Relationships between Flagellin Genes Variants of
Salmonella enterica Serovar Typhi and Severity of Illness
from Acute and Carriers State of Typhoid Fever

Muhammad Sabir1,3, Ressy Dwiyanti1,3, Andini Febrianty1,3, Nataniel Tandirogang4, Yadi Yasir4, Masyudi Amir4, Andi R Sultan3, Nur Indah Purnamasari2, Muhammad Reza Primaguna2, Munawir Muhammad4, Mochammad Hatta1

1Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Tadulako University, Palu, Indonesia
2Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Haluoleo University, Kendari, Indonesia
3Molecular Biology and Immunology Laboratory for Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Medicine, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia
4Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Mulawarman University, Samarinda, Indonesia

*Corresponding author: hattaram@indosat.net.id

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Abstract Background: The molecular pathogenesis of severity of illness in typhoid fever is poorly understood. Previous studies have found a direct relationship between flagellar function as determined by motility, and invasiveness in Salmonella species. A previous study revealed that the Hj flagellin genes association of decreased severity of illness, motility and invasiveness of bacteria and compared with Hd flagellin genes. However the role of flagella in in-vivo virulence however remains more controversial. Objectives: In an attempt to elucidate the mechanisms behind severity of typhoid fever in relation with flagellin genes variation, we conducted a prospective and retrospective study to describe the clinical sign & symptoms, flagellin genes variations among from acute and carrier state of typhoid fever patients. Methods: 187 genomic DNA of S. typhi strains from culture of 141 acute typhoid fever and feces of 46 carriers state of typhoid fever who enrolled in several primary health care and hospitals in endemic area of Central Sulawesi, Indonesia. All isolate were examine the Hd, Hj, z66 and z66 Ind of flagellin genes by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). Results: The results of this study revealed that predominant in severity of illness in both acute and carriers state of typhoid fever belong Hd+ and Hd’z66 Ind+ in endemic area of Indonesia. Conclusion: Hd+ and Hd’ z66 Ind+ flagellin gene variation are related to clinical severity of acute typhoid fever.

Keywords: flagellin genes, severity of illness, Salmonella enterica serovar Typhi, acute and carrier state

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1. Introduction

Typhoid fever is a systemic infection caused by the bacterium Salmonella enterica subspecies enterica serotype Typhi (S. typhi). The disease causes much morbidity and mortality in developing countries and is characterized by prolonged fever, bacterial growth in cells of the reticuloendothelial system, and significant inflammation of the lymphoid organs of the small intestine. Symptoms of typhoid fever are characterized by fever (90–100%), coated tongue (96.3%), malaise (93.8%), headache (83.8%), nausea (27.5%), constipation (12.5%), abdominal distention (12.5%), diarrhea (11.3%), and melena (8.8%) [1]. Recognition of these symptoms important in preventing the delayed diagnosis of typhoid fever that can lead to severe typhoid infections such as such as extra-intestinal infections on central nervous system, cardiovascular system, pulmonary system, bone, joints, hepatobiliary system, and genitourinary system [2].

Salmonella enterica serovar Typhi can colonize the gallbladder and persist in an asymptomatic carrier state that is frequently associated with the presence of gallstones [3]. The asymptomatic, chronic carrier state of S. typhi occurs in the bile-rich gallbladder, is frequently associated with the presence of cholesterol gallstones, and does not subside with antibiotic treatment [3], yet the mechanism behind progression and severity from infection to persistence remains unknown. Also, the pathogenesis of intestinal perforation in patients with typhoid fever is poorly understood with respect to the host and bacterial factors involved [4].

Flagella are expressed on the surface of Salmonella cells. They consist of a basal body embedded in the cell membrane, a central rod attached to a hook which in turn attaches to a helical filament made up of polymerised units of flagellin protein [5,6]. Rotation of the basal body motor results in movement of the filament which facilitates cell motility. Most Salmonella have two distinct flagellin genes fliC and fljB, but express only one at a time,
switching between them at a rate of $10^{-3}$ - $10^{-5}$ [7,8]. This process, known as phase variation, is present in four subspecies of *S. typhi* [9].

Some early studies have suggested a direct relationship between flagellar function as determined by motility, and invasiveness in *Salmonella* species. However, the role of these flagellar genes to clinical severity is still controversial. Previous study revealed that the Hf flagellin genes association of decreased severity of illness, motility and invasiveness of bacteria and compared with Hd flagellin genes [10]. Therefore we conducted a study to assess the relationships between clinical symptoms and flagellin genes variant in acute and carriers state of typhoid fever. A secondary aim of the study was to identify flagellin genes variant of *S. typhi* in gall bladder-related chronic carriage of typhoid fever.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Clinical Specimens

A total of 671 clinical suspicion of typhoid fever and 924 ex-patients were included in the study. *S. typhi* isolates were obtained from blood cultures from 141 acute febrile patients with clinical suspicion of typhoid fever presented at several primary health care centers and hospitals in around Palu District in Central Sulawesi and 46 genomic DNA of feces from home visit of ex-patients at least one year before. All isolates were confirmed to be serovar Typhi by biochemical testing and nested PCR [11].

The mean age of the acute patients and carriers state was 31.2 years (range, 10–59) and 30.7 (range, 9–61), respectively and the male to female ratio of the acute patients and carriers state was 1:1. Mean body temperature of acute patients on admission is 38.4°C (range, 37.8–39.4°C) while on carrier state, healthy individuals who has history of typhoid fever with 38.3°C (range, 37.8–39.1°C). A mean duration of illness of acute patients is 5.9 days (range, 4–10) and carrier state on admission history is 6.6 days (range, 5–9), respectively. The severity of the case was recognized by the present of sign/symptoms like stupor, melena and abdominal perforation on typhoid patient. The clinical information had been collected by a structured questionnaire that was completed by the responsible physician or nurse.

2.2. Ethical Considerations

The project was approved by the review boards of the participating institutes and informed consent was obtained from all participants or their parents/guardians.

2.3. Blood Culture

Five milliliters of freshly collected blood was placed in 15 mL of Ox bile broth (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) and incubated for 24 hours at 37°C. One milliliter of this culture was then plated on *Salmonella Shigella* (SS) agar (Oxoid, Basingstoke, United Kingdom), incubated for 24 hours at 37°C, and examined for growth. If growth was present, individual colonies were examined by Gram staining and identification of the bacteria was performed after subculturing on SS agar by biochemical testing with the triple sugar iron test, sulfide indole motility, methyl red Voges’ Proskauer reactivity, citrate consumption, urease and decarboxylase activity, and carbohydrate fermentation of glucose, lactose, mannitol, sucrose, and arabinose [12,13].

2.4. Serologic Analysis

The Widal test with O antigen produced by Murex Biotech Ltd., Dartford, United Kingdom was performed and interpreted according to routine laboratory procedures. Briefly, two-fold serial dilutions (1:20 – 1:1280) of the serum sample were prepared. One drop (~25 ul) of the O antigen suspension was added to each tube containing the diluted sample. Antigen and serum were mixed and incubated at 50°C. Tubes were checked for agglutination after 4 hr. According to routine diagnostic criteria, a titer ≥ 1:320 was considered positive for the samples tested in Indonesia.

2.5. Preparation of DNA

DNA was extracted from freshly collected culture of *S. typhi* and stool samples according to the diatom-guanidinium isothiocyanate (GuSCN) method. For the extraction of DNA from culture, a freshly single colony of *S. typhi* sample was mixed with 900 mL of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 5.25 M GuSCN, 20 mM EDTA, 0.1% Triton X-100) and centrifuged at 12,000 × g for 10 minutes. For the preparation of DNA from feces, a stool sample with a volume of approximately 100 mL was attached to a cotton swab, suspended in 1 mL of sterile water, vortexed vigorously, and centrifuged at 1,000 rpm for 5 min. To obtain the DNA, samples were lysed by incubation for 15 minutes at 18°C and 20 μL of diatom suspension was added. The diatom containing the bound DNA was sedimented by centrifugation at 12,000 × g for 15 seconds. The diatom pellet was washed with washing buffer (5.25 M GuSCN in 0.1 M Tris-HCl, pH 6.4), rinsed with 70% ethanol and acetone, and dried by incubation at 56°C for 10 minutes. The pellet was mixed with 60 μLof 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA buffer and the DNA was eluted by incubation at 56°C for 10 minutes. After sedimentation of the diatom by centrifugation, the supernatant was collected and stored at -20°C until PCR was performed [14]. All these PCRs should work clearly and quickly.

2.6. Amplification of Flagellin Genes

The *fliC* primers set for the *fliC* genes amplification, which will give a result of around 1500 bp for the H:d antigen or about 200 bp smaller for the H:j antigen. The final set is for the z66 antigen, which will give a product of about 1500 bp if the strains are z66+, and will give no result if they are z66-[14]. Amplification of *fliC* gene was performed using primers: *fliC* F: TTAACGCAGTAAAGAGAG and *fliC* R: ATGGCACAAGTCATTAATAC and produced a 1521 bp product for the d allele and a 1273 bp product for the j allele. Amplification of the *fliC* gene was performed as previously described using z66Flag_F: ATGGCACAAGTCATTAATAC and z66Flag_R: TTAACGCAGCAGACAGTAC. Control PCR amplicons from the aroC gene were produced using primers aroC for: CCTGGCACCTCGCGCTATAC and
aroC r: CCACACCGGATCGTGCC. Primers position on chromosome fliC_F 2011173 and fliC_R 2012674; aroC_F 2450480 and aroC_R 2449674. The other primers are on a plasmid. Cycles is an initial denaturation at 94°C for 1 min, 30 cycle at 94°C for 30 s, 57°C for 30 s, and 72°C for 2 min, flowed by an extension step of 72°C for 2 min [14].

For z66Ind primer set designated Ind-F : 5' ATG TCG GAA ATC AAC CGT ATC T 3' and Ind-R:5' CAG GCC GTC AAC CTG AGA C 3' were selected for the specific amplification of a 597 bp segment of the Ind gene. The PZ66-A and PZ66-B primers are located in the central region of the z66 gene that is largely deleted in the Ind gene and the primers Ind-F and Ind-R are located in the 5' and 3' portion of the Ind gene that shows homology with the z66 gene, but these primers are chosen such that the number of mismatches with this gene is too high to warrant efficient amplification of the z66 gene [1,15]. The Ind-specific PCR was performed with after an initial denaturation at 94°C for 2 min, for 35 cycles at 94°C for 30 s, 55°C for 30 s, and 72°C for 1 min, followed by an extension step of 72°C for 5 min. [1].

2.7. Statistical Analysis

All statistical calculations were performed using the EPI-Info version 6.0 and computer program SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Science; SPSS, Chicago, IL, USA) computer package to determine which acute and carrier state of flagellin genes were associated with an increased risk for having severity of typhoid fever. Risk factors were first identified by univariate analysis. Variables that contained more than two categories were grouped into fewer categories by combining categories showing an identical risk. A multivariate logistic regression analysis was then performed to identify which of the potential risk factors (i.e. with p<0.05) remained independently associated with severity of illness.

3. Results

3.1. The Comparison Clinical Symptoms between Acute and Carrier State of Typhoid Fever

In Table 1 revealed that most of clinical symptoms in both acute and carrier state are coated tongue, malaise and headache in both acute and carriers state of typhoid fever (98.5%, 100%, 93.6% vs 97.8%, 100%, 84.8%, respectively). No significant difference was found between carrier state and acute typhoid fever (p>0.05). Other clinical symptoms are apathy, nausea, constipation, abdominal distention in acute state were found 13.5 %, 13.5, 5.7 % and 5.7 % in acute of illness, respectively, while these clinical symptoms in carrier state were found 8.7 %, 23.9 %, 8.6 %, and 8.6 % respectively. Also no significant difference of these symptoms was found between carrier state and acute typhoid fever (p>0.05).

Furthermore, percentage of severe clinical symptoms of stupor, melena and perforation in carriers state more higher significantly compared with in acute typhoid fever (39.1%, 32.9 % and 32.6 % vs 13.5 %, 5.7 % and 5.7 % in acute of illness, respectively, while these clinical symptoms in carrier state were found 8.7 %, 23.9 %, 8.6 %, and 8.6 % respectively. Also no significant difference of these symptoms was found between carrier state and acute typhoid fever (p>0.05).

### Table 1. The comparison of clinical symptoms between acute and carrier state of typhoid fever

| Clinical signs          | State of illness and number (%) | OR (95% CI, P) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
|                         | Acute (n=141)                  | Carriers (n=46) |               |
| Coated tongue           | 139 (98.5)                     | 45 (97.8)      | 1.01 (0.96-1.06, =0.723) |
| Malaise                 | 141; (100.0)                   | 46 (100.0)     | 1               |
| Headache                | 132 (93.6 )                    | 39 (84.8)      | 1.10 (0.97-1.26, =0.062) |
| Apathy                  | 19 (13.5)                      | 4 (8.7)        | 1.55 (0.56-4.32, =0.391) |
| Stupor                  | 21 (14.9)                      | 18 (39.1)      | 2.63 (1.54-4.48,=0.000) |
| Nausea                  | 19 (13.5)                      | 11 (23.9)      | 1.77 (0.91-3.45, =0.093) |
| Constipation            | 8 (5.7 )                       | 4 (8.6)        | 1.53 (0.48-4.86, =0.467) |
| Abdominal distention    | 8 (5.7 )                       | 4 (8.6)        | 1.53 (0.48-4.86, =0.467) |
| Diarrhea                | 7 (5.0)                        | 8 (17.4)       | 0.29 (0.11-0.74, =0.007) |
| Melena                  | 13 (9.2)                       | 15 (32.6)      | 3.54 (1.82-6.87, =0.000) |
| Perforation             | 14 (9.9)                       | 15 (32.6)      | 3.28 (1.27-6.28, =0.000) |

### Table 2. The comparison of flagelin genes variants between acute and carrier state of typhoid fever

| Flagelin gene variants | State of illness (n;% ) | OR (95% CI, P) |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
|                        | Acute (n=141)           | Carriers (n=46) |               |
| Hd+                    | 14 (9.9)                | 4 (8.7)       | 1.14 (0.40-3.30,=0.805) |
| Hj+                    | 32 (22.7)               | 3 (6.5)       | 3.48 (1.12-10.83,=0.014) |
| Hd+z66+                | 46 (32.6)               | 13 (28.3)     | 1.15 (0.69-1.94,=0.580) |
| Hj+z66+                | 10 (7.1)                | 4 (8.7)       | 1.23 (0.40-3.72,=0.719) |
| Hd+z66Ind+             | 35 (24.7)               | 22 (47.8)     | 1.73 (1.16-2.59,=0.011) |
| Hj+z66Ind+             | 0                      | 0             | ND             |
3.2. The Comparison of Flagellin Genes Variants between Acute and Carrier State of Typhoid Fever

In Table 2 shows that the percentage of Hd⁺, Hj⁺, Hd’z66⁺, Hj’z66⁺ and Hd’z66Ind⁺ in acute typhoid fever were found 9.9 %, 22.7 %, 32.6 %, 7.1% and 27.7 %, respectively, while these flagellin genes variants in carrier state were found 8.7 %, 6.5 %, 28.3 %, 8.7% and 47.8 %, respectively. No found flagellin genes variants of Hj’z66Ind⁺ in both acute and carrier state of typhoid fever.

| State of illness and clinical signs (n;% ) | flagellin genes positive/negative (% positive) |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Acute (n=141)                            |                                              |
| Coated tongue (139; 98.5)                |                                              |
| Malaise (141; 100.0)                     |                                              |
| Headache (132; 93.6)                     |                                              |
| Apathy (19; 13.5)                        |                                              |
| Stupor (21; 14.9)                        |                                              |
| Nausea (19; 13.5)                        |                                              |
| Constipation (8 ; 5.7)                   |                                              |
| Abdominal distention (8; 5.7)            |                                              |
| Diarrhea (7; 5.0)                        |                                              |
| Melena (13; 9.2)                         |                                              |
| Perforation (14; 9.9)                    |                                              |
| Carriers (n=46)                          |                                              |
| Coated tongue (45; 97.8)                 |                                              |
| Malaise (46; 100.0)                      |                                              |
| Headache (39; 84.8)                      |                                              |
| Apathy (4; 8.7)                          |                                              |
| Stupor (18; 39.1)                        |                                              |
| Nausea (11; 23.9)                        |                                              |
| Constipation (4; 8.6)                    |                                              |
| Abdominal distention (4; 8.6)            |                                              |
| Diarrhea (8; 17.4)                       |                                              |
| Melena (15; 32.6)                        |                                              |
| Perforation (15; 32.6)                   |                                              |
| 14/127 (9.9)                             | 132/109 (22.7)                              |
| 14/125 (11.2)                            | 130/109 (21.6)                              |
| 14/127 (9.9)                             | 132/109 (22.7)                              |
| 3/16 (15.8)                              | 7/12 (36.8)                                 |
| 6/15 (28.6)                              | 2/19 (9.5)                                  |
| 9/10 (47.4)                              | 6/13 (31.6)                                 |
| 5/3 (62.5)                               | 0/8 (0.0)                                   |
| 5/3 (62.5)                               | 0/8 (0.0)                                   |
| 2/5 (28.6)                               | 1/6 (14.3)                                  |
| 5/8 (38.5)                               | 2/11 (15.4)                                 |
| 8/6 (57.1)                               | 2/12 (14.3)                                 |
| 4/4 (82.7)                               | 3/43 (65.2)                                 |
| 4/4 (82.7)                               | 3/43 (65.2)                                 |
| 3/36 (7.7)                               | 2/36 (7.7)                                  |
| 1/3 (25.0)                               | 0/4 (0.0)                                   |
| 3/15 (16.7)                              | 0/18 (0.0)                                  |
| 4/36 (14.0)                              | 1/10 (9.1)                                  |
| 2/2 (50.0)                               | 0/4 (0.0)                                   |
| 3/37 (9.7)                               | 0/4 (0.0)                                   |
| 2/7 (28.6)                               | 0/4 (0.0)                                   |
| 1/14 (6.7)                               | 0/15 (0.0)                                  |
| 3/12 (20.0)                              | 1/14 (6.7)                                  |

3.3. The Relationship of Clinical Signs and Flagellin Genes between Acute and Carrier State of Typhoid Fever

The clinical signs of coated tongue, malaise and headache were found most belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66⁺ (42.7 %, 33.1 % and 32.7 %, respectively) in acute of typhoid fever, while these clinical signs were found less belongs flagellin gens variants of Hd” (11.2%, 9.9% and 9.1%, respectively). The percentage positive of flagellin genes variants of Hj’ and Hd’z66Ind⁺ in acute of typhoid fever were found similar in clinical signs of coated tongue, malaise and headache (21.6%, 22.7% and 24.2%, respectively vs 28.1%, 27.6% and 27.3%, respectively) (Table 3).

The clinical signs of apathy in acute typhoid fever was found most belongs flagellin genes variants of Hj’ (36.8%), but less belongs in both flagellin gens variants of Hd’z66⁺ and Hj’z66⁺ (10.5%). In contrastly, the clinical signs of stupor was found most belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd”, Hd’z66⁺ and Hd’z66Ind⁺ (28.6%, 23.8% and 23.8%, respectively), but less belongs flagellin genes variants of Hj’ and Hj’z66⁺ (9.5% and 13.3 %) (Table 3). Furthermore, clinical signs of nausea, constipation, abdominal distention, diarrhea, melena and perforation in acute typhoid fever was found most belongs flagellin genes of Hd” and Hd’z66Ind⁺ (47.4%, 62.5%, 62.5%, 28.6%, 38.5 and 57.1% vs 21.0%, 33.3%, 33.3%, 28.6%, 23.1% and 14.3%, respectively), but these clinical signs was found less belongs Hj’ (0.0%, 0.0%, 14.3%, 15.4% and 14.3%, respectively ) except clinical signs of nausea (31.6%).

Also, the percentage positive of flagellin genes variants of Hj’z66⁺ on clinical signs of nausea, constipation, abdominal distention, diarrhea, melena and perforation (0.0%, 0.0%, 0.0%, 14.3 and 0.0%, respectively) were found lower compared with in both percentage positive of flagellin genes variants of Hd” and Hd’z66Ind⁺ (Table 3). while percentage positive of flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66⁺ and Hd’z66Ind⁺ were found same for clinical signs of melena and perforation in acute typhoid fever. The clinical signs of stupor, melena and perforation in carrier state of typhoid fever were found clearly higher belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind⁺ (77.8%, 89.7% and 80.0 %, respectively) compared with other flagellin genes variants (Table 3).

3.4. Severity of Illness Related with Flagellin Genes Variants in Acute and Carriers State of Typhoid Fever

In Table 4 shows that the severity of illness (ie. stupor, melena and perforation) in carrier state of typhoid fever related with flagellin genes variants especially Hd’z66Ind⁺ compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever.
| Variable as clinical symptoms and flagellin genes | State of illness | OR (95% CI, P) |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Coated tongue                                | acute (n)       | State of illness | carrier state (n) | OR (95% CI, P) |
| Hd+                                          | 139             | 14 | 4 | 0.87 (0.31-2.55, 0.816) |
| HJ+                                          | 30              | 3  | 0.31 (0.10-0.96, 0.023) |
| Hd+zd66+                                     | 46              | 13 | 1.15 (0.68-1.92, 0.599) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 10              | 4  | 1.54 (0.56-4.28, 0.403) |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 39              | 21 | 0.60 (0.40-0.91, 0.020) |
| Malaise                                      | 141             | 14 | 4 | 1.14 (0.40-3.30, 0.805) |
| Hd+                                          | 32              | 3  | 0.29 (0.09-0.89, 0.014) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 46              | 13 | 1.15 (0.69-1.94, 0.580) |
| HJ+zd66Ind+                                  | 10              | 4  | 0.82 (0.27-2.49, 0.729) |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 39              | 22 | 0.58 (0.39-0.87, 0.011) |
| Headache                                     | 132             | 3  | 1.18 (0.35-3.98, 0.786) |
| Hd+                                          | 32              | 3  | 0.32 (0.10-0.98, 0.024) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 43              | 10 | 1.18 (0.65-2.13, 0.572) |
| HJ+zd66Ind+                                  | 9               | 4  | 0.66 (0.22-2.04, 0.476) |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 36              | 19 | 0.56 (0.37-0.86, 0.011) |
| Apathy                                       | 19              | 3  | 0.63 (0.09-4.62, 0.658) |
| Hd+                                          | 7               | 0  | 0.47 (0.33-0.65, 0.145) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 2               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66Ind+                                  | 2               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 5               | 3  | 1.69 (0.68-4.25, 0.497) |
| Stupor                                       | 21              | 6  | 2 | 1.71 (0.50-5.89, 0.379) |
| Hd+                                          | 2               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 1               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66Ind+                                  | 3               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 5               | 14 | 3.27 (1.46-7.30, 0.000) |
| Nausea                                       | 19              | 9  | 4  | 1.55 (0.63-3.78, 0.309) |
| Hd+                                          | 6               | 1  | ND |
| HJ+                                          | 0               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 0               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 4               | 6  | 0.46 (0.17-1.25, 0.118) |
| Constipation                                 | 8               | 5  | 2  | 1.25 (0.41-3.82, 0.678) |
| Hd+                                          | 0               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+                                          | 1               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 0               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 2               | 2  | 0.50 (0.11-2.35, 0.386) |
| Abdominal distention                         | 8               | 5  | 2  | 1.25 (0.41-3.82, 0.678) |
| Hd+                                          | 0               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+                                          | 1               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 0               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 2               | 2  | 0.50 (0.11-2.35, 0.386) |
| Diarrhea                                     | 7               | 2  | 3  | 0.76 (0.17-3.33, 0.714) |
| Hd+                                          | 1               | 1  | 1.14 (0.09-15.08, 0.919) |
| HJ+                                          | 1               | 1  | 1.14 (0.09-15.08, 0.919) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 1               | 1  | 1.14 (0.09-15.08, 0.919) |
| HJ+zd66Ind+                                  | 2               | 2  | 1.14 (0.21-6.11, 0.875) |
| Melena                                       | 13              | 5  | 1  | 0.17 (0.02-1.30, 0.04) |
| Hd+                                          | 2               | 1  | 0.37 (0.04-3.55, 0.363) |
| HJ+                                          | 3               | 0  | ND |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 0               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 3               | 13 | 3.76 (1.36-10.33, 0.000) |
| Perforation                                  | 14              | 8  | 3  | 2.86 (0.94-8.66, 0.03) |
| Hd+                                          | 2               | 1  | 2.14 (0.22-21.10, 0.500) |
| HJ+                                          | 2               | 0  | 0.85 (0.54-1.34, 0.129) |
| HJ+zd66+                                     | 0               | 0  | ND |
| Hd+zd66Ind+                                  | 2               | 12 | 5.69 (1.51-20.71, 0.000) |
Using multivariant analysis revealed that clinical signs of stupor in carrier state were found 3.27 times higher belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever with OR 3.27 (1.46-7.30, p <0.05). Also, the clinical signs of melena and perforation in carrier state of typhoid fever were found 3.76 and 5.69 times higher belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever with OR 3.76 (1.26-10.33, p <0.05) and OR 5.69 (1.51-20.71, p <0.05). Other clinical signs in carrier state of typhoid fever were not different significantly between flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever (p >0.05).

4. Discussion

The results of this study shows that most of clinical symptoms are coated tongue, malaise and headache in both acute and carriers state of typhoid fever, but no difference significantly in these symptoms was found between the carrier state and acute typhoid patients.

A minority of patients develop complications, the most serious of which is perforation of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract [16-18]. The clinical symptoms as severity of illness like stupor, melena and perforation in carrier state of typhoid fever has related with flagellin genes variants especially Hd’z66 Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever and the clinical signs of stupor in carrier state were found 3.27 times higher belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever. Also, the clinical signs of melena and perforation in carrier state of typhoid fever were found 3.76 and 5.69 times higher belongs flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever. Other clinical signs in carrier state of typhoid fever were not different significantly between flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" compared with other flagellin genes variants in acute typhoid fever.

Several studies suggested that flagellin genes variants of Hj+ association of decreased severity of illness, motility and invasiveness of bacteria and compared with flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" might seems related with severity of illness of typhoid fever [19]. It is supported by our results that flagellin genes variants of Hd’z66Ind" have strong related with severity of illness in carrier state of typhoid fever. We need more study to identify flagellin genes variant of Hd’z66Ind" from S. typhi for future focused research in chronic carriage in the gall bladder of typhoid patients.

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Potential Conflicts of Interest

All authors: no conflict.

Authors’ Contributions

MS, RD, ARS and MH conceived and designed the experiments. MS, ARS, RD, AF, NT, YD, MA, MRP, NIP, and MH carried out the molecular biology studies. MS, RD, AF, MRP, ARS and MM performed data and specimens collection and also epidemiology, clinical and microbiology results analysis. MS, ARS, RD and MH participated in the wrote the paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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