any of the β-lactam antibiotic disks showing resistance or intermediate susceptibility was recorded and the organism was thus considered as an ESBL producer. Cefotaxime alone and in combination with clavulanic acid were tested. Inhibition zone of ≥ 5 mm increase in diameter for antibiotic tested in combination with clavulanic acid versus its zone when tested alone confirms an ESBL producing isolate (Cantarelli *et al*, 2007; CLSI, 2017).

### \*Detection of AmpC β-lactamase

The strains would be considered potential AmpC β-lactamase producers, if the inhibition zone of cefoxitin (30µg) disk was ≤ 18mm (Coudron *et al*, 2003). Cetazidime-Imipenem Antagonism Test (CIAT) was carried out for detection of inducible AmpC β-lactamases according to Cantarelli *et al* (2007). An imipenem disk (10µg) placed 20 mm apart (edge-to-edge) from a ceftazidime disk (30µg) on a MHA plate previously inoculated with a 0.5 McFarland bacterial suspension, and incubate for 24 hours at 35°C. For comparison, a cefoxitin disk was also placed 20 mm apart from the ceftazidime disk. Antagonism indicated by a visible reduction in the inhibition zone around the ceftazidime disk adjacent to the imipenem or cefoxitin disks, regarded as positive for the inducible AmpC β-lactamase production.

### \*Detection of Carbapenemases

Three methods were performed to determine of Metallo-β-lactamase by Imipenem-EDTA double disk synergy test (DDST) according to Lee *et al* (2003). A 10µg imipenem disk was placed in the center of a MHA plate inoculated with a 0.5 McFarland dilution of the test isolate. An EDTA disk (1900µg) was placed at a distance of 15 mm center to center from the imipenem disk. The plate was incubated at 37°C overnight. The zone around the imipenem disk would be extended on the side nearest the EDTA disk for a metallo-β-lactamase producer. Disc potentiation test to organism was inoculated onto plates of Mueller-Hinton agar plate (opacity adjusted to 0.5

McFarland opacity standards). A 0.5-m EDTA solution was prepared by dissolving 186.1 g of disodium EDTA 2H<sub>2</sub>O in 1000 ml of distilled water and adjusting it to pH 8.0 by using NaOH. The mixture was sterilized by autoclaving. Two 10-µg imipenem discs and meropenem discs were placed on the plate; 5 µl of EDTA solution was added to one of the disc each. The inhibition zones of the imipenem and imipenem-EDTA discs and meropenem and meropenem-EDTA discs were compared after 16-18 h of incubation at 35°C. An increase in the zone size of at least 7 mm around the imipenem-EDTA disc and meropenem-EDTA discs was recorded as an MBL-positive strain (Hemalatha *et al*, 2005). A Modified Hodge Test (MHT) was carried out by Prepare a 0.5 McFarland dilution of *E. coli* ATCC 25922 (using either direct colony suspension or growth method) in broth or saline and dilute 1:10 in saline or broth, inoculate an MHA plate and allow to dry (3-10) min, meropenem or ertapenem disk (10µg) was placed in the center of the test area. In a straight line, the test organism streaked from the edge of the disk to the edge of the plate, the streak should be at least 20–25 mm in length, the plates were incubated 16-20 hours at ±35°C. Four organisms were tested on the same plate with one disk. MHT positive test has a clover leaf like indentation of *E. coli* ATCC 25922 growing along the test organism growth streak within the disk inhibition zone. MHT negative test has no growth of *E. coli* ATCC 25922 along the test organism (CLSI, 2017).

### Statistical analysis

The  $\chi^2$  (Chi-square) tests were applied to determine the statistical significance of the data. *P* value of < 0.01 or < 0.05 was considered significant, Prism 5 (Graph Pad Software Inc., San Diego, CA, USA).

## RESULTS

### Isolation and identification of *Providencia* species

The strains have showed significant differences in the frequencies of sources specimens (*P* < 0.01). In this study were received and examined 1209 specimens from different sources during year and six months. Among these, 791(65.4%), 288(23.8%) and 130(10.8%) obtained from clinical, environmental and food specimens, respectively. However, a total of 396(50.0%) positive clinical culture were implicated in community-acquired and nosocomial infections including; 152(49.8%) from sputum, 123(50.2%) from burns, 76(43.6%) from urine, 37(100%) from stool and 8(26.6%) from wounds. Additionally, 100% positive environment and food cultures. From the total 814(67.3%) positive clinical, food and environmental cultures, 18(2.2%) strains were identified

**Table 1 :** Number and percentage of *Providencia* species isolated from different sources of specimens.

| Source of specimens |                        |            | Positive culture No.(%) | <i>Providencia</i> species                   | No. (%)            |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Pathogenic          | Sputum                 | 305        | 152(49.8)               | <i>P. rettgeri</i>                           | 3 (0.7)            |
|                     | Burns                  | 245        | 123(50.2)               |  |                    |
|                     | Urine                  | 174        | 76(43.6)                |  |                    |
|                     | Stool                  | 37         | 37(100)                 |  |                    |
|                     | Wounds                 | 30         | 8(26.6)                 |  |                    |
| Total No. (%)       |                        | 791 (65.4) | 396(50.0)               |  |                    |
| Environment         | Wastewater             | 107        | 107(100)                | <i>P.alcalifaciens</i><br><i>P. rettgeri</i> | 10 (3.5)<br>5(1.7) |
|                     | Chicken and bird feces | 116        | 116(100)                |  |                    |
|                     | Water of cows          | 33         | 33(100)                 |  |                    |
|                     | Soil                   | 32         | 32(100)                 |  |                    |
| Total No. (%)       |                        | 288 (23.8) | 288(100)                |  | 15(5.2)            |
| Foods               | Fishes                 | 53         | 53(100)                 |  |                    |
|                     | Beef meat              | 42         | 42(100)                 |  |                    |
|                     | Chicken meat           | 35         | 35(100)                 |  |                    |
| Total No. (%)       |                        | 130 (10.8) | 130(100)                |  |                    |
| Total               |                        | 1209       | 814(67.3)               |  | 18 (2.2)           |

**Table 2 :** Standard biochemical tests of *Providencia* species.

| Test / Type of bacteria | Gram-negative bacilli | Lactose fermentation | Indole | Methyl red | Vogas-Proskaur | Citrate utilization | Motility | Urease | TSI (K/A+G) | H <sub>2</sub> S production | Oxidase | Catalase | Gelatin hydrolysis | Mannitol fermentation | Inositol fermentation |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------|------------|----------------|---------------------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>P. rettgeri</i>      | +                     | -                    | +      | +          | -              | +                   | +        | +      | +           | -                           | -       | +        | -                  | +                     | +                     |
| <i>P. alcalifaciens</i> | +                     | -                    | +      | +          | -              | +                   | +        | -      | +           | -                           | -       | +        | -                  | -                     | -                     |

as *Providencia* species. Of these, 3(0.7%) strains from sputum patients were found to be *Providencia rettgeri*, the mean age of these male patients 36 years range from 21-62 years and 15(2.19%) strains from wastewater were identified as *Providencia* spp. (*P. alcalifaciens*  $n = 10$ , and *P. rettgeri*,  $n = 5$ ). Moreover, don't identified any isolates belong to *Providencia* genus in food samples (Table 1).

The present investigation showed that 18 strains belong to two *Providencia* species isolated from sputum and wastewater sources. The majority 10 (55.6%) strains of isolated species, which were found in wastewater belong to *P. alcalifaciens*, and 8 (44.4%) strains, which were found in sputum and wastewater belong to *P. rettgeri*. The strains were identified by their cultural characteristics, Gram staining, reactions to standard biochemical tests (Table 2) and confirmed as *Providencia* species by API 20E system (Figs. 1 and 2) and Vitek-2 identification system.

### Antibiotics susceptibility testing of *Providencia* species

All the *Providencia* species obtained from patients and wastewater were tested for their antibiotic susceptibility against the selected 31 antibiotics. Strains have significant differences in the frequencies of antibiotics resistance ( $P < 0.01$ ). Table 3 showed comparative between CLSI and EUCAST in year 2017 on the basis of the resistance, intermediate resistance and susceptibility of the isolated *Providencia* to different antibiotics as represented by the diameter in mm. The highlight indicates cases considered to be resistant to the respective antibiotics. The high frequent of resistance ( $n=18$ , 100%) was to nitrofurantoin, followed by ampicillin ( $n=17$ , 94.4%), azithromycin ( $n = 16$ , 88.9%), amoxicillin/clavulanic acid ( $n = 13$ , 72.2%), cephalexin ( $n = 8$ , 44.4%), ampicillin/sulbactam ( $n = 7$ , 38.8%), tetracycline and tigecycline ( $n = 6$ , 33.3%) for each one. Resistance to nalidixic acid was found at rate of 16.7% and at rate of



Fig. 1 : Picture of *P. rettgeri* by API 20E system.



Fig. 2 : Picture of *P. alcalifaciens* by API 20E system.

11.1% for each of the cefuroxime, trimethoprim and trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole. However, the percentages of resistance to imipenem and cefotaxime were 5.6% each one. The most effective of antibiotics were meropenem, ceftriaxone, cefixime, aztreonam, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, chloramphenicol and aminoglycosides; all the strains were found to be susceptible to this antibiotics (Table 3).

The resistant effect of strains to antibiotics including; amoxicillin/clavulanic acid, ceftioxin, cefuroxime, ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin and cefepime are comparable; the rates of resistance were 72.2%, 0%, 11.1%, 0%, 0% and 0% respectively, on the basic CLSI-2017. Whereas, 83.3%, 44.4%, 16.7%, 16.7%, 11.1% and 5.6% strains respectively were resistant to same antibiotics on the basic EUCAST- 2017. Differences between the rates of resistance of CLSI and EUCAST for year 2017 of *Providencia* species were significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) (Fig. 3).

Interestingly, the strains of *P. rettgeri* showed resistance to 14 antibiotics (45.1%) and *P. alcalifaciens* to 12 antibiotics (38.7%). Strains have significant differences in the frequencies of single species of *Providencia* ( $P < 0.01$ ). Antibiotics susceptibility of the single species of *Providencia* (*P. alcalifaciens* and *P. rettgeri*) showed low percent resistance to most antibiotic tested except for nitrofurantoin (100%, 100%), ampicillin (100%, 87.5%), azithromycin (90%, 100%), amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (80%, 62.5%), ampicillin/sulbactam (50%, 25%) and cephalexin (40%, 50%) respectively. The *P. rettgeri* isolates showed that high resistance to tetracycline (75%) (Fig. 4).

Strains have significant differences in the frequencies of MDR according to the EUCAST-2017 and CLSI-2017 ( $P < 0.01$ ). All *Providencia* genus strains (100%)

were resistant to a minimum one of three classes of antibiotics. MDR occurred in 11 strains (61.1%) and 9 strains (50%) of *Providencia* species depended on EUCAST and CLSI for year 2017 respectively. Furthermore, *P. rettgeri* exhibits a MDR phenotype were 25% and 12.5%, while *P. alcalifaciens* were 90% and 80% according to the EUCAST-2017 and CLSI-2017 respectively (Table 4). Unexpectedly, 10/15 (66.7%) and 9/15 (60%) of the wastewater strains were characterized as MDR, while one (33.4%) and 0% of the sputum strains respectively were characterized as MDR according to the EUCAST-2017 and CLSI-2017, respectively.

#### â-Lactamases production

In generally, phenotypic tests of â-Lactamases production showed that all *Providencia* strains (100%) gave positive results with these tests including initial screening test. The frequency of ESBL, AmpC, MBL producing strains by disk diffusion assay are summarized in Table 5. A ESBL production was detected in 2/18 (66.7%) strains (Fig. 5), AmpC production was observed in 3/8 (37.5%) strains (Fig. 6) and increase production to MBL was documented in 8/10 (80%) strains (Fig. 7). Strains have significant differences in the frequencies of â-Lactamases production (ESBL, AmpC and MBL) of *Providencia* strains, so there are significant differences between â-Lactamases production and sources specimens ( $P < 0.05$ ). Based on this phenotypic detection, the study revealed a high rate of ESBL, AmpC and MBL producing from *Providencia* spp. had been identified as resistant or intermediate resistance to â-Lactam antibiotics and recovered from patients with RTI and in wastewater in AL-Diwaniya city, Iraq. However, the study indicated that there are correlation was found between the results obtained with IST and CIAT.

Phenotypic tests of *P. rettgeri* and *P. alcalifaciens*

**Table 3** : Comparative between susceptibility profile of CLSI and EUCAST for year 2017 of *Providencia* species for different antibiotics.

| Antibiotic                    | Susceptibility profile % CLSI-2017 |      |      | Susceptibility profile % EUCAST-2017 |      |      |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|------|--------------------------------------|------|------|
|                               | R                                  | I    | S    | R                                    | I    | S    |
| Ampicillin                    | 94.4                               | 5.6  | 0    | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid   | 72.2                               | 11.1 | 16.7 | 83.3                                 | 0    | 16.7 |
| Ticarcillin/clavulanic acid   | 0                                  | 88.9 | 11.1 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Ampicillin/sulbactam          | 38.8                               | 5.6  | 55.6 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Piperacillin/tazobactam       | 22.2                               | 16.7 | 61.1 |                                      |      |      |
| Cephalexin                    | 44.4                               | 22.2 | 33.3 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Cefoxitin                     | 0                                  | 38.9 | 61.1 | 44.4                                 | 0    | 55.6 |
| Cefuroxime                    | 11.1                               | 5.6  | 83.3 | 16.7                                 | 0    | 83.3 |
| Ceftazidime                   | 0                                  | 5.6  | 94.4 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Ceftriaxone                   | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Cefotaxime                    | 5.6                                | 0    | 94.4 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Cefixime                      | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Cefepime                      | 0                                  | 5.6  | 94.4 | 5.6                                  | 11.1 | 83.3 |
| Aztreonam                     | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Imipenem                      | 5.6                                | 50   | 44.4 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Meropenem                     | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Amikacin                      | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Gentamicin                    | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | 0                                    | 5.6  | 94.4 |
| Tobramycin                    | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | 0                                    | 5.6  | 94.4 |
| Nalidixic acid                | 16.7                               | 11.1 | 72.2 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Ciprofloxacin                 | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | 16.7                                 | 0    | 83.3 |
| Norfloxacin                   | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Ofloxacin                     | 0                                  | 11.1 | 88.9 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Levofloxacin                  | 0                                  | 5.6  | 94.4 | 11.1                                 | 5.6  | 83.3 |
| Tetracycline                  | 33.3                               | 0    | 66.7 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Tigecycline                   | 33.3                               | 11.1 | 55.6 | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Trimethoprim                  | 11.1                               | 0    | 88.9 | 11.1                                 | 5.6  | 83.3 |
| Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole | 11.1                               | 11.1 | 88.8 | 11.1                                 | 0    | 88.9 |
| Chloramphenicol               | 0                                  | 0    | 100  | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Nitrofurantoin                | 100                                | 0    | 0    | -                                    | -    | -    |
| Azithromycin                  | 94.4                               | 0    | 5.6  | -                                    | -    | -    |

(R):resistance, (I): intermediate resistance, (S): susceptibility, (-): Same CLSI.

revealed that ESBL production were recognized in (38.8% and 27.9%) strains respectively, AmpC production were detected in (12.5% and 25%) strains respectively and MBL 40% strains for each one (Fig. 8).

Coexistence of a ESBL with other types of  $\beta$ -Lactamases producing *Providencia* strains was as

follows: ESBL+ AmpC (5.6%), ESBL+ MBL (22.2%) and AmpC + MBL (5.6%) (Table 6).

Alarmingly, prevalence of  $\beta$ -Lactamases producing MDR *Providencia* strains were the highest (88.9% to 90.9%) strains depending on CLSI and EUCAST respectively for year 2017 (Table 7).

Moreover, the vast majority of relatedness regarding between *Providencia* strains producing  $\beta$ -Lactamases and exhibits a MDR phenotypic were 8(100%) and 9(90%) depending on CLSI and EUCAST respectively for year 2017 in wastewater (Table 8). Strains have significant differences in the frequencies between  $\beta$ -Lactamases production and exhibits a MDR phenotypic and *Providencia* species depending on sources specimens ( $P < 0.01$ ).

## DISCUSSION

Microbiological analysis led to the isolation and identification of two species from *Providencia* genus, which they are *P. alcalifaciens* and *P. rettgeri*. These species are often found in wastewater, soil (Manosand Belas, 2006; Foti *et al*, 2009; Interaminense *et al*, 2010; Feyziođlu *et al*, 2013), and an un common cause of diseases humans and animals (O'Hara *et al*, 2000). This is similar with that reported by other studies in wastewater and RT (Urbanova *et al*, 2000; Shiroto *et al*, 2005; Xia *et al*, 2013; Abo-Amer *et al*, 2013; Tada *et al*, 2014; Shenoy *et al*, 2014). API technique had 99.9% accuracy in identify of *P. rettgeri* among *Providencia* spp. (Ahasan *et al*, 2017). AST featured a high frequency of isolates resistant to some of antimicrobials studied. The rate of resistance to  $\beta$ -Lactams, co-trimoxazole and nitrofurantoin are consistent with other authors in their results (Laupland *et al*, 2007; Linhares *et al*, 2013). Thus is similar results to resistance broad-spectrum penicillin's, co-trimoxazole and aminoglycosides with another study (Ahasan *et al*, 2017). Strikingly, more than half (55.6%) of the strains were either resistance or intermediate resistance to imipenem compare with meropenem. This may be due to the strains have mechanisms resistance other than production of  $\beta$ -Lactamases against imipenem (CLSI, 2017). Tribe Proteae strains have high rate of Tigecycline susceptibility for EUCAST (2017).

The present study classified resistance patterns in *Providencia* spp. according to Magiorakos *et al* (2012). In Iraq, like other parts of the world, *Providencia* spp. have been shown to have low prevalence rate with they have multiple antibiotic resistance (Linhares *et al*, 2013; Wang *et al*, 2014; Olaitan *et al*, 2015; Baran and Aksu, 2016; Perween *et al*, 2016; Marquez-Ortiz *et al*, 2017; Sharma *et al*, 2017; Tshisevhe *et al*, 2017; Cao *et al*,

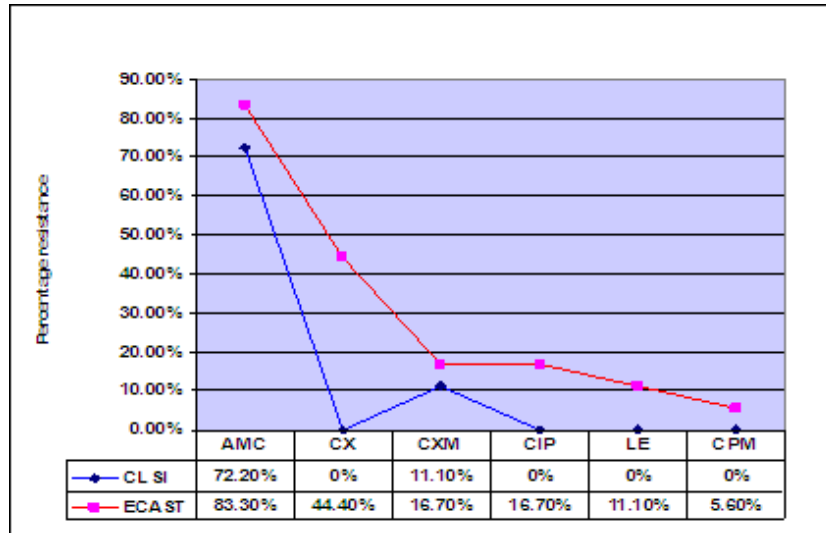


Fig. 3 : Difference between the rates of resistance of CLSI and EUCAST for year 2017 of *Providencia* species.

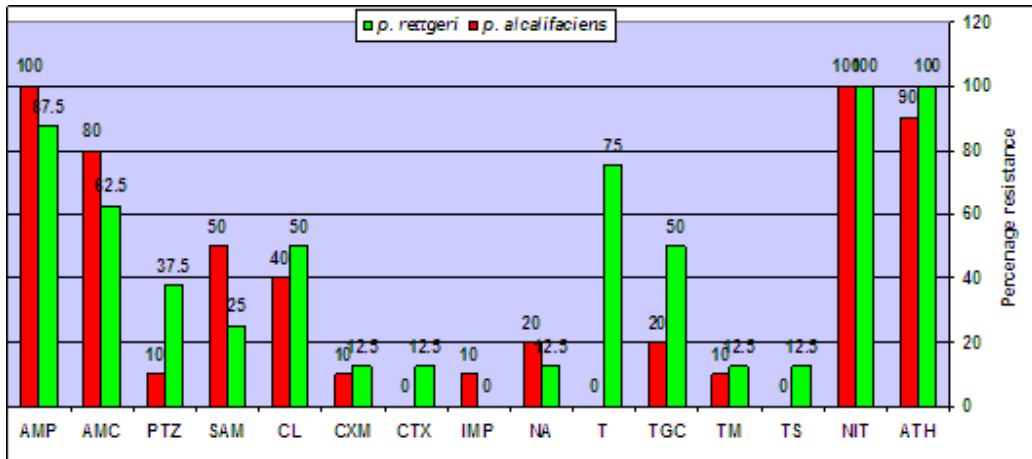


Fig. 4 : Comparative between the rates of resistance for single species *Providencia*.

Table 4 : Multi-drug resistance of *Providencia* single species.

| Bacterial species       | CLSI-2017                        |   | EUCAST-2017                      |   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
|                         | No. (%) of bacterial strains     | No. of resistance to antibiotic classes | No. (%) of bacterial strains     | No. of resistance to antibiotic classes |
| <i>P. rettgeri</i>      | 1(12.5)                          | 5                                       | 2(25)                            | 3,6                                     |
| <i>P. alcalifaciens</i> | 1(10)<br>1(10)<br>2(20)<br>4(40) | 5634                                    | 2(20)<br>2(20)<br>2(20)<br>3(30) | 3564                                    |
| Total                   | 9(50)                            |   | 11(61.1)                         |   |

2017). To the best of investigation knowledge, this is the first report to describe the MDR of these organisms. The alarming situation with global dissemination of MDR *Providencia* spp. strains highlights the need for their epidemiological monitoring and prudent use of antibiotics in AL-Diwaniya governorate/Iraq.

This study was the first reported signed to investigate the distribution and made a rough estimate of the status

of  $\beta$ -lactamases produced *Providencia* spp. isolated from patients and environment in Iraq. Several surveillance studies revealed a relatively high incidence of ESBL, AmpC and MBL-producing organisms in world. This findings are in agreement with other results in Nigeria (Ibadin *et al*, 2017) and in India (Jena *et al*, 2014).

Although, the coexistence of a ESBL with other types of  $\beta$ -Lactamases are no longer a rare event, the

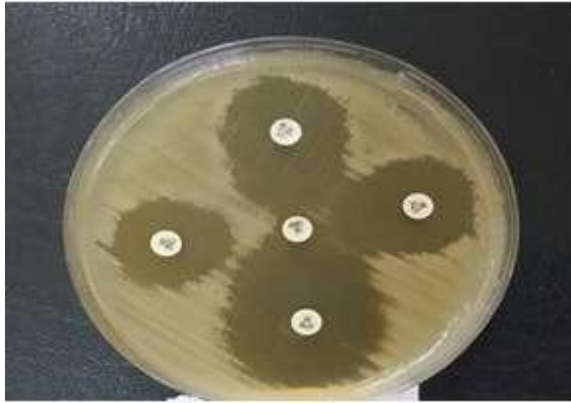


Fig. 5 : Disk approximation test exhibiting ESBLin *Providencia* sp.

authors (Jena *et al*, 2014).

Epidemiologic surveillance of antimicrobial resistance is indispensable for empirically treating infections, implementing resistance control measures and preventing the spread of antimicrobial-resistant microorganisms in AL-Diwaniya Governorate, Iraq. Resistance of *Providencia* spp are among the most important resistance priority, where classify in critical level specifically carbapenem-resistant and third generation cephalosporin's-resistant (WHO, 2017).

Unfortunately, extensive use of antibiotics is the cause of resistance phenomena and emergence of these

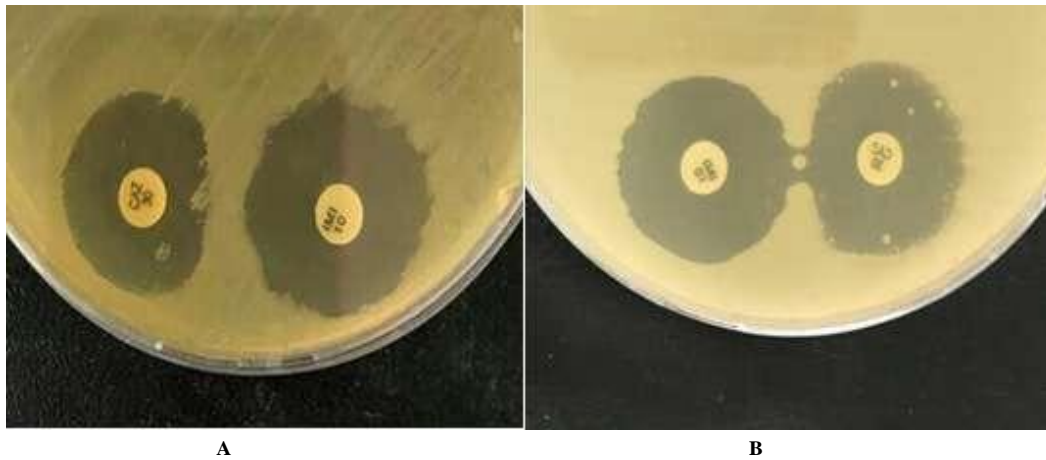


Fig. 6 : Inducible AmpC  $\beta$ -lactamase production in *Providencia* sp. by CIAT(A+B).

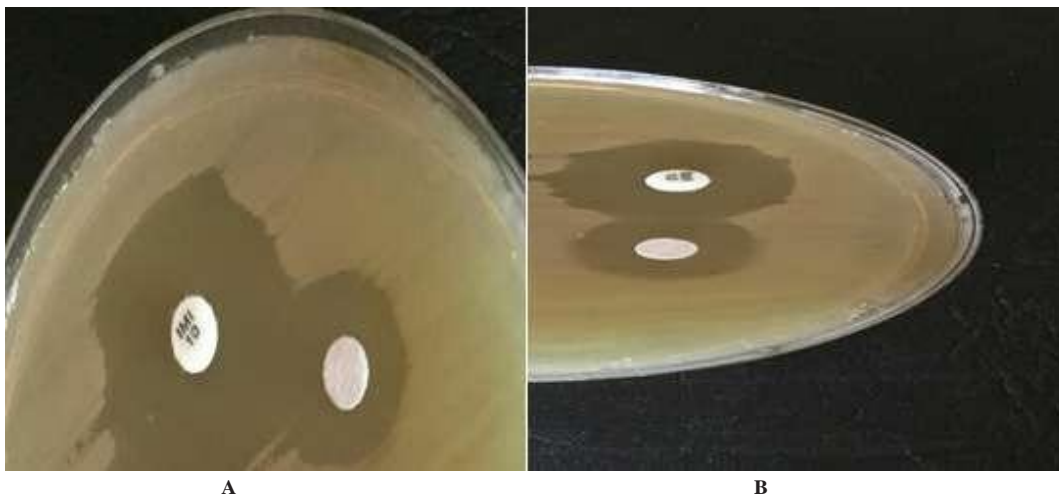


Fig. 7 : MBL production in *Providencia* sp. by imipenem- EDTA DDST (A+B).

concomitant presence of 2  $\beta$ -Lactamases in the same strain is reported by Jena *et al* (2014), Ibadin *et al* (2017). Moreover, the vast majority of *Providencia* strains producing  $\beta$ -Lactamases and exhibits a MDR phenotypic were observed in 8(88.9%) from total 8(100%) strains in wastewater. However, similar results with  $\beta$ -Lactamases producing MDR strains have been reported with other

resistance by  $\beta$ -Lactamases production mechanism especially carbapenemases in environment faces a very serious problem. Because the fact that carbapenems are the last choice used to treat infections in humans only. It is unknown how this resistance reached to the environment. Several explanations have been suggested to the phenomenon. One of the most important



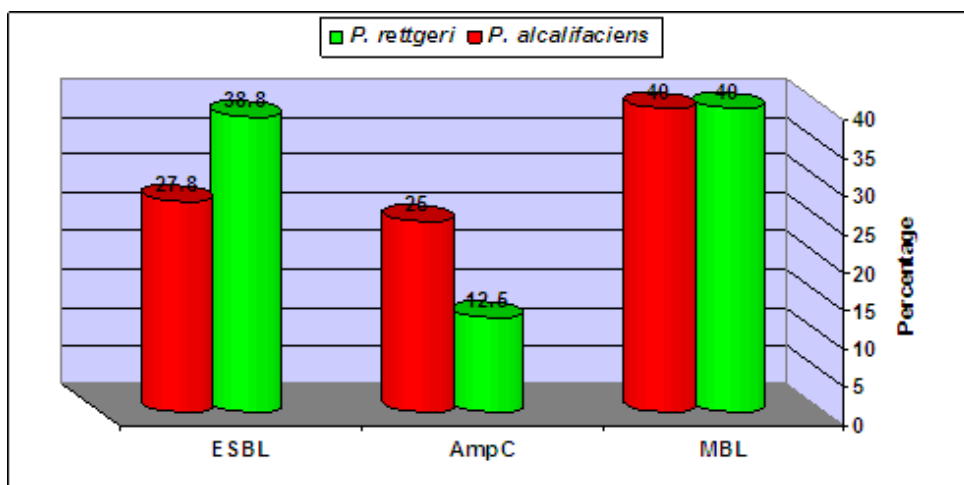


Fig. 8 : Comparative between the β-Lactamases production for single species *Providencia*.

Table 5 : Frequency of phenotypic ESBL, AmpC and MBL producing *Providencia* spp. strains by different methods.

| Source of sample | No. (%) <i>Providencia</i> spp. strains |                       |            |            |                           |                             |            |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                  | ESBL                                    |                       | AmpC       |            | MBL                       |                             |            |
|                  | Disk approximation n=18                 | Disk combination n=18 | IST n = 18 | CIAT n = 8 | Imipenem-EDTA (DDST) n=10 | Disc potentiation test n=10 | MHT n = 10 |
| Sputum           | 3(16.7)                                 | 0(0)                  | 0(0)       | 0(0)       | 1(10)                     | 0(0)                        | 0(0)       |
| Wastewater       | 9(50)                                   | 0(0)                  | 8(44.4)    | 3(37.5)    | 7(70)                     | 0(0)                        | 0(0)       |
| Total            | 12(66.7)                                | 0(0)                  | 8(44.4)    | 3(37.5)    | 8(80)                     | 0(0)                        | 0(0)       |

Table 6 : Relatedness among phenotypic ESBL, AmpC and MBL producing *Providencia* strains.

| Source of sample | <i>Providencia</i> speceis | No. (%) <i>Providencia</i> spp. strains |           |            | Total   |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|-----------|------------|---------|
|                  |                            | ESBL+ AmpC                              | ESBL+ MBL | AmpC + MBL |         |
| Sputum           | <i>P. rettgeri</i>         |   | 1(5.6)    |            | 1(5.6)  |
| Wastewater       | <i>P. rettgeri</i>         | 1(5.6)                                  | 2(11.1)   |            | 5(27.8) |
|                  | <i>P. alcalifaciens</i>    |   | 1(5.6)    | 1(5.6)     |         |
| Total            |                            | 1(5.6)                                  | 4(22.2)   | 1(5.6)     | 6(33.4) |

hypothesit is overuse of antibiotics and their careless disposal through the ecosystem, which may be assist in acquire genetic information's through vertical transfere and horizontal transfer gene among different species. Many reports have reported that soil bacteria are an important reservoirs of resistance mechanisms to antibiotics, including carbapenemase enzymes production (Gudeta *et al*, 2015; Nesme and Simonet, 2015). The water polluted via faeces or human waste contains of pathogenic bacteriaof human and animal origin, which is a source of their transport to wild birds via their food (Pindi *et al*, 2013; Pinto *et al*, 2015). It has been observed that antibiotic susceptibility of *Providencia* strains is not constant and varies with time and environment. This therefore demands the need for periodic screening of *Providencia* strains for their

antibiotic susceptibility profiles in different environments and hospitals. Widespread occurrence of drug resistant *Providencia* in the environment and hospitals have necessitated the need for regular monitoring of antibiotics susceptibility trends to provide the basis for developing rational prescription programs and assessing their effectiveness.

### CONCLUSION

First papers have been provided baseline dissemination information on the presence of *Providencia* species and their antibiotic resistance profile in the environmental and clinical samples in AL-Diwaniya Governorate of Iraq. In addition to this study was considered first report on emerging *Providencia* species harboring of MDR, which may be investigating potential reservoirs of ESBL, AmpC and MBL. The water sources

**Table 7 :** Relatedness regarding between *Providencia* strains producing  $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases and exhibits a MDR phenotypic depending on CLSI and EUCAST for year 2017.

| $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamase types | No. (%) <i>Providencia</i> spp. strains          |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
|                                 | CLSI-2017  |   | EUCAST-2017                                       |   |
|                                 | $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases exhibits a MDR<br>n=9 | $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases non exhibits a MDR | $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases exhibits a MDR<br>n=11 | $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases non exhibits a MDR |
| ESBL                            | 4(44.5)  | 5(55.5)                                       | 6(54.6)   | 5(45.4)                                       |
| AmpC                            | 2(22.2)  | 7(77.8)                                       | 2(18.2)   | 9(81.8)                                       |
| MBL                             | 5(55.5)  | 4(44.5)                                       | 5(45.4)   | 6(54.6)                                       |
| Total                           | 8(88.9)  | 1(11.1)                                       | 10(90.9)  | 1(9.1)  |

**Table 8 :** Relatedness between *Providencia* single species producing  $\beta$ -Lactamases and exhibits a MDR phenotypic depending on CLSI and EUCAST for year 2017.

| Source of sample | <i>Providencia</i> species | No. (%) <i>Providencia</i> spp. strains producing $\hat{\alpha}$ -Lactamases exhibits a MDR |         |             | Total |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|---------|-------------|-------|
|                  |                            | CLSI-2017   | Total   | EUCAST-2017 |       |
| Sputum           | <i>P. rettgeri</i>         | 0(0)  | 0(0)    | 1(10)       | 1(10) |
| Wastewater       | <i>P. rettgeri</i>         | 1(12.5)   | 8(100)  | 1(10)       | 9(90) |
|                  | <i>P. alcalifaciens</i>    | 7(87.5)   |         | 8(80)       |       |
| Total            | 8(100)                     | 8(100)  | 10(100) | 10(100)     |       |

and clinical specimens in AL-Diwaniya governorate, Iraq were contains of *Providencia* spp. harbored a diverse community of MDR producing of ESBL, AmpC and MBL, raising concerns about the overuse of antibiotics and their careless disposal through the ecosystem. There are not identified any strains belong to *Providencia* genus in the food samples. The most effective of antibiotics were meropenem, ceftriaxone, cefixime, aztreonam, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, chloramphenicol and aminoglycosides; all the strains were found to be susceptible to this antibiotics.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to College of Science, University of Qadisiyah in Iraq for financial support and also the laboratory assistants for sampling analyzing.

### REFERENCES

- Abo-Amer A E, Ramadan A B, Abo-State M, Abu-Gharbia M A and Ahmed HE (2013) Biosorption of aluminum, cobalt, and copper ions by *Providencia rettgeri* isolated from wastewater. *J. Bas. Microbiol.* **53**(6), 477-488.
- Ahasan Md. S, Picard J, Elliott L, Kinobe R, Owens L and Ariel E (2017) Evidence of antibiotic resistance in Enterobacteriales isolated from green sea turtles, *Chelonia mydas* on the Great Barrier Reef. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 1-10.
- Akinyemi AA, Oyelakin O O and Oloyede AR (2017) Gene sequencing and sensitivity of bacteria in *Tilapia zilli* from Ijaka-Oke location on Yewa river. *Aquaculture America*.
- Arpin C, Thabet L, Yassine H, Messadi AA, Boukadida J, Dubois V, Coulangue-Mayonnove L, Andre C and Quentina C (2012) Evolution of an incompatibility group IncA/C plasmid harboring *bla*<sub>CMY-16</sub> and *qnrA6* genes and its transfer through three clones of *Providencia stuartii* during a two-year outbreak in a Tunisian burn unit. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother* **56** (3), 1342-1349.
- Baran I and Aksu N (2016) Phenotypic and genotypic characteristics of carbapenem resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* in a tertiary level reference hospital in Turkey. *Ann. Clin. Microbiol. Antimicrob.* **15**, 20.
- Batchoun R G, Swedan S F and Shurman A M (2009) Extended spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamases among Gram-negative bacterial isolates from clinical specimens in three major hospitals in Northern Jordan. *International J. Microbiol. Res.* Article ID 513874.
- Bauer AW, Kirby W M M, Sherris J C and Turck M (1966) Antibiotic susceptibility testing by a standardized single disc method. *Amer. J. Clin. Pathol.* **45**, 493-496.
- Bento Rodrigues N M, Bronzato G F, Santiago G S, Batista Botelho LA, Moreira B M, Coelho I da S, Soares de Souza M M and de Oliveira Coelho S de M (2017) The Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization–Time of Flight Mass Spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS) identification versus biochemical tests: a study with enterobacteria from a dairy cattle environment. *Braz. J. Microbiol.* **48**, 132-138.
- Brown A E (2005) *Benson's Microbiological applications complete version: Laboratory Manual in general microbiology*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. McGraw-Hill Companies American, New York, P. :359.
- Cantarelli V V, Teresa E I, Brodt C Z, Secchi C, Cavalcante B C and Pereira F S (2007) Utility of the ceftazidime-imipenem antagonism test (CIAT) to detect and confirm the presence of inducible AmpC  $\beta$ -lactamases among *Enterobacteriaceae*. *The Braz. J. Infect. Dis.* **11**(2), 237-239.
- Cao J, Li M, Xu C, Zhou T, Du J, Sun Y, Qin L and Xu J (2017) Characterization of integrons and *qnr* genes in Proteaceae from a

- Teaching Hospital in China. *Chemotherapy* **62**, 12-18.
- Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) (2017) Performance standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing; 27<sup>th</sup> ed. Informational Supplement. Approved standard M100-S27. Wayne, PA: Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute.
- Collee J G, Fraser A G, Marmion B P and Simmon A (1996) *Mackie and McCartney's Practical Medical Microbiology*. 4th ed. Churchill Livingstone Inc., USA. 234-125.
- Coudron P E, Hanson, N.D. and Climo, M.W. 2003. Occurrence of extended-spectrum and AmpC  $\beta$ -Lactamases in bloodstream isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*: Isolates harbor plasmid-mediated FOX-5 and ACT-1 AmpC  $\beta$ -Lactamases. *J. Clin. Microbiol.* **41**, 772-777.
- European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) (2017) Breakpoint tables for interpretation of MICs and zone diameters. Version 7.0.
- Falagas M E and Karageorgopoulos DE (2008) Pandrug resistance (PDR), extensive drug resistance (XDR), and multidrug resistance (MDR) among Gram-negative bacilli: need for international harmonization in terminology. *Clin. Infect. Dis.* **46**, 1121-1122.
- Feyziođlu B, Güldemir D, Karagöz A, Erayman I and Emin M (2014) Rapid Dissemination of Multidrug Resistant *Providencia* Stuartii-A University Hospital Based Study. *Biomed. Res-India* **25** (1), 104-109.
- Feyziođlu B, Özdemir M, Dođan M, Baykan M and Baysal B (2013) Investigation of antibiotic resistance rates of *Providencia stuartii* isolated from various clinical samples. *Ame. J. Res. Com.* **1**(11), 23-34.
- Foti M, Giacopello C, Bottari T, Fisichella V, Rinaldo D and Mammaia C (2009) Antibiotic resistance of gram negatives isolates from loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the central Mediterranean Sea. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* **58**(9), 1363-1366.
- Foti M, Mascetti A, Fisichella V, Fulco E, Orlandella B M and Lo Piccolo F (2017) Antibiotic resistance assessment in bacteria isolated in migratory Passeriformes transiting through the Metaponto territory (Basilicata, Italy). *Avian Res.* **8**, 26.
- Gudeta D D, Bortolaia V, Amos G, Wellington E M, Brandt K K, Poirel L, Nielsen J B, Westh H and Guardabassi L (2015) The soil microbiota harbors a diversity of carbapenem-hydrolyzing  $\beta$ -lactamases of potential clinical relevance. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother* **60**, 151-160.
- Hemalatha V, Sekar U and Kamat V (2005) Detection of Metallo  $\beta$ -Lactamase producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in hospitalized patients. *Indian J Med Res.* **122**, 148-152.
- Ibadin E E, Omoregie R, Igarumah I O, Anogie N A and Ogefere H O (2017) Prevalence of extended spectrum  $\beta$ -Lactamase, AmpC  $\beta$ -Lactamase and Metallo- $\beta$ -Lactamase among gram negative bacilli recovered from clinical specimens in Benin city, Nigeria. *Int. J. Enteric. Pathog.* **5**(3), 85-91.
- Interaminense J A, Nascimento D C O, Ventura R F, Batista J E C, Souza M M C, Hazin F H V, Pontes-Filho N T and Lima-Filho J V (2010) Recovery and screening for antibiotic susceptibility of potential bacterial pathogens from the oral cavity of shark species involved in attacks on humans in Recife. *Braz. J. Med. Microbiol.* **59**, 941-947.
- Jamal W Y, Albert M J and Rotimi V O (2016) High prevalence of New Delhi metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase-1 (NDM-1) producers among carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* in Kuwait. *PLoS One* **11**(3), e0152638.
- Jena J, Sahoo R K, Subudhi E and Debata N K (2014) Prevalence of ESBL, MBL and AmpC  $\beta$ -Lactamase producing multidrug resistance gram negative bacteria Tertiary Care Hospital. *J. Pure Appl. Microbio.* **8**(5), 4099-4105.
- Jneid J, Benamar S, Pagnier I, Levy P-Y, Lavigne J-P and La Scolaa B (2016) Draft genome sequence of *Providencia heimbachae*, isolated from a diabetic foot ulcer. *Genome Announc.* **4**(2), e00276-16.
- Kamga H L F, Assob J C N, Nsagha D S, Njunda A L, Nde Fon P and Tchape G N E (2012) Epidemiological study on Proteaeae isolates from specimens in the Laquintinie hospital in Douala, Cameroon. *Afr. J. Clin. Exper. Microbiol.* **13**(2), 112-120.
- Kuczynski D (2016) Occurrence of pathogenic bacteria in surface water of an urban river in Argentina (Reconquista River, Buenos Aires). *Int. J. Aqu. Sci.* **7** (1), 30-38.
- Laupland K B, Parkins M D, Ross T and Pitout J D D (2007) Population-based laboratory surveillance for tribe Proteaeae isolates in a large Canadian health region. *Clin. Microbiol. Infect.* (CMI) **13**, 683-688.
- Lee K, Lim Y S, Yong D, Yum J H and Chong Y (2003) Evaluation of the Hodge test and the imipenem-EDTA double-disk synergy test for differentiating metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase-producing isolates of *Pseudomonas* spp. and *Acinetobacter* spp. *J. Clin. Microbiol.* **41**(10), 4623-4629.
- Linhares I, Raposo T, Rodrigues A and Almeida A (2013) Frequency and antimicrobial resistance patterns of bacteria implicated in community urinary tract infections: a ten-year surveillance study (2000-2009). *BMC Infect. Dis.* **13**, 19.
- Liu D X, Didier P J, Plauche G and Pahar B (2016) Septicemia in an Indian Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*) associated with *Providencia stuartii*. *J. Med. Primatol.* 1-3.
- MacFaddin J F (2000) *Biochemical tests for identification of medical bacteria*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, USA.
- Magiorakos A P, Srinivasan A, Carey R B, Carmeli Y, Falagas M E, Giske C G, Harbarth S, Hindler J F, Kahlmeter G, Olsson-Liljequist B, Paterson D L, Rice L B, Stelling J, Struelens M J, Vatopoulos A, Weber J T and Monnet D L (2012) Multidrug-resistant, extensively drug-resistant and pandrug-resistant bacteria: an international expert proposal for interim standard definitions for acquired resistance. *Clin. Microbiol. Infect.* **18**(3), 268-281.
- Manos J and Belas R (2006) The genera *Proteus*, *Providencia*, and *Morganella*. *Prokaryotes* **6**, 245-269.
- Marquez-Ortiz R A, Haggerty L, Sim E M, Duarte C, Castro-Cardozo B E, Beltran M, Saavedra S, Vanegas N, Escobar-Perez J and Petty N K (2017) First complete *Providencia rettgeri* genome sequence, the NDM-1-producing clinical strain RB151. *Genome Announc.* **5**(3), e01472-16.
- Nahar A, Marzan M, Siddiquee M, Nahar S, Anwar K S and Islam S (2016) Multidrug resistant *Providencia stuartii* in chicken droppings: public health implications for poultry workers and associated communities in nearby Dhaka Metropolis, Bangladesh. *British Microbiol. Res. J.* **14**(5), 1-9.
- Nesme J and Simonet P (2015) The soil resistome: a critical review on antibiotic resistance origins, ecology and dissemination potential in telluric bacteria. *Environ. Microbiol.* **17**, 913-930.

- O'Hara C M, Brenner F W and Miller J M (2000) Classification, identification, and clinical significance of *Proteus*, *Providencia*, and *Morganella*. *Clin. Microbiol. Rev.* **13**(4), 534-546.
- Olaitan A O, Diene S M, Assous M V and Rolain J-M (2015) Genomic plasticity of Multidrug-Resistant NDM-1 positive clinical isolate of *Providencia rettgeri*. *Genome Biol. Evol. GBE.* **8**(3), 723-728.
- Ololade O O, Oyelakin O O, Oloyede A R, Idowu A A, Akinyemi A A and Babarinde Y A (2016) Gene sequencing and haemolysis of bacteria in *Clarias gariepinus* from Ajilete location on Yewa river. *Ann. Res. & Rev. Bio.* **10** (4), 1-8.
- Oyelakin O O, Akinyemi A A, Ekelemu J K, Oloyede A R and Abiona B O (2016) Molecular characterization and haemolysis of bacteria associated with *Tilapia zilli* from Ijaka-Oke location on Yewa river. *American J. Experimental Agriculture* **11**(6), 1-7.
- Perween N, Prakash S K and Bharara T (2016) Prevalence of multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant *Proteus*, *Providencia* and *Morganella* species in burn wound infection. *Int. J. of Sci. Stu.* **3**(11), 154-156.
- Pindi P K, Yadav P R and Shanker A S (2013) Identification of opportunistic pathogenic bacteria in drinking water samples of different rural health and their clinical impacts on humans. *Biomed. Res. Int.* doi:10.1155/2013/348250.
- Pinto A, Simoes R, Oliveira M, Vaz-Pires P, Brandao R and da Costa P M (2015) Multidrugresistance in wild bird populations: importance of the food chain. *J. Zoo. Wildl. Med.* **46**, 723-731.
- Saavedra-Rojas S-Y, Duarte-Valderrama C, González-de-Arias M-N and Ovalle-Guerro M V (2015) Emergencia de *Providencia rettgeri* NDM-1 en dos departamentos de Colombia, 2012-2013. *Enferm Infecc Microbiol Clin.* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.eimc.2015.05.011>.
- Sharma D, Sharma P and Soni P (2017) First case report of *Providencia rettgeri* neonatal sepsis. *BMC Res. Notes* **10**, 536.
- Sharma N and Gupta D (2016) Molecular characterization and antibiotic screening of *Providencia stuartii* isolated from the desert of Bikaner, northern India. *J. Biotech. Biosaf.* **4**(1), 339-344.
- Shenoy A K, Jyothi E K and Ravikumar R (2014) Phenotypic identification & molecular detection of *bla*<sub>NDM-1</sub> gene in multidrug resistant gram-negative bacilli in a tertiary care centre. *Indian J. Med. Res.* **139**, 625-631.
- Shima A, Hinenoya A, Samosornsuk W, Samosornsuk S, Mungkornkaew N and Yamasaki S (2016) Prevalence of *Providencia* strains among patients with diarrhea and in retail meats in Thailand. *Jpn. J. Infect. Dis.* **69**, 323-325.
- Shiroto K, Ishii Y, Kimura S, Alba J, Watanabe K, Matsushima Y and Yamaguchi K (2005) Metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase IMP-1 in *Providencia rettgeri* from two different hospitals in Japan. *J. Med. Microbiol.* **54**, 1065-1070.
- Tada T, Miyoshi-Akiyama T, Dahal R K, Sah M K, Ohara H, Shimada K, Kirikae T and Pokhrel B M (2014) NDM-1 Metallo- $\beta$ -Lactamase and ArmA 16S rRNA methylase producing *Providencia rettgeri* clinical isolates in Nepal. *BMC Infect. Dis.* **14**, 56.
- Tshisevhe V S, Lekalakala M R, Tshuma N, Janse van Rensburg S and Mbelle N (2017) Outbreak of carbapenem-resistant *Providencia rettgeri* in a tertiary hospital. *South Afr. Med. J. (SAMJ)* **107**(1), 31-33.
- Urbanova E, Manova K and Pacova Z (2000) Bacteria of the tribe Proteaceae-Occurrence in raw materials and food and resistance to antibiotics. *Vet. Met.-Czech* **45**(6), 171-176.
- Voukeng I K, Nganou B K, Sandjo L P, Celik I, Beng V P, Tane P and Kuete V (2017) Antibacterial activities of the methanol extract, fractions and compounds from *Elaeophorbia drupifera* (Thonn.) Stapf. (Euphorbiaceae). *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* **17**, 28.
- Wang X, Wang J, Hao H, Qiu L, Liu H, Chen S, Dang R and Yang Z (2014) Pathogenic *Providencia alcalifaciens* strain that causes fatal hemorrhagic pneumonia in piglets. *Curr. Microbiol.* **68**, 278-284.
- Washington M A, Barnhill J and Griffin J M (2015) A case of wound infection with *Providencia rettgeri* and coincident Gout in a patient from Guam. *Hawaii J. Med. & Pub. Heal.* **74**(11), 375-377.
- World Health Organization (WHO) (2017) Global priority list of antibiotic-resistant bacteria to guide research, discovery, and development of new antibiotics. Report WHO during a meeting held in Geneva. 25-27 January 2017.
- Xia R, Ren Y, Guo X and Xu H (2013) Molecular diversity of class 2 integrons in antibiotic-resistant gram-negative bacteria found in wastewater environments in China. *Ecotoxicology* **22**(2), 402-414.