

ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY OF VIBRIO CHOLERAЕ ISOLATED IN EAST PAKISTAN

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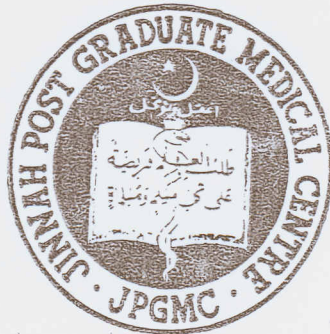
This laboratory has shown that the antibiotic tetracycline can be effectively used in the treatment of cholera. It is not known, however, whether any other antibiotic can be used with such good results. Since tetracycline is expensive, it is highly necessary to find a less expensive substitute for this antibiotic. A cheap drug effective against cholera and readily available in large quantities will drastically cut down hospitalization cost and may even be given to a large group of people as a preventive measure in the face of an epidemic.

With this object in mind, the in vitro drug sensitivity of about 150 strains of *Vibrio cholerae* belonging to various types and isolated locally was compared with *Vibrio cholerae* strains obtained from other countries by the standard tube dilution method. The drugs used were: tetracycline, terramycin, chloromycetin, streptomycin, GS-2989, erythromycin, sulfadiazine, sulfanilamide, sulfapyridine, sulfathiazole, sulfamerazine, sulfaguanidine.

Data will be presented to show that (i) some antibiotics other than tetracycline are equally effective, (ii) sulfa drugs are not effective against true cholera strains, (iii) the El Tor biotype is relatively more sensitive to sulfa drugs, and (iv) patients treated with tetracycline do not yield tetracycline resistant strains.

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