

Increasing prevalence of multidrug-resistant non-typhoidal salmonellae, Kenya, 1994-2003.

Abstract:

Over the last decade there has been a steady increase in the proportion of multidrug resistance among non-typhoidal salmonellae (NTS) isolated from adult patients with bacteraemia in Kenya. The prevalence of NTS multiply resistant to all commonly available drugs including ampicillin, streptomycin, co-trimoxazole, chloramphenicol and tetracycline rose from 31% in 1994 to 42% at present, with concomitantly higher MICs of each drug. Resistance is encoded on large self-transferable 100–110 kb plasmids. Pulsed field gel electrophoresis of XbaI and SpeI digested chromosomal DNA revealed three main digest patterns for *Salmonella enterica* serotype Typhimurium and two main patterns for *Salmonella enterica* serotype Enteritidis. Although the genotypes of NTS remained fairly stable over the last decade, the large increase in MICs of all commonly used drugs and increased MICs of ciprofloxacin, poses a major challenge for treatment of invasive NTS infection