

Figure 1: ESBL detection by double-disk synergy test. AMC, Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid; CTX, cefotaxim; CAZ, ceftazidime; FEP, cefepime; ATM, aztreonam

centrifuged at 13,200 rpm for 10 min. The supernatant was carefully recovered, aliquoted and stored at -20°C until used. Invitrogen™ Qubit™ 3 Fluorometer, (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc, Strasbourg / France) was used for the DNA quantification.

ESBL genes amplification

Each DNA sample was subjected to a simplex end-point PCR (on Thermocycler 2720, Applied Biosystems, Lincoln Centre Drive, Foster City, California 94404, USA). Specific primers (table 1) were used to amplify ESBL genes ($bla_{\text{CTX-M}}$, $bla_{\text{CTX-M-9}}$, $bla_{\text{CTX-M-15}}$, $bla_{\text{CTX-M-25}}$, $bla_{\text{OXA-1}}$, bla_{TEM} , bla_{SHV}). Each reaction included positive and negative controls. Reaction volume of each PCR reaction was 20 μl (2.5 μl of DNA + 17.5 μl Master Mix FIREPol, Tartu / Estonia) and amplification of ESBL genes was according to the program below: initial denaturation at 95°C for 3 min, 35 PCR cycles (denaturation: 94°C , 30 sec; annealing; extension: 72°C , 60 sec) and a final elongation at 72°C for 7 min. Each amplicon (10 μl) was separated on 2% agarose gel in 1X TAE buffer for 35 min at 135 volts and the amplified fragment detected using a GelDoc imager (BioRad, Hercules, California / USA).

Statistical analysis

Statistical analyses were performed with Microsoft-Excel. The statisticDO test used is the Chi-square at 5% and 10% risk thresholds. p-values are obtained from the proportion comparison test and the level of significance for all statistical tests was set at $p < 0.05$ for the strong evidence of difference and $0.05 < p < 0.1$ for moderate evidence of difference [33, 34, 37].

Results

Antibiotic susceptibility testing

Based on resistance profiles observed, all 66 strains of this study are MDR. Antibiotic resistance profiles are compiled in the table 2. All strains (100%) were resistant to ampicillin (AMP), ticarcillin (TIC), Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid (AMC), cefalotin (CEF), cefotaxim (CTA), ceftazidime (CAZ) and cefepime (CEP). Strains were almost resistant to sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim (TRS) and tetracycline (TET), respectively 65/66 (98.5%) and 57/66 (86.4%) and are highly resistant to most used antibiotics such as ciprofloxacin (CIP) and gentamicin (GEN), respectively 51 (77.3%) and 45 (68.2%). Forty strains out of 66 (60.6%) were resistant to fosfomycin (FOS). Amikacin, ertapenem and imipenem remained effective with respective sensitivity rate of 77.3% (51/66), 75.8% (50/66) and 100% (66/66) (table 2). CA were significantly more resistant to FOX ($p = 0.07$) and to sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim ($p = 0.03$) than HA isolates. Based on resistance profiles, no significant difference was observed comparing UPKP to No-UPKP (table 2)

Twenty-two strains out of 66 (31.8%) shared identical resistance profiles. These isolates with identical drug resistance profiles were generally uropathogenic and community-acquired (Table 3). These identical resistance patterns ranged from 13 to 16 antibiotics.

ESBL genes

Of the 7 ESBL genes screened during this study, $bla_{\text{CTX-M}}$ (64/66; 97%) and its variant $bla_{\text{CTX-M-15}}$ (63/66; 95.5%) were the most prevalent, followed by bla_{TEM} (58/66; 87.9%),

Table 1. Oligonucleotide primers sequence used for PCR to detect ESBL genes

| Target genes | Sequences genes | Sizes (bp) | Annealing Temp (°C) | References |
|--------------------------------|--|------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M} | F: 5' - ATGTGCAGYACCAGTAARGTKATGGC - 3' | 592 | 55 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - TGGGTRAARTARGTSACCAGAAYSAGCGG - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-9} | F: 5' - GTGACAAAGAGAGTGCAACGG - 3' | 856 | 55 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - ATGATTCTCGCCGCTGAAGCC - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} | F: 5' - CACACGTGGAATTTAGGGACT - 3' | 995 | 50 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - GCCGTCTAAGGCGATAAACA - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-25} | F: 5' - GCACGATGACATTCGGG - 3' | 327 | 52 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - AACCCACGATGTGGGTAGC - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} | F: 5' - ATGAAAAACACAATACATATC - 3' | 830 | 56 | [36] |
| | R: 5' - AATTTAGTGTGTTTAGAATGG - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{TEM} | F: 5' - TTGGGTGCACGAGTGGGTTA - 3' | 506 | 55 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - TAATTGTTGCCGGGAAGCTA - 3' | | | |
| <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | F: 5' - TCGGGCCGCTAGGCATGAT - 3' | 628 | 52 | [35] |
| | R: 5' - AGCAGGGCGACAATCCCGCG - 3' | | | |

Table 2: Antibiotics resistance rate of total strains, CA and HA, UPKP and no-UPKP.

| Antibiotics | | Total strains | Pathogenicity | | | Origin | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|-----------|------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Class | codes | N (%) | UPKP | No-UPKP | p | CA | HA | p |
| | | | N (%) | N (%) | | N (%) | N (%) | |
| Beta-lactams | AMP | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 12 (100) | 1 |
| | TIC | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 12 (100) | 1 |
| | AMC | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 12 (100) | 1 |
| | CEF | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 12 (100) | 1 |
| | FOX | 26 (39.4) | 16 (38.1) | 10 (41.7) | 0.8 | 24 (44.4) | 2 (16.7) | 0.07* |
| | CTA | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 |
| | CAZ | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 |
| | CEP | 66 (100) | 42 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 | 54 (100) | 24 (100) | 1 |
| | AZT | 57 (86.4) | 38 (90.5) | 19 (79.2) | 0.19 | 47 (87) | 10 (83.3) | 0.73 |
| | IMP | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - |
| | ERT | 10 (15.2) | 6 (14.3) | 4 (16.7) | 0.79 | 9 (16.7) | 1 (8.3) | 0.47 |
| Quinolones and Fluoroquinolones | NAL | 39 (59.1) | 25 (59.5) | 14 (58.3) | 0.92 | 32 (59.3) | 7 (58.3) | 0.95 |
| | CIP | 51 (77.3) | 34 (81) | 17 (70.8) | 0.34 | 43 (79.2) | 8 (66.7) | 0.33 |
| Aminoglycosides | GEN | 45 (68.2) | 27 (64.3) | 18 (75) | 0.36 | 35 (64.8) | 10 (83.3) | 0.21 |
| | AMI | 15 (22.7) | 9 (21.4) | 6 (25) | 0.73 | 11 (20.4) | 4 (33.3) | 0.33 |
| Phosphonic acid | FOS | 40 (60.6) | 25 (59.5) | 15 (62.5) | 0.82 | 34 (63) | 6 (50) | 0.4 |
| Cyclines | TET | 57 (86.4) | 36 (85.7) | 21 (87.5) | 0.83 | 46 (85.2) | 11 (91.7) | 0.55 |
| Antifolates | TRS | 65 (98.5) | 41 (97.6) | 24 (100) | 0.44 | 54 (100) | 11 (91.7) | 0.03** |

UPKP, Uropathogenic *K. pneumoniae*; No-UPKP, *K. pneumoniae* isolated from pus, sputum, bronchial fluid and vaginal secretions; CA, Community-acquired; HA, Hospital-acquired; AMP, ampicillin; TIC, ticarcillin; AMC, Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid; CEF, cefalotin; FOX, cefoxitin; CTA, cefotaxim; CAZ, ceftazidime; CEP, cefepime; AZT, aztreonam; IMP, imipenem; ERT, Ertapenem; NAL, nalidixic acid; CIP, ciprofloxacin; GEN, gentamicin; AMI, amikacin; FOS, fosfomycin; TET, tetracycline; TRS, sulphamethoxazole-trimethoprim; **, strong evidence of difference ($p < 0.05$); *, moderate evidence of difference ($0.05 < p < 0.1$).

Citation: Komla Mawunyo Dossouvi, Bissoume Sambe Ba, Gora Lo, Abdoulaye Cissé, Awa Ba-Diallo, Issa Ndiaye, Assane Dieng, Serigne Mbaye Lo Ndiaye, Cheikh Fall, Alioune Tine, Farba Karam, Habsa Digne-Samb, Ousmane Sow, Safietou Ngom-Cisse, Halimatou Diop-Ndiaye, Gnatoulma Katawa, Coumba Toure-Kane, Aissatou Gaye-Diallo, Simplicie Damintoti Karou, Souleymane Mboup, Cheikh Saad Bouh Boye, Abdoulaye Seck, Makhtar Camara. Molecular Characterization of Clinical Strains of Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamases-Producing Klebsiella Pneumoniae Isolated in A Tertiary Hospital in Dakar-Senegal. Archives of Microbiology and Immunology 7 (2023): 01-09.

*bla*_{OXA-1} (47/66; 71.2%) and *bla*_{SHV} (31/66; 47%). None strain carried *bla*_{CTX-M-9} or *bla*_{CTX-M-25} (table 4 and figure 2). All HA (12/12; 100%) carried *bla*_{CTX-M-15}. We noticed that UPKP carried significantly more *bla*_{OXA-1} than No-UPKP (p = 0.08) (table 4). For the prevalence of *bla*_{CTX-M-15}, *bla*_{TEM} and *bla*_{SHV}, no significant difference was noted when comparing UPKP to No-UPKP and CA to HA (table 4).

In terms of accumulation of ESBL genes, (65/66; 98.5%) of isolates carried at least 2 ESBL genes out of the 7 sought and (01/66; 1.5%) strain did not carry any of the 7 genes sought. The combination (*bla*_{TEM} + *bla*_{SHV}) genes was detected in only one strain (01/66; 1.5%). The most prevalent ESBL gene combinations were (*bla*_{CTX-M-15} + *bla*_{OXA-1} + *bla*_{TEM}) (24/66; 36.4%) and (*bla*_{CTX-M-15} + *bla*_{TEM} + *bla*_{OXA-1} + *bla*_{SHV}) (18/66; 27.3%) (table 5).

Discussion

Antibiotic susceptibility testing

High resistance rates (68.2% to 100%) reported during

our study for AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, CTA, CAZ, CEP, TRS, TET, CIP and GEN are very suggestive as CIP, GEN, 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins are widely prescribed as empirical therapies to treat community-acquired and hospital-acquired bacterial infections. It is therefore necessary to expand research on the susceptibility profiles of *Enterobacteriaceae* to these first-line antibiotics. This could lead to modification or adjustment of empirical antibiotic therapies in Senegal. [28, 29, 31, 32] mentioned prevalence of resistance to CAZ (50% and 67%); CEP (38% and 75%); CIP (83%, 67% and 65%); GEN (42%, 38% and 8%); AMI (12% and 0%); TRS (58% et 50%) and TET (42%) in ESBL-producing *K. pneumoniae* isolates. By comparing their results with those obtained during our present study, we noted that our isolates were generally more resistant. Right now, we do not have the exact reason why clinical *K. pneumoniae* from Dakar seem to be more resistant than those isolated in other countries. However, self-medication and the easy access to antibiotics without medical prescription could be among main causes. 60.6% of the strains in our study

Table 3. Identical drug resistance profiles in tested isolates.

| Drugs | Total Strains N (%) | Pathogenicity | | Origin | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| | | UPKP N (%) | No-UPKP N (%) | CA N (%) | HA (%) |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, FOX, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, ERT, NAL, CIP, GEN, FOS, TET, TRS | 3 (4.5) | 3 (7.1) | 0 | 3 (5.6) | 0 |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, FOX, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, GEN, AMI, FOS, TET, TRS | 2 (3) | 1 (2.4) | 1 (4.2) | 2 (3.7) | 0 |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, FOX, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, GEN, AMI, TET, TRS | 3 (4.5) | 2 (4.8) | 1 (4.2) | 2 (3.7) | 1 (8.3) |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, GEN, AMI, TET, TRS | 2 (3) | 2 (4.8) | 0 | 1 (1.9) | 1 (8.3) |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, GEN, FOS, TET, TRS | 4 (6.1) | 2 (4.8) | 2 (8.3) | 3 (5.6) | 1 (8.3) |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, FOS, TET, TRS | 3 (4.5) | 2 (4.8) | 1 (4.2) | 3 (5.6) | 0 |
| AMP, TIC, AMC, CEF, CTA, CAZ, CEP, AZT, NAL, CIP, GEN, TET, TRS | 4 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 |

UPKP, Uropathogenic *K. pneumoniae*; No-UPKP, *K. pneumoniae* isolated from pus, sputum, bronchial fluid and vaginal secretions; CA, Community-acquired; HA, Hospital-acquired; AMP, ampicillin; TIC, ticarcillin; AMC, Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid; CEF, cefalotin; FOX, cefoxitin; CTA, cefotaxim; CAZ, ceftazidime; CEP, cefepime; AZT, aztreonam; IMP, imipenem; ERT, Ertapenem; NAL, nalidixic acid; CIP, ciprofloxacin; GEN, gentamicin; AMI, amikacin; FOS, fosfomycin; TET, tetracycline; TRS, sulphamethoxazole-trimethoprim; N, total isolates number

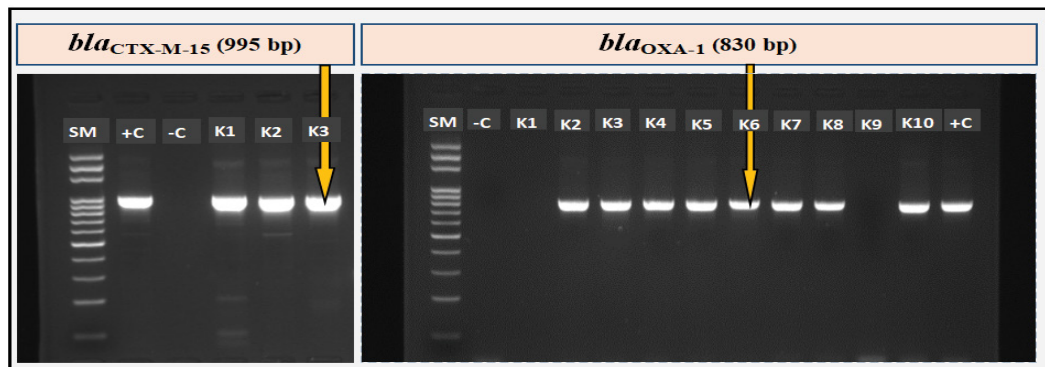


Figure 2: Pictures of PCR running gels: *bla*_{CTX-M-15} on the left and *bla*_{OXA-1} on the right. SM, size marker; +C, positive control; -C, negative control; K1-K10, representative of tested *K. pneumoniae* isolates.

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Table 4: Prevalences of ESBL genes in total strains, CA and HA, UPKP and No-UPKP.

| ESBL | | Total strains N (%) | Pathogenicity | | | Origin | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|------|
| Family | Genes | | UPKP | No-UPKP | p | CA | HA | p |
| | | N (%) | N (%) | N (%) | | N (%) | N (%) | |
| Cefotaximase-Munich | <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M} | 64 (97) | 41 (97.6) | 23 (95.8) | 0.85 | 50 (96.2) | 12 (100) | 0.55 |
| | <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-9} | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - |
| | <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} | 63 (95.5) | 41 (97.6) | 22 (91.7) | 0.26 | 51 (94.4) | 12 (100) | 0.4 |
| | <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-25} | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - |
| Oxacillinase | <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} | 47 (71.2) | 33 (78.5) | 14 (58.3) | 0.08* | 40 (74.1) | 7 (58.3) | 0.27 |
| Temoneira | <i>bla</i> _{TEM} | 58 (87.9) | 36 (85.7) | 22 (91.7) | 0.48 | 48 (88.9) | 10 (83.3) | 0.59 |
| Sulfhydryl variable | <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 31 (47) | 19 (45.2) | 12 (50) | 0.71 | 25 (46.3) | 6 (50) | 0.82 |

UPKP, Uropathogenic *K. pneumoniae*; No-UPKP, *K. pneumoniae* isolated from pus, sputum, bronchial fluid and vaginal secretions; CA, community-acquired; HA, hospital-acquired; %, percentage; N, number of isolates; **, strong evidence of difference ($p < 0.05$); *, moderate evidence of difference ($0.05 < p < 0.1$).

Table 5: Prevalence of ESBL genes combinations in total strains, CA and HA, UPKP and No-UPKP.

| Combination of ESBL genes | Total strains N (%) | Pathogenicity | | | Origin | | |
|--|--|---------------|------------------|------|-------------|-------------|------|
| | | UPKP N (%) | No-UPKP N (%) | p | CA N (%) | HA N (%) | p |
| | <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{TEM} + <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} + <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 18 (27.3) | 12 (28.6) | | 6 (25) | 0.75 | |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} + <i>bla</i> _{TEM} | 24 (36.4) | 17 (40.8) | 7 (29.2) | 0.35 | 20 (37) | 4 (33.3) | 0.81 |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{TEM} + <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 7 (10.6) | 3 (7.1) | 4 (16.7) | 0.22 | 5 (9.3) | 2 (16.7) | 0.45 |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} + <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 3 (4.5) | 3 (7.1) | 0 | 0.18 | 3 (5.6) | 0 | 0.4 |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{TEM} | 7 (10.6) | 4 (9.5) | 3 (12.5) | 0.7 | 6 (11.1) | 1 (8.3) | 0.77 |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 2 (3) | 1 (2.4) | 1 (4.2) | 0.68 | 1 (1.9) | 1 (8.3) | 0.24 |
| <i>bla</i> _{CTX-M-15} + <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} | 1 (1.5) | 1 (2.4) | 0 | 0.44 | 1 (1.9) | 0 | 0.63 |
| <i>bla</i> _{TEM} + <i>bla</i> _{OXA-1} | 1 (1.5) | 0 | 1 (4.2) | 0.18 | 1 (1.9) | 0 | 0.63 |
| <i>bla</i> _{TEM} + <i>bla</i> _{SHV} | 1 (1.5) | 0 | 1 (4.2) | 0.18 | 1 (1.9) | 0 | 0.63 |

UPKP, Uropathogenic *K. pneumoniae*; No-UPKP, *K. pneumoniae* isolated from pus, sputum, bronchial fluid and vaginal secretions; CA, community-acquired; HA, hospital-acquired %, percentage; N, number of isolates; **, strong evidence of difference ($p < 0.05$); *, moderate evidence of difference ($0.05 < p < 0.1$).

were resistant to fosfomycin. This is alarming as until now, fosfomycin was an alternative and capital molecule to treat UTIs caused by MDR *Enterobacteriaceae* without resorting to carbapenems. Clinicians must therefore properly control fosfomycin prescription and researchers must conduct large-scale studies on the resistance profiles of *Enterobacteriaceae* to this antibiotic. It is also necessary to investigate resistance mechanisms involved in fosfomycin resistance in Dakar. It would be worrying in case resistance to fosfomycin was mediated by genes located on mobile genetic elements, as these mobile genetic elements are major carriers of transmission of inter- and intraspecific drug resistance. These studies could help to quickly contain *Enterobacteriaceae* resistance to fosfomycin and to continue to use it as an alternative treatment to carbapenems.

To “protect” carbapenems (by delaying their use), it is therefore important to study the susceptibility profiles

of our 66 *K. pneumoniae* strains to alternative antibiotics such as tigecycline, temocillin, ceftazidime-avibactam and ceftolozane-tazobactam. Only 15.2% of the strains in this study were resistant to Amikacin. While waiting for larger-scale studies on the efficacy of amikacin on MDR *K. pneumoniae* in Senegal, amikacin would constitute an alternative molecule for the treatment of MDR *K. pneumoniae* infections. Nevertheless, clinicians should carefully control the prescription of amikacin to delay the emergence of amikacin-resistant bacterial clones. In this study, all CA strains were resistant to TRS, and CA were significantly more resistant to TRS than HA ($p = 0.03$). This might be due to the fact that in our area, TRS is a widely consumed drug in community. TRS selection pressure may have caused high carriage of TRS-resistant *K. pneumoniae* in the community. In addition, it is necessary to investigate the resistance mechanisms, involved genes and their genetic supports.

Citation: Komla Mawunyo Dossouvi, Bissoume Sambe Ba, Gora Lo, Abdoulaye Cissé, Awa Ba-Diallo, Issa Ndiaye, Assane Dieng, Serigne Mbaye Lo Ndiaye, Cheikh Fall, Alioune Tine, Farba Karam, Habsa Digne-Samb, Ousmane Sow, Safietou Ngom-Cisse, Halimatou Diop-Ndiaye, Gnatoulma Katawa, Coumba Toure-Kane, Aïssatou Gaye-Diallo, Simplicie Damintoti Karou, Souleymane Mboup, Cheikh Saad Bouh Boye, Abdoulaye Seck, Makhtar Camara. Molecular Characterization of Clinical Strains of Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamases-Producing Klebsiella Pneumoniae Isolated in A Tertiary Hospital in Dakar-Senegal. Archives of Microbiology and Immunology 7 (2023): 01-09.

ESBL genes

Since the appearance of CTX-M-type ESBLs in 1990 [21], they have been reported all over the world and have become the major ESBL, relegating SHV, TEM and OXA-types ESBLs. The results obtained during our study follow this trend. Indeed, *bla*_{CTX-M-15} gene encoding CTX-M-15, which confers a high level of resistance to cefotaxime, ceftriaxone, ceftazidime and aztreonam [22], was present in 95.5% of isolates. *bla*_{CTX-M-15} was present in 97% of clinical isolates in Spain [23]; in 91% of hospital-acquired isolates in Portugal and in 84% of isolates in Ethiopia [24, 25]. [26] had previously mentioned a high prevalence of *bla*_{CTX-M-15} (96.9%) in clinical *K. pneumoniae* strains isolated in another university teaching hospital in Dakar. Paradoxically, [27] and [28] had reported respectively an absence of *bla*_{CTX-M-15} in 70 strains of *K. pneumoniae* in Uganda and a low prevalence of 30%. *bla*_{CTX-M-9} and *bla*_{CTX-M-25} were not detected during our study. This seems to confirm claims that CTX-M-9 and CTX-M-25 are minor variants of CTX-M. [26] had also mentioned absence of *bla*_{CTX-M-9} and *bla*_{CTX-M-25} in Dakar.

During this study, prevalence of “old” beta-lactamases (TEM and SHV-type) genes were respectively 87.9% and 47%. Prevalence of *bla*_{TEM} of 78.1% in Senegal [26], 40% in China [28], and 3.8% in Uganda had been recently reported. Moreover, [28] had mentioned a predominance of *bla*_{SHV} of 60%. Some variants of *bla*_{TEM} and *bla*_{SHV} encode penicillinases while others code for ESBLs. We need therefore to sequence these *bla*_{TEM} and *bla*_{SHV} genes to find accurate variants present in our isolates as well as their real impact on the ESBL phenotypes observed in isolates.

The presence of *bla*_{OXA-1} (known to strongly hydrolyze cefepime) in 71.2% of isolates strains seems to be one main reason for the resistance of all isolates to cefepime. Our isolates seem to carry more *bla*_{OXA-1} than isolates reported during other similar studies. Indeed, the highest prevalence of *bla*_{OXA-1} in Sudan, Ghana and Dakar was 30% [26, 29, 30]. The logical continuation of this study will be the whole genome sequencing (WGS). This will provide additional informations and deepen this study. Indeed, WGS will detect other ESBL genes different from those sought in our study. WGS will also specify TEM and SHV variants responsible for ESBL production in the isolate that carried only (*bla*_{TEM} + *bla*_{SHV}) combination. The fact that the strains of our study cumulated on average 4 out of 7 ESBL genes sought could be the cause of their resistance to all penicillins and cephalosporins classes. This high accumulation of ESBL genes per strain combined with resistance to multiple antibiotic families is suggestive of the carriage of mobile genetic elements (plasmids, transposons and integrons). WGS could confirm and deepen our assertion. Finally, we

will also check bacterial clones within this studied bacterial population. This will provide more epidemiological data and will contribute to initiate preventive and curative measures, especially in hospital settings.

Conclusion

We note that amikacin and carbapenems would still be effective in the treatment of MDR ESBL-producing *K. pneumoniae* infections, and *bla*_{CTX-M-15} seems to be predominant ESBL gene in clinical *K. pneumoniae* strains isolated in Dakar. Furthermore, uropathogenic strains carried significantly more *bla*_{OXA-1} than No-uropathogenic strains. We recommend to avoid monotherapy and to prohibit C3G, C4G and fluoroquinolones as empirical treatment of UTI in Dakar-Senegal. More than half of our strains were resistant to fosfomycin. We therefore recommend an in-depth and larger-scale study in order to assess the true extent of *Enterobacteriaceae* fosfomycin resistance in Dakar. These actions may help preserve the efficacy of this precious molecule. Whole-genome sequencing could provide additional and in-depth informations. Such studies will help to initiate or improve the public health policy of limiting MDR bacteria spread, especially in hospital settings.

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Ethical research approval

Our study has received the Ethical Research approval of the Research Ethics Committee (CER) of Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD) under the reference CER/UCAD/AD/MSN/051/2020.

Conflict of interests

The authors have not declared any conflict of interests.

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