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Reemergence of chloramphenicol sensitivity among *Salmonella enterica* serovars *Typhi* and *Paratyphi*: A six year experience in a tertiary care hospital in Nepal

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Emerging drug resistance among *Salmonella Typhi* and *Paratyphi* has become challenging in the treatment of enteric fever. The objective of this study was to determine the antibiotic susceptibility pattern of *Salmonella* serotypes isolated from patients with enteric fever admitted to Manipal Teaching Hospital, Pokhara, Nepal. A total of 30 *Salmonella enterica* serovar *Typhi*, *Paratyphi A*, and *Paratyphi B* isolated from cases of typhoid and paratyphoid fever admitted to Manipal Teaching Hospital over a period from January 2012 to March 2018 were investigated. All strains were identified by standard microbiological methods and tested for *in vitro* antibiotic susceptibility testing, using Kirby-Bauer disc diffusion method following the criteria designed by the clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI 2013). *S Typhi* was the most predominant amongst all the isolates (18 of 30 i.e. 60%), followed by *S Paratyphi A* (33.3%, 10 out of 30) and *S Paratyphi B* (6.6%; 2 out of 30). Overall, 91.3% of the isolates were susceptible to chloramphenicol. The percentage sensitivities towards ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, cotrimoxazole and ampicillin were 82.6%, 75.8%, 63% and 37% respectively. All the isolates were sensitive to imipenem and amikacin. These findings suggested that there were changing patterns of antibiotic resistance in enteric fever with reemergence of chloramphenicol sensitive *Salmonella*. This necessitates continuous surveillance of cases and re-evaluation of chloramphenicol therapy in *Salmonella* infections in Nepal.

Biography

Rajani Shrestha has completed her MBBS from Nepal Medical College Teaching Hospital in 2010 and MD in Microbiology from Manipal College of Medical Sciences, Pokhara Nepal in 2017. Currently, she is working as a Lecturer in the Department of Microbiology at Manipal College of Medical Sciences, Pokhara, Nepal since 2017.

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