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BK Polyomavirus nephropathy and viral genotypes

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BK Polyomavirus (BKPyV) is the most common pathogen in renal transplant recipients and BKPyV associated nephropathy (BKPyVAN) is one of the most significant causes of graft dysfunction and loss in renal transplant recipients. The aim of this study is to find if there is an association between the BKPyV genotypes and the BKPyVAN. A total of 72 renal transplant recipients were studied. BKPyV were detected and quantified by real-time PCR in urine and plasma. Isolates from positive urine samples were genotyped and a phylogenetic analysis was performed. In the studied population, two from the 34 BKPyV infected patients developed BKPyVAN and both have subtype I/subgroup Ib-2. Most other patients clustered with genotype I/subgroup Ib-2 present in 76.5% of the detected isolates. Subtype II, subtype IV and subtype I/subgroup Ib-1 were found in 17.5%, 3% and 3%, respectively. This study suggests that there is not a clear relationship between viral genotypes and BKPyVAN; since the majority of the asymptomatic infected patients had the subtype I/subgroup Ib-2.

Biography

Hanan Boukoum completed his PhD in Biology in the year 2015. His research work was concentrated mainly on the study of viruses and was carried out in the Laboratory of Transmissible Diseases and Biologically Active Substances in the Faculty of Pharmacy of Monastir, Tunisia and a part of his work was done in the Laboratory of Virology in Saint Eloi Hospital Montpellier in France. Currently, he has 5 publications in the *Journal of Medical Virology*.

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