

Peer Review

Review of: "Molecular Characterization of *Vibrio cholerae* Outbreak Isolates from Western India"

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This study examines the molecular characterization of *Vibrio cholerae* outbreak isolates from Western India. Five isolates of *Vibrio cholerae* were selected from fecal samples of diarrheal patients. Selected virulence-associated genes were sequenced and typed. While the article is well-structured, there are several shortcomings that need to be addressed.

Introduction section;

- The authors should address the endemic strains of *Vibrio cholerae* circulating in Western India.
- The authors should mention the results of your previous study, Kumar et al. (2022), as five isolates were used for further molecular typing.
- The authors should give the reason why *ctxB*, *rctA*, *rctB*, and *tcpA* were selected for molecular typing and why the MLST or other typing methods were not used.

Methodology section;

- The subsection "Diarrheagenic *E. coli*" should be excluded because it is not relevant to the objective of this study.

Results and Discussion;

- According to the Methods and Materials section, five isolates were selected. Why is only one strain presented in the study results?
- Why are there only the phylogenies of *ctxB* and *rstA*? What about the others?
- The result of "Diarrheagenic *E. coli*" should be excluded because it is not relevant to the objective of this study.

- What is the new finding compared to your previous study (Kumar et al., 2022)?
- The authors should provide additional discussion on how environmental factors affect the persistence of the Haitian strain in India.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.