



Cairo University
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Poultry Diseases

Recent studies on salmonella infection in chickens

A Thesis presented by

Mona Mohamed Saad Abd ElGhaney

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Under supervision of

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Sayed Hammouda

Professor of Poultry and Rabbit Diseases
Department of Poultry Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

Dr. Sherif Abdelmonam Omar Marouf

Assistant Professor of microbiology
Department of microbiology
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hasanin Seta

Lecturer of Poultry and Rabbit Diseases
Department of Poultry Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

(2018)



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APPROVAL SHEET

This is to approve that the dissertation presented by **Mona Mohamed SaadAbd El Ghaney** to Cairo University for the Master Degree in Veterinary Medicine Sciences, (Department of Poultry Diseases) has been approved by examination committee:

1. Prof. Dr. Hany Fawzy El Lakany

Professor of Poultry Diseases and Head of Department of Poultry and Fish Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Damanhur University.

2. Prof. Dr. AnwaarMetwaly El Nabarawy

Professor of Poultry Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University.

3. Prof. Dr. Ahmed SaydHammouda

Professor of Poultry Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University.

4. Dr.SherifAbdElmonam Omar Marouf

Assistant Professor of Microbiology
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University.

Date: 15 / 5/2018



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Supervision Sheet

Dr. Ahmed Sayed Hammouda

Professor of Poultry and Rabbit Diseases
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

Dr. Sherif Abdelmonam Omar Marouf

Assistant Professor of microbiology
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hasanin Seta

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Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Cairo University

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Dedication

*I dedicate this work to my
mother, my husband Hossam,
my kids Aser & Younes*

Name: Mona Mohamed Saad Abd El Ghaney

Nationality: Egyptian

Birth date: 23/2/1984

Degree: M S., 2018

Specification: Poultry and Rabbit Diseases

Supervisors:

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Sayed Hammouda

Dr. Sherif Abd Elmonam Omar Marouf

Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hasanin Seta

Thesis Title:

"RECENT STUDIES ON SALMONELLA INFECTION IN CHICKENS"

ABSTRACT

This study was designated to investigate the incidence of *Salmonella* in different chicken farms broiler, layer and breeder of different ages through bacteriological examination for different types of samples and to identify zoonotic serotypes of *Salmonella* by Polymerase Chain Reaction assay. A total number of 263 samples (171 organ samples as follow: 82 liver, 51 yolk sac, 20 spleen, 16 ovary, 2 heart and 90 fecal swap and 2 litter samples) were obtained from 93 different poultry farms in different localities at 6 governorates Qalubia, Sharkya, Gharbya, Esmailia, Dakhelia and Giza during the period from 2013 to 2015. The samples were collected under complete aseptic condition from chickens suspected to be infected with salmonellosis. The incidence of salmonella among chicken farms was 5.3% (14/263). It was (15.1%) among the broiler farms and (10.5%) among the layer farms by conventional culture methods. The results obtained showed that the incidence of *Salmonella* in different organ samples were as follows: 10.97% among liver samples and it considered the highest incidence of *Salmonella* isolation followed by yolk sac 7.8% while the lowest rate of *Salmonella* isolation was from the spleen 5%, no isolation from heart, ovary, fecal swabs and litter samples and it is belonging to four serotypes. *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* indicated the highest incidence (42.85% and 28.57% respectively), while the other serovars *S. Kentucky* and *S. Muenster* were lower in incidence (21.42% and 7.14% respectively). The detection of (*invA*) gene provides that all isolates were positive for it except three isolate. To understand the role of immune mechanisms in protecting chickens from *Salmonella* infections, we examined the immune responses of infected one-week-old chickens to different isolated *Salmonella* serotypes Enteritidis, Typhimurium, Kentucky and Muenster, as well as assessed cecal and splenic colonization, monitored histopathological changes in different organs of infected chickens. All the examined salmonellae were able to colonize the caeca in an efficient way and considered good colonizer but they showed a slower colonization in spleen. *S. Muenster* colonized the ceca more efficiently than other serotypes followed by *S. Kentucky* and *S. Typhimurium* but did not behave the same in the spleen. Using quantitative real-time reverse transcription (RT)-PCR, mRNA expression of various cytokines, interleukin (IL)-6 and interleukin (IL)-8 were examined in cecal tonsils. As a result, all tested serotypes were able to infect epithelial cells and the lamina propria of cecum, liver, spleen, and were able to stimulate IL6 gene expression and showed slight up regulation in IL8 gene expression. Notably, *S. Muenster* showed the highest microscopic alteration and the highest IL6 gene expression than other serotypes correlated with its great cecal colonization. These finding correlate with the pathogenesis of salmonella in poultry. Infection with non-host adapted serotypes *S. Enteritidis*, *S. Typhimurium* produces a strong inflammatory response that may limit the spread of *Salmonella* largely to the gut.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
AB	Antibody
BGA	Brilliant Green Aga
BHI	brain heart infusion broth
BPW	buffered peptone water
BS agar	bismuth sulfite agar
BW	Body weight
CBH	cutaneous basophil hypersensitivity
CFU	Colony forming unit
CKC	chicken kidney epithelial cells
CT	Caecal tonsil
DNA	Deoxy Nucleic Acid
DPI	days post inoculation
D W	Distilled water
EU	European Union
FCR	Feed conversion rat
Fig	Figure
<i>fliC</i>	Flagellar gene C
HD11	chicken macrophages
HE agar	Haematoxylene Eiosin agar
H&E	Hematoxylin-eosin stain

H ₂ S	Hydrogen sulfide
IAC	internal amplification control
IFN	Interferon
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IL	Interleukin
iNOS	inducible nitric oxide synthase
LITAF	Lipopolysaccharide-induced tumour necrosis alpha factor
LPS	Lipopolysaccharide
<i>invA</i>	Invasion gene
<i>K.</i>	<i>Klebsiella</i>
MHC	Major histocompatibility complex
MIP	Macrophages inhibitory protein
MKTT broth	Muller-Kauffmann tetrathionate/novobiocin both
MPN	Most-probable-number
MW	Molecular weight
NDV	Newcastle disease vaccine
<i>P.</i>	<i>Proteus</i>
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PM	Post mortum
PT4	phage type 4
RBCs	Red blood cells

RT-PCR	Real time- Polymerase chain reaction
RV	Rappaport-Vassiliadis
<i>S.</i>	<i>Salmonella</i>
<i>SE</i>	<i>S. Enteritidis</i>
<i>SK</i>	<i>S. Kentucky</i>
<i>SM</i>	<i>S. Monestrum</i>
<i>SP</i>	<i>S. Pullorum</i>
<i>ST</i>	<i>S. Typhimurium</i>
SPF	Specific pathogen free
SPI	Salmonella pathogenicity island
<i>Spv</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> plasmid virulence
SIM agar	sulfur –indole- motility agar
SRBC	sheep red blood cell
S.S.agar	Salmonellae-shigella agar
ssDNA	single-stranded DNA
TLR	Toll-likereceptor
TSI	Triple Sugar Iron
TT broth	Tetrathionate broth
TTBG	Tetrathionate broth with brilliant green
UK	United kingdom
XLD	Xylose Lysine Desoxycholate