

Non-O1/Non-O139 *Vibrio cholera* bacteremia in a patient with autoimmune liver disease

Yingjue Wei¹, Yuetian Yu², Haihui Yang¹

¹Department of Laboratory Medicine, ²Department of Critical Care Medicine, Ren Ji Hospital, School of Medicine, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200001, China

Correspondence to: Haihui Yang. Department of Laboratory Medicine, Renji Hospital, School of Medicine, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, 145, Middle Shang dong Road, Shanghai 200001, China. Email: yanghaihui@renji.com.

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A 54-year-old female with autoimmune liver disease (Child–Pugh class C, cirrhosis) was admitted to our hospital for liver transplantation. She became febrile to 40.1 °C the next day. Both anaerobic and aerobic blood culture detected gram-negative bacilli at 9 h. On subculture, beta-haemolytic mucoid colonies could be found in 5% sheep blood agar plates and grey moist colonies could be detected in chocolate agar plate. The organism grew as yellow colonies on thiosulfate-citrate-bile salts-sucrose agar (*Figure 1*). The curving bacilli was identified as *Vibrio cholera* by the automated VITEK 2 compact system and was further confirmed by matrix assisted desorption ionization time of flight mass spectrometry

(MALDI-TOF MS, *Figure S1*). The strain was susceptible to the commonly used antibiotics and was failed to agglutinate *Vibrio cholera* O1 and O139 antisera.

Non-O1/Non-O139 *Vibrio cholera* strains are ubiquitous in aquatic environments which are known to produce a haemolysin. Such substance may help the strains to invade the bloodstream. As immunocompromised hosts, cirrhotic patients show decreased bactericidal activity and impaired liver filtration. Bacteremia caused by essentially intestinal pathogens or environmental pathogens can occur in these patients which should not take for granted as contaminative samples.

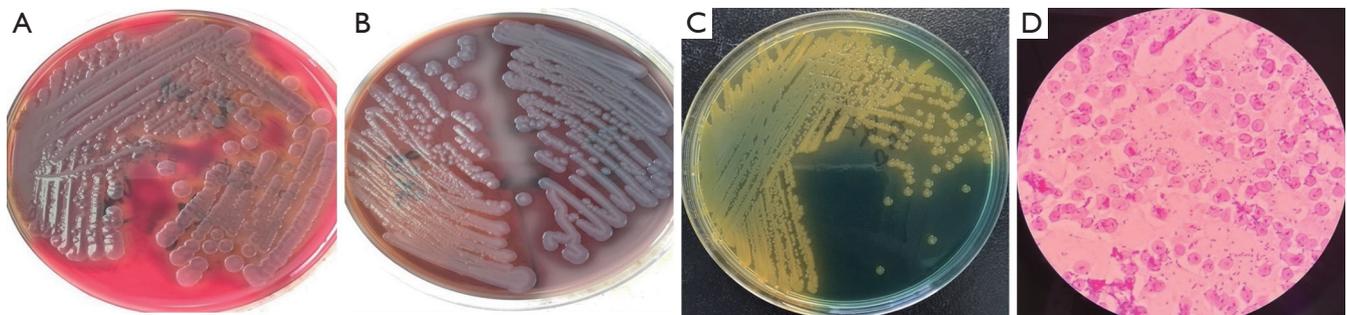


Figure 1 Colonial morphology of the non-O1/non-O139 *Vibrio cholera*. (A) Beta-haemolytic mucoid colonies on 5% sheep blood agar plates; (B) grey moist colonies on chocolate agar plate; (C) yellow colonies on thiosulfate-citrate-bile salts-sucrose agar plate; (D) gram-negative curved bacilli (*Vibrio cholera*) from a blood culture bottles (magnification, ×1,000).

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Footnote

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to

declare.

Informed Consent: Consent was obtained for the use of information and images. The patient's identity has been kept confidential.

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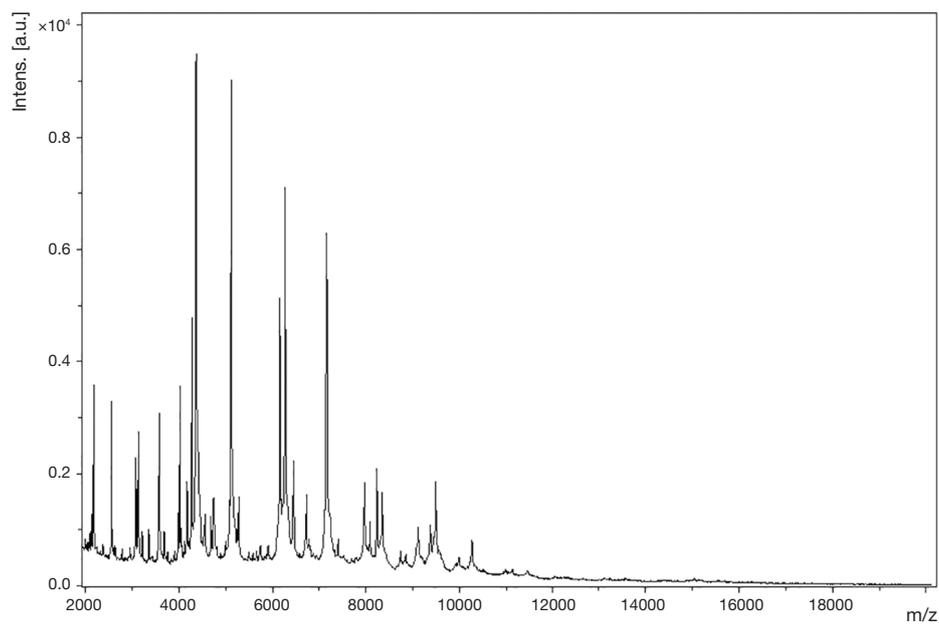


Figure S1 The bacilli was identified as *Vibrio cholera* by matrix assisted desorption ionization time of flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS).