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Insight into antibiotic resistance and patterns of carbapenam-resistant Enterobacteriaceae in the United Arab Emirates

Antibiotic resistance is a major global healthcare issue. Specifically there is a growing problem with Enterobacteriaceae resistant to Carbapenam (CRE). United States Centers of Disease Control has prioritized this as a significant threat to public health. CRE organisms are seen with increasing frequency and resistance to a broad spectrum of antibiotics. This study presents clinical challenges for patients as well as public health concern. A collaborative project to look at resistant strains and their molecular signature was undertaken in the UAE. Initial studies of more than 70 strains showed interesting resistance pattern. The clinical microbiologic phenotype was ascertained and the resistance pattern to panels of antibiotics reported. Resistance to standard beta-lactam regimens were virtually always present. Increasing frequency of resistance to penams and colistin was seen. Genetic patterns clustered the strains into different groups and various strain families could be discerned. This is the first study in the country of this important emerging microbiologic threat. There are clinical benefits as well as epidemiological implications of these studies.

Biography

Aaron Han has completed MD/PhD program from Baylor College of Medicine with a thesis in Immunogenetics. He is a practicing Pathologist with interest in tumor pathology and special expertise in breast, gynecologic and hematolymphoid tumors. He also is a board certified Clinical Informaticist.

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