Data Article

Transcriptome datasets of macrophages infected with different strains of *Leptospira* spp

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**Abstract**

The datasets reported herein provide information about microarray experiment of macrophage cell line J774A.1 infected with three different strains of *Leptospira* spp. Transcriptomic profiles were generated using Affymetrix® Mouse Gene 2.1 ST Array Strip. Data was normalized and statistically process, \(p\)-value \(<\) 0.01, FDR \(<\) 0.05 and log2 fold change \((\pm\) 2). The microarray raw data are available in Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) under accession number GSE105141.

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**Specifications Table**

| Subject area | Biology |
|--------------|---------|
| More specific subject area | Gene expression |
| Type of data | Table and Figures |

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How data was acquired
Microarray Affymetrix® Mouse Gene 2.1 ST Array Strip

Data format
Raw (CEL.)

Experimental factors
Cell lines non-infected x cell lines infected with Leptospira spp.

Experimental features
Total RNA, with RIN 10, was extracted from whole macrophage cell line infected and control. Each sample contains three biological replicates and each replicates consists of three culture well.

Data source location
Department of Support, Production and Animal Health, São Paulo State University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Araçatuba, SP, Brazil

Data accessibility
Microarray data are available from Gene Expression Omnibus database with GEO accession number GSE105141

Value of the data
- This is the first comparison of transcriptomic profile of murine macrophages infected with different Leptospira spp varying in species and virulence within strain.
- Data reported will help in understanding the pathogenicity and immune response to leptospirosis which is still poorly understood.
- This data can reveal new insight on modulation and function of genes in immune cells following infection by Leptospira, with particular focus on differential host immune response to varying bacterial virulence.

1. Data

Total RNA was extracted from murine macrophage cell line J774A.1 infected with virulent, attenuated or saprophyte strains of Leptospira, as well as control non-infected cells, 6 h post in vitro infection. Affymetrix microarray was performed to obtain transcriptomic profiles of the infected and control groups. Raw data was deposited at NCBI GEO DataSets (GSE105141).

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

2.1. Cell culture

Murine macrophage cell line J774A.1, provided by the Paul Ehrlich cell bank, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was maintained in RPMI-1640 media (Sigma, USA) supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (Gibco, USA), 100 µg/mL streptomycin (Sigma Chemical Co St.Louis, MO), 0.03% L-glutamine solution (Sigma) and 100 UI/mL of penicillin. Cells were incubated at 37 °C, 5% CO2 until formation of a confluent monolayer in 6-well cell culture plates (3 cm/well).

2.2. Bacterial culture

Samples of the virulent strain Leptospira interrogans sorovar Copenhageni (FIOCRUZ L1-130), attenuated strain L. interrogans sorovar Copenhageni M20, and saprophyte strain L.biflexa sorovar Patoc (FIOCRUZ -Patoc I) were utilized. Attenuation of sample M20 was performed with successive replications in culture medium. All strains were maintained in Fletcher semi-solid culture medium, and incubated at 30 °C. To restore bacterial virulence (virulent strain), 1 mL of cultured bacteria was inoculated intraperitoneally in Golden Syrian hamsters (Mesocricetus auratus) and later recovered from kidneys, whereas the attenuated strain did not undergo intraperitoneal inoculation in hamsters. Virulent leptospires cultures are routinely maintained at the Faculdade de MedicinaVeterinária e
Zootecnia, Universidade de São Paulo (USP), São Paulo, Brazil, as previously described [1]. The inoculum was quantified using a Petroff-Hausser chamber.

2.3. Infection of macrophages

After the formation of a confluent cell monolayer, cultured cells were washed three times with sterile phosphate buffer solution (pH 7.2) for removal of antibiotics and non-adherent cells. *L. interrogans* and *L. biflexa* were harvested by centrifugation and the pellet was resuspended in RPMI-1640 media (Sigma), and 100:1 bacteria:cell of the three groups (virulent, attenuated and saprophyte) were added to macrophages and non-infected macrophages were kept as control. All treatments were performed in biological triplicates. Cells (infected and control) were incubated in fresh RPMI medium, without antibiotics, for 6 h at 37 °C, 5% CO2. Following this period, RNA extraction was immediately performed as described below.

2.4. RNA extraction and quantification

Total RNA was extracted from macrophages with a RNeasy Mini Kit (Qiagen, USA) according to manufacturer’s instructions. RNA samples were immediately stored at −80 °C. Quantification was performed using NanoDrop (ND-2000 spectrophotometer, Thermo Scientific, Wilmington, DE, USA) with OD260/280 ratios between 2.07 and 2.09 and concentration ranging of 1689 to 2818 ng/µl (Table 1). Quality of samples was assessed using capillary electrophoresis (Bioanalyzer 2100 Agilent, Santa Clara, CA, USA) and all samples used for microarray analysis had a RIN of 10 (Fig. 1a–b).

2.5. Microarray analysis

A WT PLUS Reagent kit (Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA, USA) was used to prepare the RNA samples for whole transcriptome expression analysis using the Mouse Genome 2.1 ST Array Strip (Affymetrix), according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Briefly, Poly-A RNA controls (lys, phe, thr and dap), absent in eukaryotic cells, were added to the RNA samples (assay control) prior to generation of cDNA. After the amplification process, final cDNA was purified, quantified, fragmented and labeled for hybridization to strips (all 4 groups were represented in each strip, experiment was repeated three times). Strips remained for 20 h at 48 °C in a hybridization oven. Strips were then washed and stained in the GeneAtlas robotic system (Affymetrix) using the GeneAtlas Hybridization, Wash, and Stain Kit for WT Array Strips (Affymetrix). Finally, strips were scanned using the GeneAtlas Imaging System (Affymetrix) generating the raw cel files. Raw intensity values in the cel files, were background corrected, log2 transformed and then quantile normalized by the software Expression Console (Affymetrix) using the Robust Multi-array Average (RMA) algorithm. Finally, comparison of the relative log expression signal (RLE) by box-plot and Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was

| Sample         | Concentration (ng/µL) | A260 | A280 | 260/280 | 260/230 |
|----------------|-----------------------|------|------|---------|---------|
| Control1       | 2151,3                | 53,782 | 25,983 | 2,07 | 2,20 |
| Control2       | 2114,2                | 52,855 | 25,484 | 2,07 | 2,17 |
| Control3       | 2497,3                | 62,433 | 30,298 | 2,06 | 2,17 |
| Virulent1      | 2200,2                | 55,005 | 26,412 | 2,08 | 2,18 |
| Virulent2      | 2818,2                | 70,456 | 33,697 | 2,09 | 2,22 |
| Virulent3      | 1786,1                | 44,653 | 21,311 | 2,10 | 2,18 |
| Attenuated1    | 1883,4                | 47,086 | 22,535 | 2,09 | 2,18 |
| Attenuated2    | 2397,8                | 59,946 | 28,917 | 2,07 | 2,21 |
| Attenuated3    | 2156,5                | 53,912 | 25,968 | 2,08 | 2,20 |
| Saprófita1     | 2064,7                | 51,618 | 24,734 | 2,09 | 2,04 |
| Saprófita2     | 2742,1                | 68,553 | 32,727 | 2,09 | 2,12 |
| Saprófita3     | 1689,1                | 42,229 | 20,214 | 2,09 | 2,17 |
performed between samples (Fig. 2a–b). PCA analysis show that infected treatments can be distinguished from controls, with virulent and attenuated groups separating further than the saprophyte bacteria. Next, statistical analysis was performed in the TAC software (Affymetrix) by ANOVA and p-values were corrected for multiple hypothesis testing using the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure (fold change ± 2, FDR-corrected p < 0.01).

2.6. Identification of differentially expressed genes

Following normalization, CHP files were utilized to identify differentially expressed genes using the software Transcriptome Analysis Console (Affymetrix). Infection by L. interrogans (virulent and attenuated bacteria) caused statistically significant changes in gene expression in more than 800 genes, when compared to non-infected control cells (Fig. 3a–b). Saprophyte L. biflexa modulated 200 genes when compared to control (Fig. 3c). Hierarchical clustering and differences in average signal

Fig. 1. RNA Quality control. Total RNA extracted at 6 h post infection and control non-infected was used to analyze concentration and quality. a) Bioanalyzer gel image for each sample. b) Graphic of all RNA samples used for microarray analysis. The 28S and 18 s distinctive ribosomal RNA bands were observed for all samples.
between samples are depicted in a heatmap showing a clear separation of groups based on infection and leptospiral virulence (Fig. 3d). Canonical pathways of the differentially expressed genes were identified using the Ingenuity Pathway Analyses (IPA®) software.

2.7. Validation of transcriptome results by qRT-PCR

For validation of microarray data between treatments, M-MLV reverse transcriptase (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and QuantiTect SYBR® Green (Qiagen) were used for preparation of cDNA and qPCR,
respectively, according to manufacturer’s instructions. PCR was performed in an MxPRO3005 real-time PCR machine (Agilent, Santa Clara, CA, USA). Standard curves were used for all genes at each individual run, and the expression of candidate genes was evaluated as a ratio to the housekeeping control, which was chosen on previous comparative analysis on these samples, between three housekeeping genes. All primers were designed to span at least one intron, to avoid repeat regions and similarities to other non-specific genomic regions. Murine sequence, available on the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) Genome Browser, was employed for primer design using the Primer3 program [2].
2.8. Statistical analysis

Differential expression of each gene was determined by ANOVA with two criteria, a fold change of \( \pm 2 \) comparing all infected groups to the non-infected control and filtered by FDR-corrected \( p \)-value < 0.05. Real-time PCR data was analyzed using least-squares analysis of variance and the general linear model procedures of SAS (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA; \( p < 0.01 \)). Comparison of means was done using Duncan’s multiple range test, and significance was set at \( p < 0.05 \).

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Transparency document. Supplementary material

Transparency document associated with this article can be found in the online version at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2017.12.042

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