Chicken-Specific Kinome Analysis of Early Host Immune Signaling Pathways in the Cecum of Newly Hatched Chickens Infected With Salmonella enterica Serovar Enteritidis

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Poultry is a major source of human foodborne illness caused by broad host range Salmonella serovars (paratyphoid), and developing cost-effective, pre-harvest interventions to reduce these pathogens would be valuable to the industry and consumer. Host responses to infectious agents are often regulated through phosphorylation. However, proteomic mechanisms of Salmonella acute infection biology and host responses to the bacteria have been limited concentrating predominately on the genomic responses of the host to infection. Our recent development of chicken-specific peptide arrays for kinome analysis of host phosphorylation-based cellular signaling responses provided us with the opportunity to develop a more detailed understanding of the early (4-24 h post-infection) host-pathogen interactions during the initial colonization of the cecum by Salmonella. Using the chicken-specific kinomic immune peptide array, biological pathway analysis showed infection with S. Enteritidis increased signaling related to the innate immune response, relative to the non-infected control ceca. Notably, the acute innate immune signaling pathways were characterized by increased peptide phosphorylation (activation) of the Toll-like receptor and NOD-like receptor signaling pathways, the activation of the chemokine signaling pathway, and the activation of the apoptosis signaling pathways. In addition, Salmonella infection induced a dramatic alteration in the phosphorylation events of the JAK-STAT signaling pathway. Lastly, there is also significant activation of the T cell receptor signaling pathway demonstrating the initiation of the acquired immune response to Salmonella infection. Based on the individual phosphorylation events altered by the early Salmonella infection of the cecum, certain conclusions can be drawn: (1) Salmonella was recognized by both TLR and NOD receptors that initiated the innate immune response; (2) activation of the PPRs induced the production of chemokines CXCL2 (IL-8) and cytokines IL-2, IL-6,
IFN-α, and IFN-γ; (3) Salmonella infection targeted the JAK-STAT pathway as a means of evading the host response by targeting the dephosphorylation of JAK1 and TYK2 and STAT1, 2, 3, 4, and 6; (4) apoptosis appears to be a host defense mechanism where the infection with Salmonella induced both the intrinsic and extrinsic apoptotic pathways; and (5) the T cell receptor signaling pathway activates the AP-1 and NF-κB transcription factor cascades, but not NFAT.

Keywords: Salmonella, chicken, kinome, phosphorylation, innate immunity, immune phenotype

INTRODUCTION

Salmonella invasion of the chicken cecum induces a short-lived inflammation mediated by the increased expression of pro-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine genes in the intestinal tissue (Withanage et al., 2005; Setta et al., 2012; Matulova et al., 2013; Rychlik et al., 2014). The activation of the innate immune response induces an influx of heterophils (granulocytes) to the intestine that limits bacterial invasion (Kogut et al., 1994; Kogut et al., 2012) but does not lead to a pathological inflammation that is seen in mammals (Foster et al., 2003; Patel and McCormick, 2014). However, this heterophil infiltration of the intestine does not have a significant protective response against the salmonellae bacteria that remain in the lumenal side of the ceca. Interestingly, this inflammatory response is largely resolved by 2-3 days post-infection (Kogut et al., 2012; Kogut et al., 2016; Kogut et al., 2017) and is characterized by the reduction of pro-inflammatory cytokines mRNA transcription in the cecum to non-infected control levels yet Salmonella can persist in the intestine and be shed in the feces for several weeks (Withanage et al., 2005).

We have previously used a chicken-specific kinome peptide array analysis to define changes in cecal tissue phenotype during the establishment of a Salmonella persistent infection in chickens. Using the kinome array, we described a Salmonella-mediated reprogramming of host signaling pathways around 3 days post-infection to be the principal mechanism developed by the bacteria to establish a successful persistent long-term colonization in chicken cecum (Kogut et al., 2017). A wide range of host immune and metabolic pathways acted as Salmonella targets, including the T cell receptor signaling pathway, JAK-STAT signaling pathway, the Wnt-Ca²⁺ signaling pathway, NF-κB signaling, the mTOR and AMPK metabolic signaling pathways (Kogut and Arsenault, 2015; Kogut et al., 2017; Kogut and Arsenault, 2017). These pathways control cellular functions such as immunity and metabolism and are an indication of the complexity and scale with which Salmonella infection interferes and thwarts host defense mechanisms to establish and maintain long-term cecal colonization.

However, until now, there has been no characterization of the acute host signaling interactome in the chicken intestine during the initial (first 24 h) infection with Salmonella. In the murine Salmonella infection model, Salmonella enterica serovars use self-induced pathologic inflammation which provides a growth advantage in the host gut that favors intestinal colonization (Winter et al., 2010; Winter and Baumler, 2011; Thiennimitr et al., 2012; Patel and McCormick, 2014). An inflammatory response is generated in chickens, but the signaling pathways that are activated or altered are unknown. In this study, we used a chicken-specific global immunologic peptide array to study the changes in cecal immune signaling pathways during the first 24 h following Salmonella Enteritidis infection.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ethics Statement

These studies were approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) at the Southern Plains Agricultural Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture (ACUC #2012007), which meets all federal requirements as defined in the Animal Welfare Act, the Public Health Service Policy, and the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Experimental Animals

Experiments were conducted according to the regulations established by the United States Department of Agriculture Animal Care and Use Committee. Broiler chicks used in this study were obtained from a commercial breeder and were all the same genetic background and were not vaccinated at any time. Chicks were placed in floor pens containing wood shavings, provided supplemental heat, water, and a balanced, unmedicated corn and soybean meal-based chick starter diet ad libitum that met or exceeded the levels of critical nutrients recommended by the National Research Council (1994). Salmonella was not detected in the feed or from the paper tray liners.

S. Enteritidis Challenge

A poultry isolate of Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis (S. Enteritidis; (ID 9711771, part 24) was obtained from the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (Ames, IA, USA), and was selected for resistance to nalidixic acid and novobiocin and maintained in tryptic soy broth (Difco Laboratories, Sparks, MD, USA) containing antibiotics (20 μg/mL nalidixic acid and 25 μg/mL novobiocin; Sigma Chemical Co.; St. Louis, MO, USA). A stock culture was prepared in sterile PBS and adjusted to a concentration of 1 x 10⁸ colony forming units (CFU/mL). The viable cell concentration of the challenge dose for each experiment was determined by colony counts on XLT4 agar
Enteritidis was compared using the chi-squared test of as positive/total chickens (%) and the percent recovery of contents was determined by colony counts on the plates.

Experimental Design
One-day-old broiler chickens were randomly distributed into two experimental groups: non-infected control and infected. Each group contained 15 birds fed a balanced, unmedicated corn and soybean meal-based diet. Two days post-hatch, all chickens were orally challenged with either 1 mL of 5 x 10⁶ CFU/mL S. Enteritidis (infected group) or mock challenged with 1 mL sterile PBS (non-infected group). At 4, 8 and 24 hours after challenge, 4 chickens from each group were humanly euthanized; all euthanasia procedures followed the guidelines set down in the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals. Cecal contents were analyzed for S. Enteritidis colonization and cecal tissue was flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C for use in the peptide arrays. The experiment was conducted three times. Therefore, the ceca from a total of 15 chickens for each of the 2 groups (5 chickens each in 3 experiments) were used.

Sample Collection to Confirm Bacteria Presence
The ceca from each chicken were removed aseptically, and the contents (0.25 g) were added to tetrathionate broth for enrichment, as well as serially diluted to 1:10, 1:100, 1:1,000, or 1:10,000, and spread onto selection plates. Diluent was produced by adding tissue to 1 mL Butterfield’s Buffered Phosphate Diluent [Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO)]. Selection antibiotics for SE included 20 μg/mL nalidixic acid and 25 μg/mL novobiocin. The plates and enrichment tubes were incubated at 37°C for 24 h. The presence of resistant SE per gram of cecal contents was determined by colony counts on the plates. Contents of enrichment tubes were plated and incubated for an additional 24 h.

Statistical Analysis of SE Cecal Colonization
Statistical differences between groups were determined by analysis of variance (P ≤ 0.05). Means were further separated for significance with a pair-wise multiple comparison procedure (Tukey test, P ≤ 0.05). Chi square analysis was used to determine significant differences between groups in Salmonella cecal colonization rates. Differences were significant based on the 0.05 level of probability. The enrichment data were expressed as positive/total chickens (%) and the percent recovery of S. Enteritidis was compared using the chi-squared test of independence to determine the significance (P ≤ 0.05) for these studies.

Chicken-Specific Kinome (Peptide) Array
For the phenotype readout, a peptide array was used to provide tissue immunometabolism information from the host. At 3 time points (4, 8, and 24 h), 3 whole ceca from 3 randomly selected birds were defrosted for analysis (27 samples total for all 3 d). Each sample was weighed to obtain a consistent 40-mg sample for the array. The samples were homogenized with the Omni International Bead Ruptor Elite (Kennesaw, GA) in 100 mL of lysis buffer (20 mmol Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 150 mmol NaCl, 1 mmol EDTA, 1 mmol ethylene glycol tetraacetic acid, 1% Triton X-100, 2.5 mmol sodium pyrophosphate, 1 mmol Na3VO4, 1 mmol NaF, 1 mg/mL leupeptin, 1 g/mL aprotinin, and 1 mmol phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride). All products were obtained from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), unless indicated. After homogenization, the peptide array protocol was carried out according to Jalal et al. (2009) with alterations described in the study by Arsenault et al. (2017). The resulting tissue lysates were applied onto the PepStar peptide microarrays customized by JPT Peptide Technologies GmbH (Berlin, Germany) and incubated in a sealed container placed in a 5% CO2 incubator at 37°C for 2 h. After incubation, sample residues were washed off the arrays and the arrays were stained in phospho-specific fluorescent ProQ Diamond Phosphoprotein Stain (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA, USA) for 1 h. The arrays were submersed in a destain solution containing 20% acetonitrile (EMD Millipore Chemicals, Billerica, MA, USA) and 50 mM sodium acetate (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) to remove non-phospho-specific binding. The arrays were scanned in a Tecan PowerScanner microarray scanner (Tecan Systems, San Jose, CA, USA) at 532 to 560 nm with a 580-nm filter to detect dye fluorescence. The images of the scanned array were gridded manually to fit the phospho-specific spots and extract signal intensity using GenePix Pro software (version 7.2.29.1, Molecular Devices, CA, USA). Microsoft Excel 2016 (Redmond, WA).

Data Analysis: Kinome Array
Data normalization was performed for the kinome array, based on the study by Li et al. (2012) using the PIKA2 online platform (http://saphire.usask.ca/saphire/piika/index.html), a tool designed for in silico analysis of phosphorylation sites (Trost et al., 2013). The array data were analyzed by conducting variance stabilization normalization and then performing t, testing, clustering and pathway analysis for statistical data. Gene ontology and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway analysis were performed by uploading the statistically significant peptide lists to the Search Tool for the Retrieval of Interacting Genes (STRING) (Szklarczyk et al., 2017).

RESULTS

Salmonella Infection
At 4-, 8-, and 24-hours post-infection, animals were sacrificed, and samples collected. Infection status was confirmed by Salmonella Enteritidis culturing of cecal contents and feces from each animal with and without enrichment. Cultures confirmed that the infected group displayed Salmonella infection throughout the 24 h experiment, while Salmonella was not isolated from animals in the control group (Table 1).
These select data from the several pathways altered by the Salmonella enterica infected conditions. To ensure that the identified pathways represent conserved and consistent biological responses, input data were limited to peptides with a consistent pattern of phosphorylation changes relative to control (p ≤ 0.05) in phosphorylation level relative to the non-infected control treatment. These select data from the analysis data from each time point was corrected using the matched uninfected controls. The kinome data were subjected to pathway overrepresentation analysis to determine which cellular pathways/processes are altered under the infected and non-infected conditions. To ensure that the identified pathways represent conserved and consistent biological responses, input data were limited to peptides with a consistent pattern of differential phosphorylation across the three biological replicates in at least one of the treatment sets as well as significant changes (p ≤ 0.05) in phosphorylation level relative to the non-infected control treatment. These select data from the three animals were merged to generate a representative data set for each treatment condition. All peptides that showed significant phosphorylation changes relative to control (p ≤ 0.05) for each time point were input into the Search Tool for the Retrieval of Interacting Genes/Proteins (STRING) database (Szklarczyk et al., 2017). Using STRING functionality, KEGG pathway results were generated for each dataset.

### Biological Process Analysis

We next considered the individual peptide phosphorylation results generated by the PIKA2 online analysis platform (Trost et al., 2013). These data are a series of fold changes and significance values for each peptide on the array from each sample analyzed. These values are generated by comparing treatment/challenge tissue array outputs to non-challenged control array outputs. The STRING protein-protein interaction database (Szklarczyk et al., 2017) generates GO Biological Process terms and a false discovery rate (FDR) which indicates the likelihood of a biological process being truly represented in the data and not generated by random chance. The top 10 biological processes for each group were compared to find the differences between the lists generated for Salmonella-challenged group and the non-infected control group (Table 2). The results provided convincing evidence for the significant involvement of the local cecal immune response, specifically the innate response, during the first 24 h post-infection with S. enterica.

The STRING generated KEGG pathway results showed several pathways altered by the S. enterica infection at a statistically significant level (p ≤ 0.05 false discovery rate (FDR) corrected). Of particular interest were the immune pathways that contained substantial numbers of peptides that were significantly differentially phosphorylated at multiple times over the course of the study. A subset of these pathways is shown in Table 3. Specifically, there were a total of 139 different significantly altered phosphorylation events within these 6 immune signaling pathways at the 4-hour post-infection time point, 120 at the 8-hour time point and another 124 after 24 h post-infection.

### Phosphorylation Events Within Specific Pathways

#### Toll-Like Receptor Pathway

Toll-like receptors (TLRs) initiate a rapid activation of innate immunity by inducing production of pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines. As shown in Table 4 and Supplemental Figure 1, TLR signaling pathways in the cecum phosphorylated by S. enterica infection appears to be MyD88-dependent with: (1) the phosphorylation (activation) of NF-κB and MAPK signaling pathways and (2) associated with the phosphorylation of and IRE7 induction of interferon-α/β and the activation of the JAK-STAT pathway through the phosphorylation of IFNAR1 receptor.

#### NOD-Like Receptor Pathway

Cecal infection by S. enterica induced the activation of the NOD-like receptor (NLR) pathway with 4-hours post-infection probably via the prototypic NOD-1 pathway which sense the cytosolic presence of bacterial peptidoglycan fragments that escaped from endosomal compartments, driving the activation of both the NF-κB and MAPK signaling pathways. Based on the phosphorylation events shown in Table 5 and Supplemental Figure 2, the NOD-1 pathway is characterized by the phosphorylation of RIP2, CARD9, TRAF2, TAK1, TAB that leads to the activation of 1x8 that activates the NF-κB pathway that leads to pro-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine production and the phosphorylation (activation) of the MAPK (ERK1/3, JNK1, and p38 proteins) and AP-1 (FOS and JUN) signaling pathways that results in pro-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine production (Table 5; Supplemental Figure 3).

#### Chemokine Signaling Pathways

Following infection with S. enterica, a number of chemokine signaling-associated pathways were found to be altered when compared to the non-infected control tissues: MAPK-JAK-STAT signaling pathways (Table 6A), the PI3K signaling pathway (Table 6B), and the CCR5P-PLC-PKC signaling pathway (Table 6C) (Supplemental Figure 3). The most consistent observation in all three downstream pathways regardless of ultimate functional activity is that there was a change in the phosphorylation state of a significant number of proteins within the pathway induced within 4 hours of infection, maintained through 8 hours post-infection, but essentially returned to control levels by 24 hours post-infection. These data provide evidence that the NF-κB-mediated activation of pro-inflammatory functions induced by the MAPK-JAK-STAT signaling pathways (Table 6A), the actin cytoskeleton...
Apoptosis pathways during early infection of the cecum by Salmonella Enteritidis. The extrinsic pathway for receptor activation leads to the subsequent apoptosis. Remarkably, the TNFR1 (CASP8) activates (phosphorylates) caspase 3 that activates (phosphorylates) the initiator caspase, caspase 8 phosphorylated FADD (Fas-associated death domain) which initiate apoptosis via forming a pore in the mitochondrial outer membrane that results in cytochrome c release and activation of the caspase cascade.

TNFR1 also activates the intrinsic pathway by activating (phosphorylating) the RIPK1 (receptor interacting serine/threonine protein kinase 1) and TRAF2 (TNF-R associated 2) adaptor protein complex. This complex phosphorylates ASK1 (Apoptosis signal-regulating kinase 1) which activates c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK). JNK then activates the two pro-apoptotic proteins BAD (BCL2 associated agonist of cell death) and BID (BH3 interacting-domain death agonist) which initiate apoptosis by forming a pore in the mitochondrial outer membrane that allows cytochrome c to escape into the cytoplasm and activate the pro-apoptotic caspase cascade. Lastly, the X-linked inhibitor of apoptosis protein (XIAP), whose function when phosphorylated, is to inhibit apoptosis was, in fact, dephosphorylated in the Salmonella-infected tissue. The dephosphorylation of XIAP blocks the activation of an apoptosis inhibitory pathway during Salmonella infection.

Apoptosis Signaling Pathway

Early infection of the chicken cecum by S. Enteritidis appears to trigger apoptosis via both intrinsic and extrinsic pathways (Table 7; Supplemental Figure 4). Both the Fas and TNFR1 death receptors were activated by phosphorylation by 8 h post-infection. The extrinsic pathway via Fas is stimulated by the binding of the Fas ligand to the Fas receptor which the phosphorylated FADD (Fas-associated death domain) which activates (phosphorylates) the initiator caspase, caspase 8 (CASP8). CASP8 activates (phosphorylates) caspase 3 that results in the subsequent apoptosis. Remarkably, the TNFR1 receptor appears to activate both the extrinsic and intrinsic apoptosis pathways during early infection of the cecum by S. Enteritidis. Like the Fas receptor, TNFR1 activates the extrinsic pathway by activating the FADD →CASP8→CASP3 cascade.

Peptides that displayed a statistically significant change (FDR corrected) in phosphorylation state were input into the STRING database for each time point. GO Biological Process results for each time point are listed, excluding generic results that are inherent to the analysis such as "protein phosphorylation", "enzyme linked receptor protein signaling pathway" and "intracellular signaling transduction". These provide no relevant data for analysis.

**Table 2** | Top 10 GO Biological processes altered between the Salmonella-infected and noninfected groups at 4, 8 and 24 h post-infection from STRING analysis.

| GO ID          | Term                                         | 4 hours | 8 hours | 24 hours |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 00450857       | Innate immune response                       | 91      | 64      | 74      |
| 0007169        | Transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase signaling pathway | 77      | 55      | 67      |
| 0007167        | Enzyme linked receptor protein signaling pathway | 81      | 55      | 73      |
| 0050776        | Regulation of immune response                | 78      | 56      | 64      |
| 00380393       | Fc receptor signaling pathway                | 55      | 56      | 50      |
hours post-infection, a differentiated series of phosphorylation events occurred at the cytokine receptor level in the S. Enteritidis-infected birds when compared to the non-infected control birds (Table 8). First, a significant increase in phosphorylation of the interferon-alpha receptor (IFNAR1), interferon-gamma receptor (IFNGR1), interleukin-2 receptor (IL2RB), and IL6ST (gp130) (Table 8). Simultaneously, there is a significant decrease on the phosphorylation of the IL-4 receptor (IL-4R) at all time points. Interestingly, there was no change in the phosphorylation of the IL-7 receptor (IL-7R) from the non-infected controls at 4 and 8 h pi, but was significantly dephosphorylated at 24 h p.i. The IL10R was only significantly

| Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
|--------------|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| AKT1         | P31749     | S473    | 1.245       | 0.000   | 1.126       | 0.030   | 1.361       | 0.0002  |
| AKT3         | Q94243     | S472    | 1.278       | 0.00006 | 1.175       | 0.016   | –           | –       |
| PIK3R1       | P27986     | S608    | 1.907       | 0.000   | 1.107       | 0.014   | –           | –       |
| PIK3R2       | Q00459     | Y612    | 1.670       | 0.000   | 1.521       | 0.036   | –           | –       |
| IFNAR1       | P17181     | S547    | 1.408       | 0.000   | 1.305       | 0.000   | 1.155       | 0.003   |
| TIRAP        | P58753     | Y179    | 1.119       | 0.000   | 1.205       | 0.000   | –           | –       |
| FOS          | P01100     | S439    | 1.199       | 0.004   | –           | –       | 1.187       | 0.005   |
| CHUK         | Q015111    | S194    | 1.086       | 0.017   | –           | –       | 1.262       | 0.002   |
| IRF7         | Q92985     | S464    | 1.393       | 0.00002 | –           | –       | 1.223       | 0.009   |
| CASP8        | Q14790     | S347    | 1.335       | 0.0003  | 1.095       | 0.36    | 1.305       | 0.001   |
| NFkB-p105    | P19638     | S342    | 1.803       | 0.00001 | 1.230       | 0.004   | –           | –       |
| MEK4         | P45984     | S99     | 1.322       | 0.001   | –           | –       | –           | –       |
| p38          | Q16539     | Y323    | 1.314       | 0.005   | 1.136       | 0.038   | 1.228       | 0.03    |
| TAK1         | O43318     | S446    | 1.160       | 0.006   | –           | –       | –           | –       |
| MEK1         | Q02750     | S300    | 1.132       | 0.036   | 1.231       | 0.0003  | 1.105       | 0.02    |
| ERK1         | P27361     | T193    | 1.160       | 0.029   | 1.194       | 0.00001 | –           | –       |
| JNK1         | P45983     | Y185    | 1.41        | 0.927   | ND          | 0.193   | 1.201       | 0.023   |
| TRAF2        | Q12933     | T117    | 1.091       | 0.027   | 1.178       | 0.0003  | 1.091       | 0.031   |
| RAC1         | P63000     | S71     | 1.242       | 0.0004  | 1.230       | 0.0004  | 1.314       | 0.0001  |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold-Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

*= Phosphorylation site.

TABLE 4 | Members of the NOD-like receptor signaling pathway showing differential phosphorylation between Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue and non-infected cecal tissue.

| Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
|--------------|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| NFkB-p105    | P19638     | S342    | 1.803       | 0.00001 | 1.233       | 0.004   | –           | –       |
| p38          | Q16539     | Y323    | 1.314       | 0.005   | 1.136       | 0.038   | 1.228       | 0.03    |
| TAK1         | P27361     | T193    | 1.160       | 0.06    | 1.194       | 0.00001 | –           | –       |
| JNK1         | P45983     | Y185    | 1.41        | 0.927   | –           | –       | 1.201       | 0.023   |
| FOS          | P01100     | S439    | 1.199       | 0.004   | –           | –       | 1.187       | 0.005   |
| JUN          | P05412     | S194    | 1.138       | 0.032   | 1.178       | 0.033   | –           | –       |
| CHUK         | Q015111    | S194    | 1.086       | 0.017   | –           | –       | 1.262       | 0.002   |
| RIPK2        | Q13546     | Y384    | 1.170       | 0.047   | 1.151       | 0.001   | –           | –       |
| XIAP         | P09170     | S60     | -1.752      | 0.00001 | –           | –       | -1.312      | 0.010   |
| TRAF2        | Q12933     | T117    | 1.091       | 0.027   | 1.178       | 0.0003  | 1.091       | 0.031   |
| CARD9        | Q0H257     | S238    | 1.227       | 0.006   | –           | –       | 1.217       | 0.001   |
| TAB3         | Q8N5C8     | S60     | 1.134       | 0.037   | 1.214       | 0.003   | 1.097       | 0.032   |
| ERK3         | Q16659     | S189    | 1.314       | 0.0002  | 1.212       | 0.000   | –           | –       |
| IkB          | P25963     | Y46     | 1.193       | 0.038   | 1.178       | 0.009   | –           | –       |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold-Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

*= Phosphorylation site.
Dephosphorylated at 4 h pi with no change from the control at 8 and 24 h p.i. (Table 8).

Early infection of the cecum by S. Enteritidis appears to have differential effects in the JAK kinases. JAK1 and TYK2 are targets for dephosphorylation at 4 h and 4-24 h p.i., respectively; whereas JAK2 and JAK3 were significantly phosphorylated by S. Enteritidis infection when compared to the non-infected controls (Table 8).

### TABLE 6A | Members of the chemokine signaling pathway showing differential phosphorylation between Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue and non-infected cecal tissue: MAPK and JAK-STAT signaling pathways.

| Functions                     | Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | 4 hours pi |  | 8 hours pi |  | 24 hours pi |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------|------------|  |           |  |            |  |
|                               |              |            |         | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
| Cytokine production           | Src           | P12931     | S17     | 2.136      | 0      | 1.268       | 0.02    | –           | –       |
|                               | Src1          | P29353     | Y47     | 1.36       | 0      | –1.249      | 0.01    | –           | –       |
|                               | GRB2          | P62993     | Y209    | –          | –      | 1.129       | 0.001   | –           | –       |
|                               | SOS1          | Q07889     | S1208   | 1.708      | 0.004  | 1.42        | 0.006   | 1.992       | 0.042   |
|                               | H-RAS         | P01112     | T35     | 1.695      | 0.001  | 1.26        | 0       | –           | –       |
|                               | Src1          | P10398     | S343    | 1.219      | 0.003  | 1.287       | 0.032   | –           | –       |
| Cellular growth & development | MEK1          | Q02750     | S300    | 1.133      | 0.037  | 1.231       | 0.0003  | 1.105       | 0.02    |
|                               | ERK1          | P27361     | T193    | 1.160      | 0.029  | 1.194       | 0       | –           | –       |
| Cell survival                 | CHUK          | O15111     | S194    | 1.086      | 0.017  | –           | –       | 1.262       | 0.002   |
| Apoptosis                     | Nfkb1A        | P25963     | 1.193   | 0.04       | 1.178  | 0.01        | –       | –1.193      | –       |
| Cell migration                | Nfkb1A        | P19838     | S342    | 1.803      | 0.00001| 1.233      | 0.004   | –           | –       |
|                               | Nfkb1A        | Q00653     | S872    | 1.926      | 0      | 1.214       | 0       | –           | –       |
|                               | JAK2          | Q06074     | Y219    | 1.118      | 0.006  | 1.512       | 0.000   | 1.073       | 0.05    |
|                               | JAK3          | P52333     | Y980    | 1.135      | 0.032  | 1.185       | 0.017   | 1.217       | 0.0004  |
| STAT5B                       |               | P51672     | Y740    | 2.208      | 0      | 1.073       | 0.029   | 1.514       | 0.006   |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

* = Phosphorylation site.

### TABLE 6B | Members of the chemokine signaling pathway showing differential phosphorylation between Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue and non-infected cecal tissue: PI3K signaling pathway.

| Functions                     | Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | 4 hours pi |  | 8 hours pi |  | 24 hours pi |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------|------------|  |           |  |            |  |
|                               |              |            |         | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
| Cytokine production           | PIK3R1       | P27986     | S608    | 1.907      | 0      | 1.107       | 0.014   | –           | –       |
|                               | PIK3R2       | Q00459     | Y612    | 1.670      | 0.006  | 1.521       | 0.036   | –           | –       |
|                               | AKT1         | P31749     | S473    | 1.245      | 0.03   | 1.126       | 0.03    | 1.361       | 0       |
|                               | CHUK         | O15111     | S194    | 1.086      | 0.017  | –           | –       | 1.262       | 0.002   |
| Leukocyte migration           | Src          | P25963     | 1.193   | 0.04       | 1.178  | 0.01        | –       | –1.193      | –       |
|                               | PIK3R1       | P27986     | S608    | 1.907      | 0      | 1.107       | 0.014   | –           | –       |
|                               | PIK3R2       | Q00459     | Y612    | 1.670      | 0.006  | 1.521       | 0.036   | –           | –       |
|                               | AKT1         | P31749     | S473    | 1.245      | 0.03   | 1.126       | 0.03    | 1.361       | 0       |
| Actin cytoskeleton regulation | NFkβ1A       | P25963     | 1.193   | 0.04       | 1.178  | 0.01        | –       | –1.193      | –       |
|                               | NFkβ1A       | P19838     | S342    | 1.803      | 0.00001| 1.233      | 0.004   | –           | –       |
|                               | NFkβ1A       | Q00653     | S872    | 1.926      | 0      | 1.214       | 0       | –           | –       |
|                               | ITK          | Q08881     | Y523    | 2.136      | 0      | 1.268       | 0.2     | 1.194       | 0.016   |
| Cellular shape change         | CDC42        | P69553     | Y64     | 1.418      | 0      | 1.218       | 0.006   | –           | –       |
|                               | WASP         | P42786     | Y256    | 1.484      | 0      | 1.272       | 0.04    | –           | –       |
|                               | RhoA         | P61586     | S188    | 1.231      | 0.002  | –1.266      | 0       | –1.174      | 0       |
|                               | ROCK2        | Q75116     | Y500    | 1.231      | 0.002  | –1.266      | 0       | –1.168      | 0.01    |
|                               | FAK          | Q05997     | Y397    | 1.220      | 0.001  | –1.263      | 0       | –1.143      | 0.001   |
|                               | CRK          | P46108     | Y252    | 1.806      | 0.001  | –           | –       | –1.402      | 0       |
|                               | PYK2         | Q14289     | Y405    | 1.259      | 0.001  | –           | –       | –1.402      | 0       |
|                               | PAK1         | P13153     | T212    | 1.442      | 0.019  | 1.275       | 0.04    | –           | –       |
|                               | RAC1         | P63000     | S71     | 1.252      | 0      | 1.23        | 0       | 1.314       | 0       |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

* = Phosphorylation site.
Additionally, early infection of the cecum by S. Enteritidis appears to target most STAT proteins (STAT1, STAT3, STAT4, STAT6) which were all significantly dephosphorylated during the first 24 h p.i. The lone exception was STAT5B which was significantly phosphorylated at Tyr749 at all three early post-infection time points following infection with S. Enteritidis.

It should also be noted that the suppressor of cytokine signaling 3 (SOCS3) was dephosphorylated during the entire initial 24 hours of S. Enteritidis infection.

**T Cell Receptor Signaling Pathway**

T cells need two signals to become fully activated. Signal 1 is provided by the T-cell receptor when recognizing a specific antigen associated with major histocompatibility complex molecules. Signal 2 comes from co-stimulatory receptors such as CD28, presented on the surface of other immune cells. It is expressed only when an infection was detected by the innate immune system. Engagement of the T cell receptor through these 2 signals results in a series of signaling cascades that lead to T-cell proliferation, cytokine production and differentiation into effector cells (Smith and Gobel, 2022). These protein cascades lead to the activation of transcription factors. Transcription factors involved in T cell signaling pathway are the NFAT, NF-xB and AP1 (Smith and Gobel, 2022). Specifically, TCR activation results in the phosphorylation and activation of the lymphocyte-specific protein tyrosine kinase. Phosphorylation of

**TABLE 6C |** Members of the chemokine signaling pathway showing differential phosphorylation between Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue and non-infected cecal tissue: CCR5-PLC-PKC signaling pathway.

| Functions          | Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Degranulation      | CCR5         | P51681     | S276    | 1.412       | 0       | 1.088       | 0.03    | 1.234       | 0       |
|                    | PKCA         | P1752      | S659    | 1.35        | 0.001   | -           | -       | -           | -       |
|                    |              |            |         | 2.09        | 0       | -           | -       | -           | -       |
| Migration          | INOS         | P65228     | Y148    | 1.263       | 0       | -1.537      | 0       | -           | -       |
|                    | FAK          | Q05397     | Y397    | 1.220       | 0.001   | -1.263      | 0       | -1.143      | 0.001   |
| ROS production     | CRK          | P46108     | Y252    | 1.806       | 0.001   | -           | -       | -1.402      | 0       |
|                    | PYK2         | Q14289     | Y405    | 1.259       | 0.001   | -           | -       | -1.402      | 0       |
|                    | NCF10        | P14598     | S360    | 1.086       | 0.029   | 1.170       | 0.03    | -           | -       |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold-Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

**TABLE 7 |** Members of the apoptosis signaling pathway showing differential phosphorylation between Salmonella enterica serovar Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue and non-infected cecal tissue.

| Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value | Fold change | p-value |
|--------------|------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| TRAF2        | Q12933     | T117    | 1.091       | 0.027   | 1.178       | 0.0003 | 1.091       | 0.031   |
| CHUK         | Q015111    | S194    | 1.086       | 0.017   | -           | -       | -1.312      | 0.010   |
| XIAP         | P98170     | S87     | -1.752      | 0.00001 | -           | -       | 1.191       | 0.0009  |
| cFLAR        | Q15519     | Y253    | 1.392       | 0.00004 | -           | -       | 1.262       | 0.0002  |
| CASP6        | P55212     | S268    | 2.14        | 0.000    | 1.325       | 0.0011 | -           | -       |
| CASP8        | Q14790     | Y383    | 1.335       | 0.0003  | 1.095       | 0.035  | 1.305       | 0.001   |
| CASP9        | Q14790     | S350    | -           | -       | 1.095       | 0.014  | 1.225       | 0.003   |
| BAD          | Q29334     | S112    | 1.180       | 0.00002 | 1.05        | 0.044  | 1.110       | 0.018   |
| NTRK1 (TrkA) | P04829     | Y785    | -1.368      | 0.004   | -1.471      | 0.0006 | -1.192      | 0.039   |
| RIPK1        | Q13546     | Y384    | 1.170       | 0.047   | 1.151       | 0.001  | -           | -       |
| FAS          | P25445     | Y265    | -           | -       | 1.316       | 0.0004 | 1.296       | 0.002   |
| RelA         | Q04206     | S281    | 1.098       | 0.041   | 1.294       | 0.0002 | 1.116       | 0.0007  |
| CASP3        | P45274     | S158    | -           | -       | 1.173       | 0.0002 | 1.161       | 0.045   |
| BID          | P55957     | Y56     | 1.008       | 0.046   | 1.029       | 0.033  | 1.122       | 0.037   |
| TNF-R1       | P19438     | Y343    | -           | -       | 1.355       | 0.002  | 1.196       | 0.041   |
| ASK-1        | Q59GL6     | S852    | -           | -       | 1.203       | 0.008  | 1.158       | 0.011   |
| JNK          | P45938     | Y165    | 1.402       | 0.000   | -           | -       | 1.201       | 0.023   |

Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold-Change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05). UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.

*= Phosphorylation site.
Lck can lead to the activation of two transcription factors, NFAT via phospholipase C and AP-1 through MAPK signaling pathway (Salmond et al., 2009; Smith-Garvin et al., 2009; Nika et al., 2010; Van der Merwe and Dushek, 2011). The third transcription factor, NF-kB can be activated through the stimulation of the co-stimulatory molecule CD28 via the phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI-3K) pathway (Smith and Gobel, 2022).

Analysis of the T cell receptor signaling pathway revealed several significant changes in phosphorylation events (Table 9):

First, the three transcription factors (NFAT, AP-1, and NF-kB) exhibited differential phosphorylation activity within 4-8 h post infection with S. Enteritidis with a return to control levels by 24 h (Table 9). The significant phosphorylation of the members of the NFAT family in the ceca of S. Enteritidis-infected chickens (Table 9) is a meaningful finding because inactivated NFAT...
| Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site* | 4 hours pi |  | 8 hours pi |  | 24 hours pi |  |
|--------------|------------|---------|------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|
| HRAS         | P01112     | T35     | 1.695 0.001 | 1.260 0.001 | - | -          | - |
| CBL          | P22881     | Y684    | 1.611 0    | - | -          | - | 1.199 0.04 | - |
|              | Y728       | 1.090 0.01 | - | - | 1.353 0 | - | -          | - |
|              | Y773       | 1.391 0 | - | 1.115 0.03 | - | -          | - |
| MAPK3 (ERK1) | Q04759     | T546    | -1.386 0   | 1.189 0.002 | -1.136 0.01 | - | -          | - |
| MAPK8 (COT) | Q14279     | S400    | -1.476 0   | 1.248 0.002 | -1.301 0 | - | -          | - |
| PIK3Q (PKC (p38 a)) | O15111   | S194    | 1.086 0.02 | - | -          | - | 1.262 0.002 | - |
| PIK3K7 (TAK1) | Q43318    | T177    | -        | 1.191 0.005 | - | -          | - |
| MAPK1 (MEK1, MKK1) | Q02750   | S222    | -1.280 0.001 | 1.140 0.03 | - | -          | - |
| ITK          | Q08881     | Y191    | -        | - | -          | - | -1.408 0 | - |
| LCK          | P06289     | Y523    | 1.357 0.002 | 1.164 0.01 | 1.194 0.02 | - | -          | - |
| AKT1         | P31749     | T308    | -1.121 0.03 | - | -          | - | -1.120 0.02 | - |
| AKT3         | Q94243     | S472    | -        | 1.175 0.02 | - | -          | - |
| NfxB1A (ikB) | P25963     | Y46     | 1.193 0.04 | 1.178 0.01 | - | -          | - |
| RAF1         | P10249     | S43     | 1.086 0.02 | - | -          | - | 1.262 0.003 | - |
| PIK3R1       | P27986     | S608    | 1.908 0    | 1.107 0.01 | - | -          | - |
| PIK3R2       | Q00459     | Y612    | 1.167 0.01 | 1.521 0.04 | - | -          | - |
| FOS          | P01100     | S349    | 1.199 0.004 | - | -          | - | 1.187 0.005 | - |
| NfxB1 (NfxB p105) | P19838  | S943    | -1.583 0 | - | -          | - | -          | - |
| NfxB1 (NfxB p100) | Q00653   | S818    | 1.803 0    | 1.233 0.004 | - | -          | - |
| Calmodulin   | P62158     | Y100    | -        | - | -          | - | -          | - |
| NFATC1       | Q13469     | S225    | 1.253 0.04 | -1.118 0.02 | - | -          | - |
| NFATC2       | Q95647     | S226    | 1.706 0.007 | 1.264 0.03 | - | -          | - |
| NFATC3       | Q12968     | S203    | 1.32 0.0004 | -1.439 0 | - | -          | - |
| PLCG1        | P19174     | Y177    | -        | - | -          | - | -1.122 0.02 | - |
| SOS1         | Q07889     | S1208   | 1.71 0.005 | 1.42 0.006 | -1.199 0.04 | - | -          | - |
| CD28         | P10747     | Y192    | 1.368 0 | - | -          | - | 1.111 0.03 | - |
| JUN          | P05412     | Y59     | -1.452 0.001 | - | -1.205 0.006 | - | -1.888 0 | - |
| CDC42        | P60953     | Y64     | 1.42 0 | 1.218 0.005 | - | -          | - |

(Continued)
proteins in the cytoplasm of a cell are in their phosphorylated form. Following T cell receptor (TCR) stimulation, cytoplasmic NFAT proteins are dephosphorylated and translocate from the cytoplasm to the nucleus where they regulate transcription of key cytokine genes. Thus, based on the findings here the increased phosphorylation of NFAT prevents the protein from translocating to the nucleus. The significant phosphorylation of the adapter protein GRB2, SOS, and the MAPKs (MEK1, ERK1, and p38) and the JUN and FOS proteins demonstrates the activation of the transcription factor, AP-1. AP-1 controls a number of cellular processes including differentiation, proliferation, and apoptosis (Karin et al., 1997). Lastly, The Ser/Thr kinase COT, CHUK (1xK-A), NF-kB1A (1xB), and NF-kB (p105 and p100), all significantly phosphorylated within 4-8 h of infection with S. Enteritidis (Table 9), but all were found to be no different than non-infected control levels by 24 h (Table 4). Both NFAT and NF-kB are transcription factor that when phosphorylated can regulate genes responsible for both the innate and adaptive immune responses when activated by various intra- and extra-cellular stimuli then translocate into the nucleus and stimulates the expression of genes involved in a variety of immune functions (Zanoni and Granucci, 2012; Banoth et al., 2015). Secondly, phospholipase C-1 (PLCG1) and calmodulin were significantly dephosphorylated in the S. Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue by 4 hours post-infection when compared to the non-infected control cecal tissue. The importance of this is twofold: PLCG1 generates second messenger molecule inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (IP3) (Essen et al., 1997). IP3 binds to calcium channel receptors on the endoplasmatic reticulum (ER) induces the release of calcium (Ca²⁺) into the cytosol of the T cell.

**DISCUSSION**

Understanding both sides of the host – *Salmonella* interaction is essential in discovering alternative strategies to manage infections in poultry. The host’s antimicrobial immunity and the bacteria’s evasion of that immunity both rely on appropriate regulation of transcriptional and signaling networks. To date, the majority of the studies in the chicken-*Salmonella* interaction has been microbe-centric, concentrating on the pathogen’s infection of the bird intestine by using the *Salmonella* pathogenicity islands 1 and 2 (SPI-1 and SPI-2) that encode a specialized type III secretion system (T3SS) to secrete multiple protein effectors into the intestinal epithelium which manipulate the host cell biology to aid in bacteria invasion, intracellular survival, and to modulate host immune responses (Barrow et al., 2012; Figueira and Holden, 2012; Wigley, 2014; Eng et al., 2015). On the host side of the interaction, the transcriptional and signaling descriptions of the interaction has concentrated on the post-infection period starting 2 days after the initial infection by the pathogen. This breach results in a directed innate immune response to purge the bacteria and includes the release of antimicrobial peptides (Crhanova et al., 2011; Garcia et al., 2020), activation of pattern-recognition receptors (Keestra et al., 2013, Kogut, 2022a; Kogut, 2022b), release of chemokines and cytokines (Withanage et al., 2005; Bernd et al., 2007; Rychlik et al., 2014; Meijerink et al., 2021), and recruitment of a variety of immune cells (Van Immerseel et al., 2003; Bernd et al., 2007; Pieper et al., 2011; Meijerink et al., 2021).

Therefore, what is needed is more insight into the immediate response of the chicken to the *Salmonella* infection process (first 24 hours). For example, chickens infected with *Salmonella* do not develop clinical disease and the acute inflammatory response is short-lived (Wigley, 2014). Thus, it is vital to understand how the chicken responds to a *Salmonella* breach of the mucosal barrier system and what is involved in the regulation of the intestinal response that prevents excessive intestinal inflammation and damage yet does not eliminate pathogen colonization. Our recent development of chicken-specific peptide arrays for kinome analysis of host phosphorylation-based cellular signaling responses provided us with the opportunity to develop a more detailed understanding of the chicken host-pathogen interactions with *Salmonella* (Arsenault and Kogut, 2015; Perry et al., 2020). We have used this technology to describe the immunometabolic phenotypic changes in the avian cecum of *Salmonella*-infected chickens that decreased the host responsiveness resulting in the establishment of persistent colonization starting around 4 days after the initial infection (Kogut et al., 2016).

Overall, in all the pathways described here, the majority of the differential phosphorylation events between the infected cecal tissue compared to the non-infected control tissue occurred with

| Peptide name | UniProt ID | p-site | Fold change 4 hours pi | p-value | Fold change 8 hours pi | p-value | Fold change 24 hours pi | p-value |
|--------------|------------|--------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| GSK3β       | P49684     | S144   | -                      | -       | -1.188                 | 0.003   | -                      | -       |
| PAK1        | Q13153     | T422   | -1.38                  | 0       | 1.347                  | 0       | 1.195                  | 0.001   |
|             |            | S198   | 1.28                   | 0.02    | 1.332                  | 0       | 1.071                  | 0.05    |
|             |            | T212   | 1.442                  | 0.02    | 1.275                  | 0.04    |                        |         |

*Selection of peptides differentially phosphorylated between non-infected group and S. Enteritidis challenge group in the cecum. The UniProt ID identifies the protein, while the p-site identifies the specific phosphorylation target site on that protein. Fold change indicates the directionality of phosphorylation status for each treatment compared to control. The p-value is the measure of significance (α = 0.05).* UniProt IDs and p-site correspond to human proteins for annotation purposes.
the first 4-8 hours post-infection. In general, from 8-24 hours post-infection, there was a decrease in phosphorylation alterations in the infected tissue with a return to control levels of phosphorylation. Based on the signaling pathways that were differentially activated (TLR, NOD, chemokine, apoptosis, JAK-STAT), the chicken responds very rapidly with an orchestrated innate response: recognition (TLR and NOD signaling pathway), attraction of activated immune cells (chemokine and JAK-STAT signaling pathways), and the prevention/reduction in pathogen numbers (apoptosis).

Based on the findings described here, the chicken pattern recognition receptors, Toll-like receptors (TLR) and nucleotide-binding oligomerization domains receptors (NOD), recognized molecular associated microbial patterns (MAMPs) associated with S. Enteritidis (Tables 4, 5; Supplemental Figures 1 and 2). The activity of both pathways was activated (phosphorylated) 4-8 hours post-infection and their activity decreased by 24 post-infection. Pathways analysis suggests that NOD1 and NOD2 are specifically involved in the immediate recognition of a Salmonella in chickens. NOD1 and NOD2, two prototypic NLRs, sense the cytosolic presence of bacterial peptidoglycan fragments that escaped from endosomal compartments, driving the activation of NF-kB and MAPK, cytokine production and apoptosis (Li et al., 2017; Tao et al., 2017). However, NOD2 appears to be absent in birds (Boyle et al., 2013). There is no evidence, based on the pathway analysis, that inflammasome-mediated pathways were involved the chicken recognition of S. Enteritidis.

Although kinome analysis of the S. Enteritidis-infected tissue does not provide the specific TLR that initiated the TLR signaling pathway in the chicken, previous studies have convincingly shown that recognition of flagellin by TLR5 is the primary recognition receptor that stimulates the bird’s innate response (Iqbal et al., 2003). Is also possible that TLR4 that recognizes LPS on the Salmonella cell wall and TLR21 which recognizes CpG (bacterial unmethylated DNA) could be involved in initiating the TLR signaling pathway as both have been found in chickens (Higgs et al., 2006). However, chickens are very refractory to LPS except at high levels not found in bacterial cell walls (Adler and DaMassa, 1979; Keestra and Van Putten, 2008).

Chemokines are small chemoattractant peptides that provide directional cues for the cell trafficking and thus are vital for protective host response. In addition, chemokines regulate several biological processes of hematopoietic cells that lead to cellular activation, differentiation and survival. The chemokine signal is transduced by chemokine receptors expressed on the hematopoietic immune cells. After receptor activation, several diverse downstream pathways are activated which encompass a number of biological activities of hematopoietic cells that lead to cellular activation, differentiation and survival. Based on the findings here, the kinomic analysis of the chemokine signaling pathway demonstrates the activation of three downstream pathways: (1) the MAPK/JAK-STAT cascades involved in cell migration, cytokine production, and cell survival, (2) the PI3K → AKT → Ikk cascade that regulates leukocyte transmembrane migration and actin reorganization, and (3) the CCL5 → PLC → PKC cascade that causes the induction of nitric oxide, production of reactive oxygen species, and degranulation (Hughes et al., 2001; Wang et al., 2005; Sick et al., 2006; Hughes et al., 2007). All three cascades were highly phosphorylated in the 4 h post-infection cecal tissue when compared to the non-infected control tissue. From 8-24 h post-infection, there is a dramatic increase in either dephosphorylation events or no differences from the control inn the S. Enteritidis-infected tissues. The kinome analysis of the timing of the chemokine signaling pathway coincides with our previous studies where we found that paratyphoid Salmonella serovars induced a rapid (within 4 h) inflammatory response characterized by an influx of heterophils (the primary granulocytic cell the gastrointestinal tract of chickens (Kogut et al., 1993; Kogut et al., 1994; Genovese et al., 1999; Swaggerty et al., 2006).

Apoptosis is a genetically regulated process of caspase-dependent form of cell death of damaged or infected cells in response to intrinsic or extrinsic signaling cascades (Galluzzi et al., 2018; Wemyss and Pearson, 2019). Typically, in the intestine apoptosis of epithelial cells from the mucosa occurs with little, if any, inflammation and disruption of the epithelial barrier integrity (Schwerk and Schultze-Osthoff, 2005). However, Salmonella-induced cell death (apoptosis, necroptosis, pyroptosis) are crucial components of bacterial-mediated gastroenteritis in mammals (Kim et al., 1998; Fink and Cookson, 2007; Hefele et al., 2018; Wemyss and Pearson, 2019). Alternatively, the major paratyphoid Salmonella serovar infections of poultry leads to little or no clinical signs of disease (Barrow et al., 2012) which may coincide with the fact that there have been no reports of Salmonella-induced cell death in the chicken intestine during colonization and infection. Based on the findings here, S. Enteritidis infection of the cecum induces the apoptosis signaling pathway when compared to the non-infected control cecal tissue. More specifically, in fact, based on the alterations in phosphorylation, S Enteritidis infection stimulated both intrinsic and extrinsic apoptotic signaling cascades (Table 7; Supplemental Figure 4). The lack of clinical signs of disease in chickens during paratyphoid Salmonella infection, the importance of maintaining both intestinal homeostasis and the intestinal barrier during the initial phase of infection, strongly suggests that the apoptotic pathway outlined here is a host defense strategy to limit bacterial replication and survival (Sellin et al., 2014). Limiting the initial infection and replication of the pathogen may be an important component of the ‘disease tolerance’ mechanism of host defense that is unique to the chicken–Salmonella interaction that we have described previously (Kogut and Arsenault, 2017; Lee et al., 2020). Finally, we found no evidence, based on phosphorylation events, of either of the pro-inflammatory forms of cell death, necroptosis nor pyroptosis in the Salmonella-infected cecal tissues. Specifically, necroptosis is an inflammatory-mediated, caspase-independent cell death mechanism. We have shown clearly (Table 7; Supplemental Figure 4) that caspases 3, 6, and 8 are all phosphorylated; thus activated as part of the extrinsic apoptosis pathway. Further, pyroptosis is a highly inflammatory cell death pathway that requires the development of an...
inflammasome which mediates the event. We found no evident of an inflammasome development in our studies.

Further kinome pathway analysis of the S. Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue revealed the differential phosphorylation of individual peptides in the JAK-STAT pathway (Table 8). The JAK-STAT pathway is a signaling cascade that provides a direct mechanism to translate an extracellular signal into a transcriptional response, in S. Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue. The JAK-STAT system consists of three main components: (1) a receptor; (2) Janus kinase (JAK); and (3) Signal Transducers and Activator of Transcription (STAT) (Hu et al., 2021). Based on the results from the present experiment (Table 8), the IFN-α, IFN-γ, IL-2, and IL-6 cytokine family (gp130) receptors were phosphorylated; whereas, IL-4, IL-10 were dephosphorylated, and IL-7 receptor showed no change from the non-infected control cecal tissue, at 4 and 8 hours after infection, but was dephosphorylated at 24 h post-infection. IFN-γ is characteristic of a Th1 response whereas IL-2 is normally produced by T cells during an immune response and involved in growth, proliferation, and differentiation of T cells to become “effector” T cells (Cantrell and Smith, 1984; Smith, 1988). Traditionally, IL-6 is a pro-inflammatory cytokine involved in stimulating an immune response during infection which may very well be the case with these findings. However, we also consider strong evidence that IL-6 is involved in metabolic function, rather than just immune response. IL-6 induction has been found to stimulate a metabolic reprogramming [Pavlov and Tracey (2012); Flint et al., 2016 and Ghanemi and St Amand (2018)] which could be happening here with the initiation of an innate response to Salmonella infection. Salmonella infection activates the innate immune system as described above but activating the innate immune system places considerable energy and resource demands on the chicken that requires amplified metabolic requirements and nutrient consumption (Klasing, 2007; Klasing, 2017). The increased phosphorylation of the IL6ST (gp130) receptor throughout the initial 24 hours of infection with Salmonella may be an immunometabolic signature of the instigation of the innate immune response.

Neither the IL-4R nor the IL7R were activated (phosphorylated) during the first 24 h after S. Enteritidis infection in the cecum when compared to the non-infected control tissues. Since IL-4 normally induces differentiation of naïve T helper cells to Th2 cells and IL-7 is involved in early T cell development, it is undoubtedly too early in the immune process for responses, the results are suggestive of premature involvement of T cell-mediated immune responsiveness so early in the infection process. Interestingly, the IL2RB was phosphorylated throughout the 24 hr initial infection period. Classically, IL-2 was described as a T cell growth factor and to also stimulate growth promoting activity in B cells and NK cells (Henney et al., 1981; Robb et al., 1981; Waldmann et al., 1984). However, we showed 20 years ago that IL-2 can directly activate chicken heterophils to exert effector functions and induce heterophil activation (Kogut et al., 2002). It has subsequently been proven that IL-2 has functional activity that connects innate and acquired immunity (reviewed Bendickova and Fric, 2020).

Both the type I interferon (IFNAR1, IFN-α) and type II interferon receptors (IFNGR1, IFN-γ) were phosphorylated 4-8 hours after cecal infection with S. Enteritidis. Traditionally, IFN-α is an antiviral cytokine, but recent evidence suggests that it is involved further in the development of innate immunity by playing a role in restricting bacterial infections, including Salmonella (Alphonse et al., 2021). In fact, further evidence is that IFN-α signaling can be regulated by the NOD-1 receptor (Kienes et al., 2021). We can speculate that the sensing of the S. Enteritidis infection by NOD-1, as described above, can lead to the production of IFN-α that controls the level of colonization and infection by the pathogenic bacteria in the chicken cecum. We have further shown that IFN-γ can activate in vitro heterophil functional activity against Salmonella (Kogut et al., 2001; Kogut et al., 2005) and the presence of IFN-γ and IL-2 in a S. Enteritidis immune cytokine cocktail protects day-old chicks against Salmonella infections mediated by activated heterophils (Kogut et al., 1996; Verduzzo et al., 2009).

The dephosphorylation of SOCS3 suggests that Salmonella virulence factors are not directly involved in the inhibition of cytokine signaling during the early infection period in the cecum. Alternatively, the host is initiating the innate response necessary to fight infection through the release of cytokines and that the activation of the negative regulator of cytokine signaling is not required at this time.

Cytokine receptor proteins lack enzymatic activity, thus are dependent upon JAKs to initiate signaling upon binding of their ligands. The JAK family has four members: JAK1, JAK2, JAK3 and tyrosine kinase 2 (TYK2) (Hu et al., 2021). The STAT family consist of seven members: STAT1, STAT2, STAT3, STAT4, STAT5a, STAT5b, and STAT6 (Hu et al., 2021; Nobel et al., 2021). We observed a selective activation of the JAK proteins with JAK2 and JAK3 the only JAK family members that were phosphorylated in the ceca from the S. Enteritidis-infected chickens (Table 8). JAK2 signaling is activated by interferon receptors and the gp130 receptor family (IL-6R) and is an essential tyrosine kinase for initiating the innate immune response (Pena et al., 2010). JAK3 is predominantly expressed in hematopoietic lineage and intestinal epithelial cells, but its role in cytokine signaling is more restricted than other JAKs with IL-2R, IL-4R, and IL-7R being the most common receptors (Kumar et al., 2007; Mishra et al., 2012). In the intestinal epithelium, IL-2 induces activation of Jak3 to facilitate/maintain mucosal homeostasis including mucin secretion and tight junction proteins (Kumar et al., 2021).

STAT5b is the sole member of the STAT family that is phosphorylated in the cecum during the initial infection process (4-24 hours) by S. Enteritidis. JAK-STAT5b signaling in the intestine is involved in the host response to inflammation and infection (Nobel et al., 2021). In the intestine, STAT5b activation is regulated by specific members of IL-2 family of cytokines (Awasthi et al., 2021) and IL-6 (Jiang et al., 2009; Rani and Murphy, 2016) is involved in multiple intestinal physiological responses including mucosal barrier function through tight junction permeability, mucin production, and regeneration and proliferation of intestinal epithelial stem cells (Han et al., 2009; Gilbert et al., 2015; Karin and Clevers, 2016; Degirmenci et al., 2018). However, activated STAT5 is short-lived and undergo rapidly
deactivation (Grimley et al., 1999). Combined with the cytokine receptor phosphorylation data discusses previously (IL2R and IL6R), it is reasonable to assume that STAT5B phosphorylation found here is involved in maintaining the cecal function during the initial Salmonella infection stage.

Stimulation of the T cell receptor results in the activation of the TCR signal transduction pathway. This pathway can activate the transcription factors nuclear factor κB (NF-κB), nuclear factor of activated T-cells (NFAT), and activator protein 1 (AP-1), that induce expression of cytokine genes (Smith-Garvin et al., 2009). However, based on upstream regulators, neither NFAT nor NF-κB are activated through the T cell receptor pathway. First, the NFAT transcription factor family are regulated by calcium signaling which is critical to activation of NFAT because calmodulin activates the serine/threonine phosphatase calcineurin. Nuclear import of NFAT is dependent on the calcium level inside of a cell. If the calcium level drops, the exporting kinases in a nucleus rephosphorylate NFAT causing the transcription factor to revert into its inactive state and is exported back to the cytosol where maintenance kinases finish the rephosphorylation to keep it in the inactivated state (Baba and Kuroski, 2016; Park et al., 2020). Here we found a significant dephosphorylation in calmodulin, meaning that there is a dramatic reduction in calcium levels in the S. Enteritidis-infected tissue thus inhibiting NFAT activity. Second, NFAT requires the activity of PLC-1, which generates the second messengers, dicylglycerol (DAG) and inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (IP3). IP3 induce an increase in the concentration of cytoplasmic calcium (Ca2+) and activation of the Ca2+ dependent phosphatase calcineurin, which results in the rapid activation of NFAT, which is followed by its translocation to the nucleus (Baine et al., 2009). Thus, the dephosphorylation of PLCG1 prevents NFAT activation due to the decrease in intracellular calcium transport into the immune cells. Likewise, the dephosphorylation of PLCG1 inhibits the generation of DAG which is a vital second messenger in NF-κB activation via the T cell receptor. However, activation of NF-κB by PRRs in the innate response does not require PLCG1 generation of the DAG molecule to activate downstream proteins. PRRs use MyD88-dependent pathways to activate NF-κB activity (Akira et al., 2006, Kumar et al., 2011).

One intriguing finding from the current studies that links with our previous report on Salmonella persistence is the consistent dephosphorylation of phospholipase cβ1 (PLCG1) enzyme in the S. Enteritidis-infected cecal tissue (Kogut et al., 2017). This ‘targeting’ of PLCG1 by Salmonella seems to be a feature of infection between 24-96 hours post-infection. Even though we are not aware of what bacterial factors may be involved in dephosphorylating PLCG1, it is reasonable to assume that this action is part of the asymptomatic inflammatory response of chickens that leads to the development of a persistent Salmonella infection in the chicken. Further it appears possible that Salmonella inhibiting PLCG1 phosphorylation is part of the unique survival strategy of paratyphoid Salmonella in poultry that minimizes host defenses mechanisms (disease resistance) during the initial infection and then further uses the inhibition of PLCG1 activity as part of the immunometabolic reprogramming that converts host defense strategy to disease tolerance. Disease tolerance is the ability of the host to limit the damage caused by both the pathogen and the host immune response, i.e., immunopathology (Ayres and Schneider, 2012). PLCG1 would be a logical focal point of the initial Salmonella colonization/infection repertoire since it is involved in regulating innate immune functions including phagocytosis, the oxidative burst, cell migration and TLR-mediated signaling (Bae et al., 2017; Zhu et al., 2018; Jing et al., 2021).

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The raw data supporting the conclusions of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

ETHICS STATEMENT

These studies were approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) at the Southern Plains Agricultural Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture (ACUC #2012007), which meets all federal requirements as defined in the Animal Welfare Act, the Public Health Service Policy, and the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors contributed to the conception and design of the study. MK, KG, JB, HH, and CS conducted the infection studies and samples collections. RA conducted the kinome array and MK and RA conducted the bioinformatic analysis of the kinome data. YF and RA conducted the statistical analyses of all the data. MK wrote the first draft of the manuscript. All of the authors contributed to the manuscript revision and read and approved the submitted version.

FUNDING

The research was conducted as part of the ARS CRIS Project: ‘Immunological and Practical Approaches to Manipulate the Ecological Niches and Reduce Foodborne Pathogens in Poultry’ Project #3091-32000-037-00D).

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcimb.2022.899395/full#supplementary-material
