



Investigating the Correlation between Bacterial Isolates and Antibiotic Resistance

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DESCRIPTION

Bacteria come in a variety of shapes and sizes, and each type has its own unique characteristics. Investigating the correlation between bacterial isolates and antibiotic resistance requires an understanding of the different types of bacteria. There are five main categories: gram-positive bacteria, gram-negative bacteria, acid-fast bacteria, anaerobic bacteria, and facultative anaerobes. These organisms retain crystal violet dye during the staining process and appear purple under a microscope. *Staphylococcus aureus* is an example of a gram-positive bacterium that can cause serious infections such as food poisoning or toxic shock syndrome. Gram-negative bacteria do not retain crystal violet dye during the staining process and appear pink under a microscope. These organisms have an additional outer membrane that makes them more resistant to antibiotics than gram-positive bacteria.

Examples include *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* which can cause urinary tract infections or pneumonia if left untreated. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* is an example of an acid-fast bacterium that can cause tuberculosis in humans if left untreated. Anaerobic bacteria are organisms that thrive in low oxygen environments such as mud or sewage sludge. *Clostridium tetani* is an example of an anaerobic bacterium that can cause tetanus if left untreated. Facultative anaerobes are organisms that can survive both in oxygenated and non-oxygenated environments but prefer oxygenated environments if available. *Salmonella enterica* is one example of a facultative anaerobe that can cause food poisoning if left untreated. Understanding the different types of bacterial isolates is essential for investigating the correlation between bacterial isolates and antibiotic resistance since each type has its own unique characteristics which may influence how it responds to antibiotics treatment. Studying the correlation between bacterial isolates and antibiotic resistance requires careful consideration of laboratory methods that are used to identify and measure the resistance of the bacteria.

Proper identification of bacterial isolates and measuring their resistance to antibiotics has to be explored. The first step in this

process is culturing the bacteria. This involves placing a sample on a nutrient-rich agar plate or liquid medium, which encourages the growth of different types of bacteria. After a few days, colonies of bacteria should grow on the plate or medium, these colonies can then be tested for antibiotic susceptibility. Once the bacterial isolate is identified, it is important to test for antibiotic susceptibility. This can be done using a variety of techniques such as disc diffusion, broth dilution, or automated systems. Disc diffusion involves placing an antibiotic-impregnated disc on an agar plate containing bacterial isolate and measuring the size of inhibition zone around the disc after incubation. For broth dilution tests, one need to prepare serial dilutions of antibiotics in liquid media containing bacterial isolate before measuring Minimum Inhibitory Concentrations (MICs). Automated systems are also available for testing antibiotic susceptibility but require more specialized equipment and protocols. Lastly, it is important to interpret correct results in order to accurately assess antibiotic resistance levels in bacterial isolate. This involves comparing MIC values with accepted breakpoints for each antibiotic tested and determining whether the isolate is considered susceptible, intermediate or resistant based on these values. It is also important to consider other factors such as environmental conditions or other drug interactions that may affect the results. By following these steps carefully, one can properly identify bacterial isolates and measure their resistance to antibiotics in order to investigate possible correlations between them. Antibiotic resistance is a major global health concern, as bacteria become more and more resistant to existing antibiotics. Recent research has focused on investigating the correlation between bacterial isolates and antibiotic resistance. To address this issue, a variety of strategies must be employed in order to combat the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. One potential strategy is to reduce unnecessary use of antibiotics. For example, healthcare providers should only prescribe antibiotics when necessary and patients should only take them as prescribed. This will help to reduce the development of resistant bacteria which are often created when antibiotics are overused or misused. In addition, it is important for healthcare facilities to practice good

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infection control strategies such as proper hand wash and sterilization techniques in order to prevent the spread of resistant bacteria from one patient to another. Vaccines are also an important tool in reducing the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria as they can help boost immunity against certain infections and reduce the need for antibiotics. It is important to implement surveillance systems that allow us to monitor changes in bacterial isolates and their susceptibility to antibiotics over time. This data can be used to develop new strategies for preventing

and treating infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Overall, there are many strategies that can be employed in order to combat the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Furthermore, understanding which bacterial isolates are most likely become resistant when exposed to antibiotics as well as what genetic mutations lead to increased levels of drug-resistance could provide vital insights into preventing new drug-resistant strains from emerging in clinical environments around the world.