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Cairo University Faculty of veterinary medicine



Pathological and Immunological Studies on Bacterial Diseases in Oreochromis Fish Species with Emphasis on Vaccination Trials

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(2020)



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Abstract

Our study is divided into two main parts; the first part was a survey for one year and determination the prevalence rate of bacterial microorganisms affecting some fish farms in El fayoum and El sharkia governorates. These farms showed signs of septicemia with a history of 20 -25% recorded mortalities during the period from autumn 2018 to summer 2019. In postmortem examination, the affected fish showed loosed scales, ulceration in the dorsal part of the head, petechial hemorrhages on the body surface, unilateral exophthalmia, and corneal opacity together with congested blood vessels of nearly all fleshy portions of the body fins. Internal examination of the viscera showed congestion of the blood vessels in the kidneys and brain together with dark enlarged spleen while the liver was marbled in appearance. Ninety fish samples (representing 10% of the fishes showing clinical signs) were collected from such fish farms for histopathological and bacteriological examination. *Aerococcus viridans* was isolated from El Fayoum and El Sharkia governorates in rates of 7.7% and 15.9% respectively throughout the year while *Enterococcus faecalis* was isolated with a rate of 34.6 and 39.02 respectively. The prevalence rate of *Aeromonas hydrophila* was

42.3% in El fayoum governorate and 13.4 % in El sharkia governorate while Vibrio vulnificus was recorded 0 % in El fayoum governorate and 7.3 % in El sharkia governorate, Proteus vulgaris was 3.8 in El fayoum governorate and 12.2% in El sharkia governorate. Pseudomonas aeruginosa was 11.5% in El fayoum governorate and 12.2% in El sharkia governorate. The seasonal prevalence rates were analyzed in both locations throughout the year. In antibiotic sensitivity testing, the A.viridans and E.faecalis showed resistance to ampicillin, oxolinic acid, nalidixic acid, amikacin, and gentamicin but they were sensitive to amoxicillin and nitrofurantoin. E. faecalis exhibited resistance to erythromycin and oxytetracycline while A. viridans was sensitive to them. Experimental infection and reisolation of both bacterial isolates in O. niloticus was performed to confirm the field isolation and for studying the pathogenicity of such microorganisms in this fish species. The Gram negative bacteria were showing resistance against erythromycin except Vibrio vulnificus that showed sensitivity. Aeromonas hydrophila and Proteus vulgaris showed resistance to colistin sulphate and susceptibility to sulpha-trimethoprime. Vibrio vulnificus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa showed resistance against sulpha-trimethoprime and sensitive against colistin sulphate. In last decade, because of the bacterial diseases in egypatian farms were recorded ahighly increase in Gram positive bacteria and a new isolates were admitted to aquaculture as result of using agriculture drainage water, so part 2 of our study was directed to experimental design to control newly admitted bacterial diseases by using of formalin killed vaccine against the isolated Gram positive strain in our field study (A. viridans and E. faecalis). This design were performed by using 84 fish divided in 7 groups (control negative, vaccinated A.viridans, vaccinated E.faecalis, infected A.viridans, infected E.faecalis, challenged A.viridans and challenged *E.faecalis*); 12 fish / each group. The efficacy of vaccine was evaluated by making WBCs count and lysosome activity which showed marked increase in vaccinated, challenged than in the infected group. The statistical analysis for all parameters used for vaccine evaluation was performed. The parameters included pathological changes, biochemical and hematological aspects as well as immunological aspects to compare between naturally, experimentally infected and vaccinated groups.

Keywords: Bacterial diseases- O .niloticus – vaccine – WBCs –lysosome activity

I dedicate this thesis:

To soul of my father, dear mother, dear wife and My lovely daughters

Acknowledgement

First of all, my deep prayerful gratitude should be submitted to merciful GOD whose help I always seek and without his willing I will achieve nothing.

My deepest gratitude and faithful thank to Prof. Dr. **Mahmoud Aly Mahmoud**, professor of pathology, faculty of veterinary medicine, Cairo University, Egypt for his supervision, continuous aid and fruitful advice, great help and encouragement during course of this work.

I would like to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to **Prof.Dr. Alaa Eldin Abdel Mouty Eissa**, professor of aquatic animal medicine and management, faculty of veterinary medicine, cairo university, Egypt for his supervision, continuous aid and fruitful advice, **Dr. Nasser Gamal El dine**, Chief researcher of pathology Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza and **Dr. Jehan Ibrahim Abd Elatif**, Senior Researcher of Fish diseases Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza, Egypt for kind encouragement, help, great support and guidance.

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. Heba Elgharib**, Chief Researcher of Pathology Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in clinical pathology result

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. Marwa Mohamed** Researcher of Pathology Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in Immunohistochemistry

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. Yasmine Saeed** Researcher Assistant Pathology Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in preparation of samples for pathological examination

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. Yousria Hashem** Senior Researcher of Mycoplasma Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in molecular identification of bacteria

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. George Armany** Researcher Assistant of genome Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in submission of nucleotide sequence of bacteria in GenBank

My particular thanks and gratefulness to **Dr. Ahmed Taha Ali.** Chief Researcher of Fish disease Department, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza for help in making of statistical analysis.

Great gratitude for all staff members of pathology, Animal Health Research Institute, Dokki, Giza.

List of content

Introduction	1
Review of Literature	4
1. Most common bacterial diseases affect O.niloticus in Egypt	4
1.1. Gram positive bacteria	4
1.1.1. Streptococcus iniae	4
1.1.2. Streptococcus agalactiae	6
1.1.3. Enterococcus faecalis	8
1.1.4. Aerococcus viridans	10
1.2. Gram Negative bacteria	11
1.2.1. Aeromonas hydrophila	11
1.2.2. Vibrio vulnificus	13
1.2.3. Porteus vulgaris	15
1.2.4. pseudomonas aeruginosa	17
2. Fish vaccines	19
3. Fish immune system.	24
Paper I	30
Paper II	53
Paper III	84
Discussion	120
Conclusion	129
Summary	130
References	132
الملخص العربي	1

List of table

Paper I

Table 1: Phenotypic and Biochemical characterizations of	
A.hydrophila and V.vulnificus using API*20NE	
Table2: Phenotypic and Biochemical characterizations of <i>P</i> .	
aeruginosa and Proteus vulgaris using API*20NE	
Table 3: The prevalence rate of A. hydrophila and V. vulnificus	
isolated from four organs of naturally infected O. niloticus during	
the four seasons	
Table 4: The prevalence rate of Proteus vulgaris and	
Pseudomonas aeruginosa isolated from four organs of naturally	
infected O. niloticus during the four seasons.	
Table 5: antibiotic sensitivity test for of A. hidrophila, V.	
vulnificus P. vulgaris, and P. aeruginosa isolated from four organs	
of naturally infected O. niloticus	
Paper II	
Table 1: The phenotypic and biochemical characters of both	
isolates were demonstrated	
Table 2: Antibiotic sensitivity of the isolated <i>A. viridans</i> and <i>E.</i>	
fecalis	
Paper III	
Table 1: The experimental design	
Table 2: Sampling times during the experiment	
Table 3: Leukocyte count, protein profile and lysosome activity of	
experimentally infected, vaccinated, challenged and control	
negative groups of o.niloticus in case of A.viridans	
Table 4 : Leukocyte count, protein profile and lysosome activity of	
experimentally infected, vaccinated, challenged and control	
negative groups of o.niloticus in case of E.faecalis	

Table 1s: Water quality measures during experiment time	103
Table 2s: Mortality and survival rates in O. niloticus fish experimentally vaccinated and challenged with <i>A.viridans</i> and <i>E.faecalis</i> in <i>O.niloticus</i>	103
Table 3s: Lesion scoring in spleen and brain in case of <i>A.viridans</i>	
infection, vaccination and challenge	104
Table 4s: Lesion scoring in liver and kidneys in case of <i>A. viridans</i> infection, vaccination and challenge	105
Table 5s: Lesion scoring in spleen and brain in case of <i>E.faecalis</i> infection, vaccination and challenge	106
Table 6s: Lesion scoring in liver and kidneys in case of <i>E.faecalis</i> infection, vaccination and challenge	107

List of Figures

Paper I

Fig.1 A) congestion in pectoral and tail fins (black arrows), loss of scales and presence of petechial hemorrhage on body surface (yellow arrows). B) congested kidney (white arrow) and marbled friable liver (red arrows)

35

Fig.2: Histopathological sections of Oreochromis niloticus naturally infected with Gram negative bacteria collected from El Fayoum governorate showing; A) Congestion of hepatoportal blood vessels (c) surrounded by eosinophilic granular cells (e) and some hepatocytes showing vacuolar degeneration (v). B) hepatocytes showing vacuolar degeneration (v), congestion of hepatoportal blood vessels (c) with melanin pigment deposition between hepatocytes (me). C) Deposition of hemosiderin pigment (h) in the tissue of liver which stained positive, appear blue color, by Prussian blue. D) Necrosis in hepatopancreatic cells (n), congestion of hepatopancreatic blood vessels (c) surround by eosinophilic granular cells (e), in addition to vacuolar degeneration in hepatocytes (v). E) Thickening in wall of blood vessels of spleen (t) in addition to depletion of white pulp (d). F) melanin pigment deposition (me) around blood vessels of spleen. G) Hemorrhage (he) between renal tubules with hemosiderin deposition (h). H) Hemorrhage (he) and mononuclear cells infiltration (i) between renal tubules together with necrotic changes (n) in the epithelium, in addition to vacuolar degeneration in epithelium of renal tubules (v) and deposition of melanin pigment (me) between the renal tubules; the glomeruli showed hypercellularity (hy)

44

Fig. 3: Histopathological sections of *Oreochromis niloticus* naturally infected with Gram negative bacteria collected from El Sharkia governorate showing; A) congestion of hepatoportal blood vessels (c). B) Congestion of hepatoportal blood vessels (c) and some hepatocytes showing necrotic changes (n). C) Some hepatocytes showing vacuolar degeneration (v). D) Some hepatocytes showing apoptosis with formation of apoptotic bodies (a), in addition to hemorrhage (he) between hepatocytes. E) Apoptotic hepatocytes (a) positively stained by caspase 3 immunohistochemistry. F) Hepatocytes showing necrotic changes (n) with mononuclear inflammatory cells aggregation (i), in addition to presence of bacteria (b) between hepatocytes. G) Deplation (d) in white pulp with melanin pigment (me) deposition, in addition to necrosis (n) in capsule of spleen. H) renal glomeruli showing

45