

RESEARCH NOTE

DNA FINGERPRINTING OF SEPTICEMIC AND LOCALIZED *BURKHOLDERIA PSEUDOMALLEI* ISOLATES FROM MALAYSIAN PATIENTS

MN Azura¹, A Norazah¹, AGM Kamel² and S Ahmad Zorin²

¹Bacteriology Unit, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur; ²Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, University Kebangsaan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Abstract. We have analysed DNA fingerprinting patterns by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) of 52 unrelated *Burkholderia pseudomallei* strains isolated from septicemic and localized infections from Malaysian subjects. A total of 38 PFGE types were observed among 36 septicemic and 16 localized strains with no predominant pattern. Type 25 was seen in 2 epidemiologically related strains, suggesting human to human transmission. Twelve PFGE types were shared among 26 strains (21 septicemic and 5 localized) showing close genetic relatedness with coefficient of similarity of 0.81 to 1.0. The other 26 strains (15 septicemic and 11 localized) were unrelated as shown by the similarity coefficient of <0.8. This study showed that our *B. pseudomallei* strains in Malaysia were mainly heterogenous with no predominant type both in septicemic or localized strains.

Keywords: *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, melioidosis, DNA fingerprinting, PFGE, Malaysia

Correspondence: Azura Mohd Noor, Bacteriology Unit, Infectious Diseases Research Center, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur 50588, Wilayah Persekutuan, Malaysia.
Tel: 603 2616 2462; Fax: 603 2692 4949
E-mail: azura@imr.gov.my