

Campylobacter Ecology and Evolution: Niche adaptation and resistance progression in Campylobacter

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Milner Centre for EVOLUTION

Population genomics and evolution of bacteria



Host - Sheppard et al. (2013) *PNAS* Biofilm – Pascoe et al. (2015) *Env Micro* Surivival - Yahara et al. (2017) *Env Micro*





Pathogenicity – Monteil et al. (2016) MGen.



Pathogenicity – Meric et al. (2018) NatComms.



Host/pathogen - Berthenet et al. (2018) BMC Biology

Pathogenicity - Bayliss et al. In prep.

Campylobacter: among the most common causes of bacterial gastroenteritis



Antimicrobials used in persistent or severe cases but infection is usually self limiting (3-5) days.

Humans are a dead end host so where is the selection for resistance?

C. jejuni and C. coli principally inhabit animal guts



Where does human infection come from?

Is AMR acquired in animal hosts?

Sheppard et al. (2009) *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 48:1072–1078 Sheppard et al. (2010) *Applied Environmental Microbiology* 76, 5269-5277

Not all host animals are equal.



>20 billion chickens

~1.5 billion cattle

Global use of antimicrobials in livestock production:

- Many of the same antimicrobial classes
- Global distribution networks
- Growth promoters and treatment of 'sick animals'

Bar-On et al. (2018) 15 (25) 6506-6511.

The rise of AMR in *Campylobacter* from humans and animals coincides



Trends in fluoroquinolone resistance in *Campylobacter*

Putative ciprofloxacin resistance in 1038 human (Blue), 670 chicken (Orange) and 136 ruminant (Grey) samples collected from 1978 to 2017.

Understanding the spread of AMR Campylobacter



- 1. Genomics and host adaptation
- 2. Clonal transmission
- 3. Gene pool transmission

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GWAS Microbiology research is changing: top-down and bottom-up approaches

Bottom-up.

Starts with DNA sequence (genes) and tests the effect on the phenotype.

L-FuC a cor Martin Stal "Ottawa Instit "Alberta Inger

L-Fucose utilization provides Campylobacter jejuni with a competitive advantage

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Edited* by Pascale Cossart, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France, and approved March 18, 2011 (received for review September 23, 2010)

Campulobacter isiuni is a prevalent aastrointestinal pathoaen in typically located in terminal positions on the extensively modi-

Top-down.

Starts with phenotype and associates it with particular genomic elements.



Genome-wide association study identifies vitamin B₅ biosynthesis as a host specificity factor in *Campylobacter*

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The Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium

GWAS Association study Method (*Campylobacter*)





GTTTAAAATTATTTAAATAGAAAGATATTT CCATCGATTAAATATAAACTTACTTTATCAT TAAAGCTTTAAAAAGTATTTTGTTTAAAAT GATTTATGATTTCAAAAAATTTTCAATAAA TATTTAAATAGAAAGATATTTTATGAAAAA



1. The genomics of host adaptation (Cattle)





Genes underlying host adaptation



Sheppard et al.(2013) PNAS 110:11923-7.

2. Survival through the food production chain





Pascoe (2015). Environmental Microbiology 17(11):4779-89. Yahara et al (2017) Environmental Microbiology

 $\Delta nuoK$ grows better in elevated oxygen 1.0 wild type (M1) ∆fumC (CJM1_1325, cj1364c) ∆nuoK (CJM1_1505, cj1569c) 0.8 Absorbance (OD₆₀₀) △CJM1_1327 (cj1367c) △CJM1_1338 (cj1377c) △CJM1_1339 (cj1378) 0.6 0.4 0.2-0.0 24 8 12 16 20 28 0 Time (h)

- *nuoK* is involved in NADH activity and switching from anaerobic to oxygen rich environment. Mutants grow better in enhanced O2

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Campylobacter source attribution studies



Several potential sources.



Different hosts have different *C. jejuni* types so disease can be attributed.



National attribution experiment





Chicken is a major source of human infection



Assignment of clinical isolates to source using the Bayesian clustering algorithm -STRUCTURE.



Putative source

Chicken is a major source of human infection



Assignment of clinical isolates to source using the Bayesian clustering algorithm -STRUCTURE.



Putative source

Data and models have improved





1. Model limitations can be quantified by self attribution



2. Genome-wide hostsegregating markers



Berthenet et al. (2019) Scientific Reports 9: 8098 Thépault et al (2018) Scientific Reports 8:9305 Thepault A et al (2017) Applied and Environmental Microbiology 83(7):e03085-16

Chicken (followed by ruminants) remain the major source of human campylobacteriosis



Source attribution (C. jejuni) 60 – 80 % attributed to chicken 40 – 60 % to ruminant 4 – 10 % to wild birds & environment

Biology limits:

Zoonotic transmission occurs every 1.6 years in some *C. jejuni* lineages so association signal is lost.

Berthenet et al. (2019) Scientific Reports 9: 8098 Thépault et al (2018) Scientific Reports 8:9305 Thepault et al (2017) Applied and Environmental Microbiology 83(7):e03085-16

Dearlove et al (2015) ISME Journal 10(3):721-9.

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AMR Campylobacter from humans, animals and sewage.



		Campylobacter jejuni (n = 162)			Campylobacter coli (n = 91)		
	Antibiotics ^a	Animals	Humans	Sewage	Animals	Humans	Sewage
Total number of non-multidrug resistant		27/44 (61.36%)	101/115 (8.69%)	4/4 (100%)	-	15/33 (45.45%)	27/47 (57.44%)
Total number of multidrug resistant		17/44 (38.63%)	10/115 (87.82%)	-	11/11 (100%)	18/33 (54.54%)	20/47 (42.55%)
Total number of isolates		44	115	4	11	33	47

^{*a*} Antibiotic resistance to: ciprofloxacin; tetracycline; erythromycin; streptomycin; gentamicin.

Mourkas et al (2019) *Environmental Microbiology* doi:10.1111/1462-2920.14760 Florez-Cuadrado et al (2017) Frontiers in Microbiology 8, 2240

MDR is higher in C. coli than in C. jejuni



Presence/allelic diversity of 15 AMR genes, based on CARD, ResFinder and NCBI databases.

AMR is distributed across structured *Campylobacter* populations – not just successful clones.



AMR genes in genomic islands



Evidence of gene pool transmission in *C. coli* from multiple sources



Co-localized tetO, aad9, ant(6)-lb

Evidence of gene pool transmission between *C. coli* and *C. jejuni*



Co-localized ant(6)-la, sat-4, aph(3)-Illa

Evidence of gene pool transmission



The mean consistency index (CI) was significantly higher among AMR genes (0.66) compared with core genes (0.46), and allelic variation was lower.

Consistent with HGT facilitating the movement of AMR genes.

Mourkas et al (2019) Environmental Microbiology doi:10.1111/1462-2920.14760

Allele sharing between sources and species



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Is this enough to explain the coincidence of rising AMR?

Not really – overlapping gene pools but no source sink dynamics!

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