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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Genomic Insights Into Molecular Characteristics and Phylogenetic Linkage Between the Cases of Carbapenem-Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* from a Non-tertiary Hospital in China: A Cohort Study

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

More about open peer review: brieflands.com/knowledgebase/opr

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1 Original submission

3 comments · 4 Jan 2023 – 24 Jan 2023

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 4 Jan 2023

1- Please expand the introduction to include MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.
2- Please define the studied population carefully in the materials and methods section.
3- In the materials and methods section, please detail the method carefully.
4- Please revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. The graphs should be more informative.
5- Please do not repeat the information from tables or graphs in the text.
6- Please include the results of multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, plasmid replicons, and virulence factors mentioned in the materials and methods section.
7- In the discussion, please compare the findings of this study with previous research.
8- Please prepare all the references in the journal format.

Amirreza Saadati Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 24 Jan 2023

Dear Authors
Please provide the following: the unit for each antibiotic disk (µg/disk); Klebsiella pneumoniae positive control (ATCC??); references for all primers; CLSI (year ??); and corrections to the references according to the journal's format and to the electrophoresis figure.
My decision: Minor revision

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 24 Jan 2023

Dear Authors
- In Introduction: Please write about MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.
- In Material and method: Please clearly define the study population and detail the methods, such as the unit for each antibiotic disk (µg/disk); the Klebsiella pneumoniae positive control (ATCC??); references for all primers; and CLSI (year??).
- In Results: Revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. Write the results for multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, and plasmid replicons, and virulence factors, and present the electrophoresis results and everything else mentioned in the material and methods.
- In Discussion: Compare the findings of this study with previous research.
- In References: Rewrite all the references according to the JJM format.
My Decision: Major revision

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Reviewer 1:

Dear Editor,

The article entitled “Genomic insights into molecular characteristics and phylogenetic linkage between cases of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* from a non-tertiary” was carefully reviewed. The manuscript was well written and the results have been clearly represented. According to the guideline for the reviewer, the article is within the journal's scope. It is represented valuable data regarding the circulating clones and the clinical and molecular characteristics of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in a non-tertiary hospital and among nearby hospitals. The title, keywords, and abstract structure are appropriate. The introduction includes the clarification of hypotheses and also the description of purposes. The materials and methods part describes the sufficient demographic, and inclusion criteria regarding participant selection. In addition, all the procedures have been mentioned in detail. Concerning the result section of the current study, I found it perfect and clear and the results have been adequately and precisely discussed in the discussion section. The limitation of the research has been mentioned at the end of the discussion section. The conclusion was justified. Regarding references, most of them were new and applicable and their style was in accordance with the journal reference style. In my opinion, this manuscript has the potential to be published in your journal.

Best Regards

Response: Thanks for your comments.

Reviewer 2:

1- Please expand the introduction to include the MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

2- Please define the studied population carefully in material and method.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

3- In the part material and method, please detail the method carefully.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

4- Please revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. The graphs should be more informative.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

5- Please do not repeat the information of tables or graphs in the text.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

6- Please include the results of multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, plasmid replicons, and virulence factors mentioned in the material and methods.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

7- In the discussion, please compare the finding of this study with previous research.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

8- Please prepare all the references in the journal format.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

Reviewer 3:

Dear Authors

Please write: Unit of each antibiotic discs(µg/disk); *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Positive Control (ATCC??);Reference for all Primers ;CLSI (year ??); correct References such as format of Journal and Fig of electrophoresis.

My decision: Minor revision

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:

Dear Authors

-In Introduction :Please write about MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

- In Material and method : Please define the clear studied population , detail the method such as Unit of each antibiotic discs(µg/disk); Klebsiella pneumoniae Positive Control (ATCC??);Reference for all Primers ;CLSI (year ??)

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

-In Results : revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. Write results of multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, plasmid replicons, virulence factors and display electrophoresis and all mentioned in the material and methods.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

- In Discussion: compare the finding of this study with previous research.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

- In References: rewrite all the references as similar as JJM format.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

My Decision: Major revision

EIC Decision:

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to JJM. I have completed the review of your manuscript and a summary is appended below (Pleases find attached files). The reviewers recommend the reconsideration of your paper following major revision. I invite you to resubmit your manuscript after addressing all reviewer comments.

1. Please answer point by point to the reviewer's comments on a separate sheet under WORD format and write your modifications in the revised version (WORD format) in colored or highlighted letters.

2. Your answers to reviewers' queries are not only for the Editorial Board but for the readers and should be included, when appropriate, in the manuscript for improvement and a better understanding. Moreover, add continuous line numbers for text and put suitable line numbers for each response.

3. When resubmitting your manuscript, please carefully consider all issues mentioned in the reviewers' comments, outline every change made a point by point, and provide suitable rebuttals for any comments not addressed.

4. In addition, JJM INSTRUCTION is attached to the mail, please find it.

5. Please add the ORCID number into you and your collages account, then automatically appear in your published papers in JJM both in HTML and pdf. Pleases follow the below link for the process. https://sites.kowsarpub.com/jjm/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#orcid.html

2 Revision 1

0 comments

No public comments in this round.

3

Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Reviewer 1:

Dear Editor,

The article entitled “Genomic insights into molecular characteristics and phylogenetic linkage between cases of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* from a non-tertiary” was carefully reviewed. The manuscript was well written and the results have been clearly represented. According to the guideline for the reviewer, the article is within the journal's scope. It is represented valuable data regarding the circulating clones and the clinical and molecular characteristics of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in a non-tertiary hospital and among nearby hospitals. The title, keywords, and abstract structure are appropriate. The introduction includes the clarification of hypotheses and also the description of purposes. The materials and methods part describes the sufficient demographic, and inclusion criteria regarding participant selection. In addition, all the procedures have been mentioned in detail. Concerning the result section of the current study, I found it perfect and clear and the results have been adequately and precisely discussed in the discussion section. The limitation of the research has been mentioned at the end of the discussion section. The conclusion was justified. Regarding references, most of them were new and applicable and their style was in accordance with the journal reference style. In my opinion, this manuscript has the potential to be published in your journal.

Best Regards

Response: Thanks for your comments.

Reviewer 2:

1- Please expand the introduction to include the MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have added the information in the introduction.

2- Please define the studied population carefully in material and method.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

3- In the part material and method, please detail the method carefully.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have checked it.

4- Please revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. The graphs should be more informative.

Response: Thanks for your comments. As the demographic characteristics of patients could provide readers some useful information, we thought table 1 had the details. We have modified Figure 1 and 2 which might be clearer than before. As Figure 3 to Figure 5, we thought these were suitable in the

manuscript.

5- Please do not repeat the information of tables or graphs in the text.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

6- Please include the results of multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, plasmid replicons, and virulence factors mentioned in the material and methods.

Response: Thanks for your comments. After we checked the manuscript, we found these results were mentioned or described.

7- In the discussion, please compare the finding of this study with previous research.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We compared our findings with other research, such as in line 281-283, line 306-308 and line 315-317.

8- Please prepare all the references in the journal format.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We have modified it.

Reviewer 3:

Dear Authors

Please write: Unit of each antibiotic discs(µg/disk); *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Positive Control (ATCC??);Reference for all Primers ;CLSI (year ??); correct References such as format of Journal and Fig of electrophoresis.

My decision: Minor revision

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it. As we used agar dilution method or broth dilution method to determine the minimal inhibitory concentration, the unit of each antibiotic disc was not included.

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:

Dear Authors

-In Introduction :Please write about MDR in CRKP, the related genes, and important SNPs.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have added the information in the introduction.

- In Material and method : Please define the clear studied population , detail the method such as Unit of each antibiotic discs(µg/disk); Klebsiella pneumoniae Positive Control (ATCC??);Reference for all

Primers ;CLSI (year ??)

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it. As we used agar dilution method or broth dilution method to determine the minimal inhibitory concentration, the unit of each antibiotic disc was not included.

-In Results : revise all tables and graphs—especially table 1. Write results of multilocus sequence types, antimicrobial resistance profiles, plasmid replicons, virulence factors and display electrophoresis and all mentioned in the material and methods.

Response: Thanks for your comments. After we checked the manuscript, we found these results were mentioned or described.

- In Discussion: compare the finding of this study with previous research.

Response: Thanks for your comments. We compared our findings with other research, such as in line 281-283, line 306-308 and line 315-317.

- In References: rewrite all the references as similar as JJM format.

Response: Thanks for your comments and we have modified it.

My Decision: Major revision

EIC Decision:

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to JJM. I have completed the review of your manuscript and a summary is appended below (Pleases find attached files). The reviewers recommend the reconsideration of your paper following major revision. I invite you to resubmit your manuscript after addressing all reviewer comments.

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3 Revision 2

0 comments

No public comments in this round.