



## Recent trends in typhoid research- A Review

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### Abstract

Typhoid fever is an infectious disease caused by salmonella enterica serotype typhi. It is a disease of global distribution. In India and Bangladesh, the highest incidence has been observed among children aged less than five years, while in Vietnam, the peak incidence has been found to occur in children in between five to nine years. Prevention is the present requirement for the people of this young age group. This article is totally based on literature survey and is the updated work of the published review article of the corresponding author. This article discusses and summarizes important work in literature in response to the epidemiology, symptoms and diagnosis of typhoid. Much stress has been given to salmonella and immune system and study was done on infection of salmonella to various organs. Genes involved during infection and typhoid related to nanotechnology was also described in detail. In this communication the authors reviewed the vaccination used against typhoid fever. Much focused has been given for the plants products and herbal drugs to minimize pathogenicity caused by salmonellae. This article will be very helpful for those researchers working in the field of infectious diseases caused by salmonellae species.

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## Introduction

Enteric fever is caused by infection with *Salmonella enterica* serotype *Salmonella typhi* (*S.typhi*) or *Salmonella enterica* serotype paratyphi (*S.paratyphi*). Globally, up to 27 million infections occur per year, with over  $2 \times 10^5$  attributable deaths annually, predominantly among children under the age of five years (Clark *et al.*, 2010). Typhoid fever is a bacterial disease, caused by *S. typhi* and is transmitted through the ingestion of food or drinks contaminated by the faeces or urine of infected people as reported by this corresponding author in his research article (Khan, 2010a). This fever is endemic in many developing countries and remains a substantial public health problem despite recent development in water and sanitation (Lauria *et al.*, 2009).

*S. typhi* is the causative organism for human typhoid is a worldwide problem as described by this corresponding author also (Khan, 2010b). Multi drug resistant typhoid fever was also reported by the researchers (Zaki and Karande, 2011). Typhoid is characterized by high fever, diarrhea and headache. This article discusses and summarizes important work in literature related to typhoid epidemiology and its symptoms. The authors also focused on various ways to diagnose typhoid. Work related with salmonellae and immune systems were also discussed. Infection of salmonellae to various organs like liver, gall bladder, spleen etc was explained in details. The author also explained the treatment of this disease and also enlisted a number of antibiotics and drugs that has been used so far. More stress was given on the vaccination against typhoid. Due to the emergence of multi drug resistant salmonellae and lack of proper vaccine the author surveyed the plants product that can help to combat the infection of salmonellae. Genes involved during infection and pathogenicity of *S.typhi* was also highlighted. Moreover typhoid related to nanotechnology was also described in detail. This article will be very helpful for the researchers, working in the field of infectious disease caused by salmonellae.

The main aim of writing this article is to create awareness among the researchers to make a better therapy against this disease which will finally eradicate typhoid.

## Epidemiology

Typhoid fever occurred in many parts of the world like Far East Asia, Middle East, Central in South America, Zimbabwe, Australia, West French Guiana, Thailand, Ivory coast, India, Florida, Spain, Turkey and Nigeria as reported by the this corresponding author (Khan *et al.*, 2008). Typhoid has been also reported to emerge in Vietnam (Holt *et al.*, 2011), China (Dong *et al.*, 2010), Bangladesh (Naheed *et al.*, 2010), Indonesia (Lauria *et al.*, 2009), Netherland (Van Wolfswinkel *et al.*, 2009) and UK (Clark *et al.*, 2010).

## Symptoms

Typhoid is characterized by high fever, chill, nausea, headaches, malaise and sometimes with delirium (Cook *et al.*, 2008). The other complications include intestinal hemorrhage or perforation, pneumonia, myocarditis, hepatitis, acute cholecystitis and meningitis (Sulaiman and Sarwari, 2007). Early small bowel perforation and cochleovestibular impairment as rare complications of typhoid fever had been also reported (Van Wolfswinkel *et al.*, 2009). Other symptoms also include diarrhoea, abdominal pain, vomiting, myalgia, cough, weight loss, constipation, abdominal tenderness, palpable spleen, palpable liver and rose spots (Clark *et al.*, 2010). Reports were also made regarding *S. typhi* sepsis and rhabdomyolysis with acute renal failure (Jhawar *et al.*, 2010) and also on ileal perforation in children (Osifo and Ogiemwonyi, 2010). A number of symptoms of typhoid were also reported by this corresponding author in his review article on typhoid (Khan *et al.*, 2008).

## Diagnostic test for typhoid

The diagnosis of disease requires laboratory testing. Blood and bone marrow were used for the isolation of the pathogen. Isolation of the pathogen from these

specimens is the most reliable means for the confirmation of the disease (Abdoel *et al.*, 2007). Attempts were made regarding the serodiagnosis of typhoid fever since the late 19th century when Widal demonstrated that the serum of patients with typhoid fever agglutinated typhoid bacilli (Widal, 1896). A number of new serologic tests for typhoid fever have been introduced which detect antibodies (IgG or IgM) to various purified antigens of *S. typhi*. A variety of test that detect salmonellae has been listed in the Table 1.

**Table 1.** List of diagnostic test to identify salmonellae

Test	References
Widal	Widal, 1896.
Typhidot	Dutta <i>et al.</i> , 2006.
Tubex tests	Dutta <i>et al.</i> , 2006.
Latex agglutination test	Abdoel <i>et al.</i> , 2007.
Dipstick assay	Pastoor <i>et al.</i> , 2008.
Immunochromatographic lateral flow assay	Pastoor <i>et al.</i> , 2008.
Real time PCR	Zhou and Pollard, 2010.
Dot enzyme immunoassay	Jackson <i>et al.</i> , 1995.

### Salmonella and immune system

The immune system is a unique and effective defense mechanism to protect the body from foreign microorganisms. During the initial infection local (particularly secretory antibodies) and systemic immune responses constitute the main host defense. An effective immune response may stop bacteria from reaching the lamina propria which will block the subsequent stages of the infection process. Immune responses against circulating extracellular bacteria encompass anti-capsular virulence (Vi), anti-lipopolysaccharide (O) and anti-flagella (H) antibodies. However, the acquired immune response stimulated by typhoid pathogen may not result in protection from relapse and re-infections.

Global expression profiles of *typhi* grown *in vitro* and within macrophages at different time points were obtained and compared. Virulence factors, such as the SPI-1- and SPI-2-encoded type III secretion systems, were found to be expressed as predicted during infection by *Salmonella. S.typhi* inside macrophages exhibited elevated expression of genes encoding resistance to antimicrobial peptides (Faucher *et al.*, 2006). Intracellular survival of *S.typhi* in human macrophages is independent of *Salmonella* pathogenicity island (SPI)-2 have been reported (Forest *et al.*, 2010). Macrophage polarization and bacterial infection has also been reported (Mège *et al.*, 2011).

### Infection of salmonellae to various organs

The authors described the spread and movement of salmonellae to various organs. Gallbladder epithelial cells acts as a novel niche for *in vivo* replication of *Salmonella* leading to the pathogenesis in the gallbladder during typhoid fever. *Salmonella* related to gall bladder cancer has been also reported by the researchers. Chronic typhoid carriage (persistence), production of mediators of chronic inflammation and a genotoxic toxin were also known for this bacterium (Nath *et al.*, 2010). Gallstones have been reported to play a significant role in *Salmonella* spp. gallbladder colonization and carriage (Crawford *et al.*, 2010).

Reports were also made regarding the hepatic involvement with typhoid and elevated serum bilirubin, and serum alanine transaminase levels (Shetty *et al.*, 1999). Spleen is the secondary lymphoid organ of the body. It plays important role in immune system. Spontaneous spleen rupture and splenic abscess have also been seen in this fever. This bacterium is also able to persist in its host causing a chronic disease by colonizing the spleen and liver (Villarreal *et al.*, 2011). The colonization and growth within the spleen and liver by *S. typhimurium* has been also reported (Watson and Holden, 2010).

The kidneys are organs and are store house of various functions. They belong to an essential part of the urinary system. The kidney serves homeostatic functions such as the regulation of electrolytes, maintenance of acid-base balance, and regulation of blood pressure. Renal involvement like bacteriuria, nephrotic syndrome and acute renal failure have been studied due to *S. paratyphi A* (D'Cruz *et al.*, 2009).

### **Genes involved during infection and pathogenesis of *S.typhi***

*S. typhi* which causes typhoid fever is a human restricted pathogenic microorganisms. To understand its pathogenesis is little difficult due to the unavailability of suitable animal models. *S.typhimurium* which is a serovar posses high degree of genome homology (Parkhill *et al.*, 2001). It has been used for a long time to study and evaluate typhoid fever pathogenesis using a murine infection model in which this bacterium causes a systemic infection. This model has been considered as a crucial model in understanding systemic infections caused by Salmonella. However, it has also been explained that the mouse model does not always reflect the human disease. A number of Salmonella virulence factors have already been detected and studied, but there is need to discover more. In human infected with Salmonella, macrophages represent an important host defense mechanism. The ability of salmonella to survive and replicate within macrophage is considered to be one of the major pathogenesis determinants (Schwan *et al.*, 2000).

SPIs are insertions of large regions of DNA. It contains virulence genes which are located on the bacterial chromosome. Fifteen SPIs have been recognized in *S. typhi* (Parkhill *et al.*, 2001). SPI-1 and SPI-2, which are present in all *S. enterica* serovars, represent two most important pathogenesis determinants that encode type III secretion systems (T3SS). SPI-1 and SPI-2 T3SS exhibit distinct and important roles in pathogenesis of Salmonella. SPI-1 effectors via the

T3SS are required for invasion of epithelial cells, whereas SPI-2 has been demonstrated to contribute to Salmonella survival inside macrophages. Many genes present in typhi are involved in invasion were identified so far are homologous genes present in typhimurium, including SPI-1 genes (*invC*, *invA*, *invE*, *invG*, *prgH*, *iagAB*, *sipEBCDA*). The virulence of typhi is associated with the presence of the Vi antigen. This is needed for typhi to survive inside the phagocytes. Moreover it is also necessary for serum resistance, a characteristic required for systemic dissemination (Daigle, 2008). Host-pathogen interactions are very complex. Considerable effort is required for their elucidation. Studying interactions between the infected host and typhi should definitely improve our knowledge regarding typhoid.

### **Typhoid and nanotechnology**

New techniques are always in demand to find trace amount of infectious pathogens rapidly, accurately and with high sensitivity and also to put an end to epidemics and loss of lives. Engineered nanomaterials are proving to be promising in fulfilling these demands in diagnosing the pathogenic microorganisms in blood, clinical samples and food. A number of experiments using nanoparticulate formulations have been done on experimentally induced salmonellosis due to *S. typhimurium* constituting a typical model of intracellular infection and resembling humans typhoid. Ampicillin was entrapped in polyhexylecyanoacrylate nanoparticles. This increases efficacy of the antibiotic 120 fold in experimental murine salmonellosis (Pinto-Alphandary *et al.*, 2000). Nanotechnology-driven approach was utilized for antibody-conjugated oval-shaped gold nanoparticles to selectively target and destroy pathogenic bacteria. The assay based on nanotechnology would have high potential for rapid, on-site pathogen detection and also to avoid the distribution of contaminated food (Wang *et al.*, 2010). Poly(lactide-co-glycolide) nanoparticles loaded with azithromycin with appropriate physicochemical properties and antimicrobial activity was reported.

**Table 2.** Drugs so far used against typhoid.

Drugs so far used against typhoid	References
Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid	Akinyemi <i>et al.</i> , 2005b.
Amoxicillin	Akinyemi <i>et al.</i> , 2005b.
Amoxycillin	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010.
Ampicillin	Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Cefixime	Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Cefotaxime	Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Cefpodoxime	Bajracharya <i>et al.</i> , 2006.
Ceftriaxone	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010; Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Cephalosporins	Chowta and Chowta, 2005.
Chloramphenicol	Fae Farrer. 2010; Trivedi <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Ciprofloxacin	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010; Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Co-trimoxazole	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010; Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Gatifloxacin	Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Gentamycin	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010.
Ofloxacin	Trivedi and Trivedi, 2010; Krishnan <i>et al.</i> , 2009.
Quinolone	Bajracharya <i>et al.</i> , 2006.
Streptomycin	Akinyemi <i>et al.</i> , 2005a.
Tetracycline	Akinyemi <i>et al.</i> , 2005a.

Antimicrobial activity test has proved that the nanoparticles were more effective as compare to pure azithromycin against *S. typhi* (Mohammadi *et al.*, 2010).  $Mn_3O_4$  nanoparticles also exhibit a clear antibacterial activity against *Salmonella* sp., the causing agent for typhoid (Chowdhury *et al.*, 2009). Moreover chitosan nanoparticles were used to encapsulate porcine interleukin-2 gene which enhances immune response of mice to piglet paratyphoid vaccine (Yang *et al.*, 2007).

### Treatment for typhoid

The treatment of salmonella infection can be done by using antibiotics. Moreover the treatment can be also done by considering the immune system which is a defense system provided by body against microorganisms and pathogens. The immune system utilizes the mechanisms of vaccination to clear pathogen. Due to side effects of vaccination and antibiotic herbal drugs can be used as it is natural and lacks the side effects. The author is further going to explain about antibiotics, vaccination and herbal drugs against salmonellae species.

### Antibiotics

Bacterial infection can be minimized or removed by the use of antibiotics. Antibiotics are naturally occurring agents, which are produced by microorganisms and act on other bacteria. Synthetic antibiotics have been also been constructed to fight against microorganisms. A number of antibiotics so far used in salmonellae infection have been listed in the Table 2. The antibiotics used has a number of side effects. Moreover the salmonellae often get resistant to it leading to multi drug resistant typhoid (MDRST).

### Vaccination

Treatment of typhoid fever is done by the use of antibiotics, but increasing resistance rates to the primary agents used (ampicillin, chloramphenicol, co-trimoxazole as well as quinolones) have been associated with complications and increased severity of illness. The burden of typhoid fever remains high in impoverished settings, and increasing antibiotic resistance is making treatment costly. One strategy for reducing the typhoid morbidity and mortality is vaccination. Therefore effective and cost-effective vaccination is the control measure required to fight this infectious disease.

The vaccines used are not fully effective. Some have low efficiency while other exhibit high efficiency as concluded from literature survey. More over the

vaccine so far constructed has got side effects. A number of vaccines with their affectivity and drawback have been discussed in the Table 3.

**Table 3.** Efficacy and drawbacks of vaccine against typhoid

Vaccines so far used	Effect	Draw backs	References
Vi polysaccharide vaccine	65% (55-75%)		Cook et al., 2008.
Ty21a vaccine	51%	Local swelling, Vomiting, Diarrhea.	
Vi polysaccharide vaccine	55%, 89%	Local swelling, Local erythema.	Fraser et al., 2007.
Vi-rEPA vaccine			
Whole cell vaccine	51-88%	Fever (6–30%), Headache (10%), Severe local pain (35%)	
Vi vaccine	64-72%	Most common side effects are pain, redness and induration at the injection site, and fever. Inability to stimulate mucosal immunity and revaccination does not elicit any booster effect.	Guzman et al., 2006.
Ty21a vaccine	60-80%		
Mo1ZH09 vaccine	Efficacy testing of this single-dose oral typhoid vaccine has not been done.	The most common symptoms shown was headache and flatulence. Diarrhoea and low grade fever were also reported.	Lyon et al., 2010.
Porins		Pain, Redness, Induration, Malaise, Headache and Fatigue.	Salazar-González et al., 2004.

### Salmonella and herbal drugs

Medicinal plants are the back bone of traditional medicine. A number of infectious diseases are caused by different microorganisms. In Indian system of medicine, a large number of drugs of either herbal or mineral origin have been implicated in various diseases and other pathological conditions in humans. The plant extracts have been used as it lacks side effects. A number of plants has been screened for antisalmonella activities and listed in the Table 4.

The corresponding author studied *Emblica officinalis* and *Terminalia chebula* and found to exhibit full

protection against *S. typhimurium* (Khan and Jain, 2009; Khan 2010a). Immunomodulatory activity of *Terminalia chebula* against *S. typhimurium* in mice was also reported by this corresponding author (Khan 2009a). Moreover the same author reported the activity of the same extract against the oxidative stress induced by *S. typhimurium* in Swiss albino mice (Khan, 2009b; Khan 2009c). He further reported the protective effect of *Emblica officinalis* against *S. typhimurium* through its antioxidant activity (Khan 2010a).

**Table 4.** Medicinal plants having anti-salmonellae activity.

Medicinal plants	Microorganisms	References
<i>Syzygium cumini (L.) (Myrtaceae)</i>	<i>Salmonella enteritidis, S. typhi, S. typhi A, S. paratyphi A, S. paratyphi B</i>	Gowri and Vasantha, 2010.
<i>Phyllanthus niruri</i>	<i>S. typhi</i>	Sumathi and Parvathi, 2010.
<i>Unripe Carica papaya fruit</i>		Anthonia and Olumide, 2010.
<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i>		
<i>Gossypium spp leaves</i>	<i>S. typhi</i>	
<i>Cocus nucifera chaffs</i>		
<i>Unripe Ananas sativus</i>		
<i>Unripe Citrus Paradisi</i>		
<i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>		
<i>Carica papaya brown leaves</i>		
<i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i>		
<i>Anarcadium occidentale</i>		
<i>Anthocleista vogelii Planch</i>		
<i>Alchornea cordifolia</i>		
<i>Cassia sieberiana</i>	<i>S. typhi</i>	Musa <i>et al.</i> , 2010.
<i>Daniela oliveri</i>		
<i>Mamqifera indica</i>		
<i>Nauclea latifolia</i>		
<i>Triplochyton scleroxylon</i>		
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i>	<i>S. typhi</i>	Vinothkumara <i>et al.</i> , 2010.
<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	<i>S. typhimurium</i>	Khan and Jain, 2009.
<i>Emblica officinalis</i>	<i>S. typhimurium</i>	Khan 2010; Khan 2010.

### Conclusion

It is concluded from the study that the author carefully reviewed typhoid fever and presented this article in the terms of its epidemiology, symptoms. Moreover the clinical aspect of this disease was explained in condensed form by surveying the causative agents of typhoid on various organs of the body. The author also gave stress on vaccination, antibiotics and the application of herbal drugs against the microorganisms. It is concluded from the study that more stress should be given by the researchers to find out new antimicrobial drugs to fight typhoid as the bacteria is getting resistant to new drugs. Moreover continues efforts have to be made to discover new

vaccine against typhoid that must be fully safe and hundred percent effective. In addition to this, work has to be done to explore medicinal plants at molecular level to make drug that should prevent typhoid. It is beyond doubt that due to the emergence of tools and technologies of molecular biology and biotechnology the researchers in future will be able to synthesize new drugs that will eradicate typhoid from the globe.

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