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Principal Investigator

Trainee

SECTION I - RESEARCH PROTOCOL

1. Title

: Study of the antigenic composition of outermembrane components of Shigella dysenteriae type 1 strains in relation to their plasmid profile

2. Principal Investigator : Khaleda Haider

Consultant

: Dr. Ivan Ciznar

3. Starting Date

: April 1986

4. Completion Date

: March 1987

5. Total Direct Cost

: \$ 17,790

6. Scientific Programme Head:

This protocol has been approved by the

Host Defense

Working Group

Signature of the Scientific Program Head _______

7. Abstract Summary

The composition of outer membrane components of the Shigella dysenteriae type 1 strains with altered plasmid profiles that have been obtained in our laboratory will be studied. These strains have distinct plasmid profiles involving a set of four major plasmids in the size range 140 to 1.94 Mdal. The antisera will be raised against the whole cells as well as isolated outermembrane (OM) of individual mutants. Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, Cross immunoelectrophoresis and Western blotting will be applied

the analysis. Invasiveness of the mutants will be studied by Sereny's test and on Hela cells. Correlation will be studied, between the plasmid profile of the strains, invasiveness and antigenicity of the outer membrane components.

After completion of the study we hope to be able

- a. To correlate plasmid profile of <u>S. dysenteriae</u> 1 with its invasiveness and to the antigenicity of OM components.
- b. To identify antigens related to invasiveness of <u>Shigella</u>

 <u>dysenteriae</u> type 1.

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| a. | Ethical Review Committee: |
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| b. | Research Review Committee : |
| c. | Director: |

SECTION II - RESEARCH PLAN

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Objectives

a. To study plasmid profiles of Shigella dysenteriae type 1, in relation to its invasiveness, antigenicity and composition of the outer membrane components.

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2. BACKGROUND

Cell envelope of gram negative bacteria is an immunochemically complex structure composed of three morphologically distinct layers(1,2), namely, the cytoplasmic membrane; a rigid peptidoglycan layer, and a second membranous structure, the outer or L-membrane. The outer membrane contains substantial amounts of protein, phospholipid and lipopolysaccharide (LPS), aclass of antigens referred to as an "O" antigen.

To manifest pathogenecity Shigella must

- 1. Posses smooth LPS-0 antigen
- Have genes encoding the ability to invade epithelial cells and proliferate therein, and,
- 3. Elaborate a toxin during the infective process

The importance of smooth LPS as one of the virulence properties of Shigella is best illustrated by the phase variation exhibited by Shigella sonnei (3). Phase I S. sonnei possesses a smooth, complete LPS structure with 2-amino 2-deoxy-L, altruonic acid as a component of

the oligosaccharide repeat unit; phase I organisms are usually virulent. Phase II <u>S. sonnei</u> are rough, do not manifest the O-repeat polymer, and are non-pathogenic. A loss of the 120 Mdal plasmid is associated with the transition from phase I to Phase II (3). Reintroduction of this large plasmid into phase II <u>S. sonnei</u> restores them to phase I and regenerates their epithelial cell invasiveness.

Shigella dysenteriae 1 and S. flexneri are known to exhibit colonial variation wherein some translucent, virulent colonies become opaque and avirulent (4). This phenomenon is distinct from phase I variation seen in S. sonnei since both the translucent and opaque colonies manifest smooth complete LPS.

Genetic hybrids of Shigella and E. coli in which genes encoding production of E. coli 08 or 025 LPS were transferred to S. flexneri 2a recipients were prepared by Gemski et al (5). The transconjugant Shigella sp strains expressing E. coli 08 smooth LPS surface antigen were all avirulent. In contrast, in some Shigella sp. transconjugants bearing E coli 025 LPS remained virulent, invaded guinea pig intestinal mucosa, and caused keratoconjunctivitis when inoculated into the conjunctival sac. The immunodominant repeating sugar of the 08 LPS is D-mannose. This is distinct from LPS of S. flexneri 2a wherein the structure providing type specificity involves attachment chains to rhamnose Nside secondary glucosyl acetylgluosamine-rhamnose-rhamnose repeat unit. Although the precise chemical identity of E. coli 025 LPS has not yet been elucidated it is recognized that rhamnose is present in its 0 repeat unit. These obervations emphasized the role of specific LPS as one of the virulence properties of <u>Shigella</u> spp. and suggest that the chemical structure of the 0-repeat sugar unit is one factor in <u>Shigella</u> sp-host cell interactions.

The role of smooth LPS in the pathogenesis of Shigella sp infection has been further studied by Okamura et al (6). These workers noted that some rough mutants derived from a virulent smooth S. flexneri 2a strain can invade Hela cell but were incapable of causing keratoconjunctivitis but when O-antigen genes from a smooth avirulent S. flexneri strain were transferred to the rough mutant, the transconjugants regained the ability to cause keratoconjunctivitis.

A number of genes appear to encode properties of epithelial cell invasiveness, ability to proliferate within the epithelial cells, and the capacity to cause keratoconjunctivitis in guinea pig's eye. Formal et al (7) identified one locus near the purine E region of the Shigella sp. chromosome that represents a gene locus associated with the ability to provoke keratoconjunctivitis in the a guinea pig eye. Virulent S. flexneri also possess large 120 to 140 Mdal plasmids that, according to Sansonetti and co-workers (8), contain genetic materials relating to invasiveness for epithelial cells. Loss of this plasmid results in avirulence. Genetic transfer of the 140 Mdal plasmid back into avirulent, plasmid free strains resulted in reacquisition of epithelial cell invasiveness by the recipient strains. Silva et al (9) have documented the presence of such large plasmids in all species of Shigella and have shown that only strains possessing the large plasmid can evoke keratoconjunctivitis in the guinea pig eye test. Recently a small 6 Mdal plasmid has been found to be involved in '0' antigen production in S. dysenteriae I and to be essential for virulence (10).

Hale et al (11) has shown that the 140 Mdal plasmid in <u>S. flexneri</u> encodes the production of certain outer membrane proteins. It appears that these proteins are involved in the process by which <u>Shigella</u> organisms invade epithelial cells. <u>Shigella</u> minicells which harbour the 140 Mdal plasmid were found to be able to invade Hela cells, whereas syngenetic plasmid-free mini cells could not. Hale et al (11) have hypothesized that the OMPs encoded by the virulence plasmid represent bacterial adhesins which bind to some as yet undetermined receptors on the surface of host enterocytes. Expression of these peptidis is thermo-regulated, as is expression of the invasive phenotype itself (12).

Some years ago Formal et al (13) and Falkow et al (14) noted that genes in the Xylose-rhamnose region of the Shigella sp. chromosome appear to be involved with the ability of Shigella organisms to be involved with the ability of Shigella organisms to proliferate within epithelial cells after cell invasion. Recently, Sansonetti et al (15) were able, by the stepwise conjugal transfer of a large plasmid and three chromosomal segments from S. flexneri 2a to E. coli K-12 to construct a strain possessing the prerequisites for expression of full virulence. Recently Maurelli et al (16) have shown that a 37 Kilobase gene sequence in a large plasmid Shigella sp. is the minimum sequence necessary for invasion of Hela cells.

New knowledge of the pathogenic step involved in invasion of epithelial cells by Shigella strain and of the role of large plasmids has been applied to the development of experimental vaccines Adamur et al (17) for example, immunized guinea pigs and rabbits subcutaneously with OMP of Shigella flexneri 3a and S. sonnei phase I. Immunized

animals were challenged by inoculation into the conjunctival 8 9 9 sac of 5 x 10 to 1 x 10 pathogenic organisms but were completely protected from keratoconjunctivitis from a challenge with S. flexneri 3a. These priliminary results in animal models suggest that the OMPs of pathogenic Shigella strains may indeed be important immunogens to be found in vaccines.

3. Rationale

We have obtained 6 strains of <u>S. dysenteriae</u>? With altered plasmid make-up, by using different chemical and physical treatments. These strains thus appear to be suitable for a preliminary study of the possible correlation between the plasmid profile, invasiveness and the antigenicity of outermembrane components.

B. SPECIFIC AIMS

- To study the involvement of the 140 and 6 Mdal plasmid in invasiveness by using mutant strains, which are negative in the Sereny test.
- 2. To compare the plasmid profile, the outer membrane protein profile and antigenicity of outermembrane components of the study strains.
- 3. To see whether loss of plasmid(s) correlates with the change of '0' antigen pattern.

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C. MATERIALS AND METHODS

- 1. Bacterial strains: Total 6 mutants and two wild strains of <u>S.</u>

 dysenteriae I strain will be studied.
- 2. Immunization: Antisera will be raised against the whole cells as well as outer membranes of the individual mutants and their parent strains.

3. Biochemical and immunological tests

- a. Double diffusion technique (Ouchterlony, 1964) will be used for detection an semi-quantitative estimation of antigen(18).
- b. LPS will be extracted by phenol water procedure (Westphal, Jann, 1965) (19).
- c. Outer membrane protein will be isolated by the method described by Johnston K.H. and Gotschlich E.C. (1974).
- d. SDS-PAGE analysis of outer membrane protein will be carried out by standard methods of Laemmili (1970) (21).
- e. Cross immuno electrophoresis will be performed to analyse the antigenic pattern of the organism by the method described by Kroll, J. (22).
 - f. Western blotting will be performed according to the methods described by H. Towbin (23).
- 4. Tests for invasiveness: The invasiveness will be assayed by both Sereny test (24) and by the infection of cultured HeLa cells (25).

D. SIGNIFICANCE

It is not fully understood what is the role of the outermembrane proteins and LPS of Shigella dysenteriae type 1 strains in the pathogenicity of the organism and the hosts immune response against it. Some of these outermembrane components in Shigella generally are mediated directly or indirectly by plasmid(s). In the case of <u>S. dysenteriae</u> type 1 the situation appears to be similar.

It has been shown that the invasive ability of strains of Shigella may be mediated by plasmids of size ranging from 6 to 140 Mdal.

This protocol will enable us to identify the plasmid dependent immunogenic OM components. Some of these components might help in the invasion process and some in the protection of the host against the organisms.

Identification of such plasmid(s) will open up the possibility of developing a vaccine for <u>Shigella</u> by cloning the protective functions in a suitable carrier bacterium, which would be the continuation of this work.

This protocol will help us to study the relation of plasmids of \underline{S} .

dysenteriae 1 to antigenic composition of the outermembrane components.

E. FACILITIES REQUIRED

ICDDR, B Genetics Laboratory, Immunology laboratory and the Animal House facilities will be shared.

F. COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - None

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ICDDRB BUDGET PROPOSAL--1986

Program Name:

HDWG

Project/Protocol/Branch: ANTIGENS OF SHIGELLA OMP

Principle Investigator: K. HAIDER

Budget Code:

Protocol No:

SUMMARY BUDGET

| O Local Salary | US\$ | 5320 |
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| International Salary | | 0 |
| Consultants | | 0 |
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| ther costs Inter-departmental | | 2200 |
| tal Direct Operating | | 1579Ö |
| pital Expenditure | | 2000 |
| OTAL DIRECT COST | US≇ | 17790 |

PERSONNEL REQUIREMENT (Local)

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NEW RECRUITS

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| LAB ATTENDANT | 1 | 12 | 110 | 1320 |
| TOTAL | 1 | 12 | | 1320 |

TRAVEL PLANS -- INTERNATIONAL

(calculate on form and enter total)

TOTAL:

2500

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

| A/C | . TEMS | AMOUNT | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| 3761 3702 - 3703 | Drugs Glassware Hosp suppl | 500 | |
| 3704 370 5 | Stationary Chem, media | 250 | |
| 3706 3707 | Uniform Fuel | 50 | |
| 3708 | Lab suppl | 1000 50 | |
| 3709 3710 | Housekeep Janitorial | 50 | |
| 3711 3 71 2 | Tool&spares Non stock | 2000 | |
| | SUBTOTAL | 3900 | |
| 3713 | FREIGHT | 1170 | |
| | TOTAL | 5070 | |

OTHER COSTS

| A/C | ITEMS | Amount |
|------------------------------|--|------------------|
| 3800 3900 4100 | Maintenance Rent,comm,util Bank chrges | 50 50 |
| 4200 4300 4400 4500 | Legal Print, pub Entertainment Service chiges | 450 50 100 |
| 4600 | Staff dev / TOTAL | 700 |

INTERDEPARTMENTAL SERVICES

| A/C | ITEMS | Amount |
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| 4801 4802 4803 4804 4805 4806 4807 4808 4809 4810 | Computer Trans, Dhaka Trans, Matlab Water Trans Trans, Teknaf Xerox Pathology Microbiology Biochemistry | 100 |
| 4811 4812 | I.V. Media | ; ; 1000 |
| 4813 4814 4815 4817 4818 4830 | Patient hosp Animal Med Illust Telex Outpt care Trans sub | 500 |
| | TOTAL | 2200 |

CAPITAL EXPENSES

| Item | Amount |
|-----------|--------|
| TRANSBLOT | 1000 |