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SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION

DIFFERENTIATION, CLASSIFICATION AND LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS OF FL TOR VIBRIOS

RESPONSIBLE INVESTIGATOR

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April, 1966

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ABGERACE OF THE PINAL REPORT

Y. Studies of kappa-type phage

The host range, serological properties and electron microscope morphology of kapps-type phage which is produced specifically by the Gelebes type S1 Tor vibric were investigated. Kapps-type phage inducing effects of ultraviolet light and mitomycin G were also examined. Lysogenicity of kapps-type phage in 31 Tor vibric appeared to be unstable. A kapps-type phage detection method for rapid diagnosis of Gelebes type S1 Tor vibric carriers was deviced.

2. Application of fluorescent antibody technique to cholera studies.

Applicability and limitation of fluorescent antibody technique on diagnosis of cholers vibric, and cross staining reaction of various vibrice including NAG vibrics and 7. parahemolyticus with fluorescent antibody technique were surveyed.

3. Binchemical properties of an-colled water vibrics Biochamical properties of 43 strains of water vibrics were studied and compared with those of known vibric strains.

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Differentiation, Classification

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Laboratory Diagnosis

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El Tor Vibrios

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Department of Bacteriology School of Medicine Kyushu University Pukuoka, Japan

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I. PURPOSE OF MIS SUBJECT

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The purpose of the present study under the Contract No. DA-92-557-FEC-37969 is to clarify the biological properties of El Tor and Asiatic cholera vibrios and apply the results to differentiation, classification and laboratory diagnosis of these vibrios.

The report in the following consists of three different part. The first section describes the properties and practical application of kappa-type phage, which is produced specifically only by the Celebes type El Tor vibrio, and consequently can be used for diagnostic purpose. In the second section, several experiments on fluorescent antibody technique are described, which is also considered as useful acreening method for early diagnosis of cholera patients or carriers. The last part consists of description of biochemical properties of "vibrios." From the results obtained, it has been concluded that some strains must be excluded from vibrio species.

II. STUDIES OF KAPPA-TYPE PHAGE

1. GENERAL PROPERTIES OF KAPPA-TYPE PHAGE

a. Host Range and Serological Properties: As reported earlier (6), most strains of Bl Tor vibrios isolated in the epidemics of Southeast Asia produce the specific tenperate phage with very narrow host range, and this was tentatively designated as kappa-type phage. Further studies on the lysogenic property of 31 Tor vibrios (7. 9. 10) have revealed that the temperate phages liberated from three strains isolated in Sarawak in 1961 (SE 1-3) had exceptionally wide host range, and these phages were designated as SE thages. The former was lytic only to Vibrio choleras strain E218 and a few other strains, while the latter were lytic to 99 of 149 strains of El Tor vibrios and to 22 of 53 strains of V. cholerae. Plaques of all the temperate phages on H218 were turbid, but clear plaque mutant appeared not rarely in the rate of around 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} . The host range of such a mutant was much broader than that of the original phages. All the kappa-type phages were not lytic to H218 mutants recistant to other kappa-type phages or SE phages, while SE phages were lytic to H218 strains resistant to kappa-type phages.

Neutralization test was carried out on various kappa-type and SE phages with rabbit antisers prepared against a kappa-type phage (Itazuke) and a SE phage (SE 3). As shown in Table 1, the neutralization indexes for the antikappa-type sers of SE phages were as high as those of kappa-

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type phages (90-100), while those for anti-SE 3 phage serum were widely distributed from 30 to 100 irrespective of their types.

From the results above stated, all the temperate phages produced by El Tor vibrios so far tested are considered to be serologically closely related. Therefore, SE phages can possibly be regarded as the host range mutants of kappa-type phage.

The five phages used by Mukerjee (4) for a purpose of phage typing of El Tor vibrios, were also examined for serological properties. All five phages gave the similar results in neutralization test using the sera above stated, and were considered to be closely related with our phages (Table 1).

b. Morphological Properties of Kappa-Type Phage

(6, 9, 10): Electron micrographs were prepared by the negative staining technique using sodium phosphotungstate solution as a contrasting material. Both kappa-type and SE phages were indistinguishable in morphology. They were tadpolelike, and had a hexagonal head (about 450-550 A diameter) and tail (about 800-1,000 A length and 150-200 A width) with cross striation. Ghost phages with empty head and contracted tail sheath were frequently observed (Fig. 1).

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2. STABILITY OF LYSOGENICITY IN EL TOR VIBRIO STRAINS

It has been already reported that two strains isolated in Djakarta in 1961 (VE 12 and 13) were not lyacgenic when received at our laboratory (10). On the other hand, several strains of Gelebes type El Tor vibrios have become non-lysogenic during successive cultivations. Moreover, 13 strains isolated during the Celebes type El Tor vibrio hyddemics in Fhilippines and cultivated successively until our investigation on kappa-type phage production, also have been growed non-lysogenic. As shown in Table 2, these orgamisms were susceptible to kappa-type phage except two strains (VE 12 and 13), and the lysogenized organisms could be isolated from the center of turbid plaque. From these findings, it is probable that the "curing" had occurred naturally in these strains resulting a loss of prophage (13).

Therefore, including the original cultures of such strains, several hysogenic El Tor vibrios were examined on phage-producing ability for isolated single colonies. The rocults so for obtained were not consistent, but in some strains, the non-hysogenic colonies were obtained in fairly high rate (Table 3). The nature of this phenomenon is still obscure, and further studies are needed for clarificution (9, 13).

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3. INDUCTION OF KAPPA-TYPE PHAGE

a. Induction by Ultraviolet (UV) Light (19, 13): Inducing effect of UV irradiation for lysogenic El Tor vibrios was examined according to the method of Field and Naylor (2). These phages were easily induced by relatively short time irradiation of UV (15W, 90cm, 15-20sec). Fig. 2 shows an example of UV dosis-yield relationship. The one-step induction curve is shown in Fig. 3. In this experiment, phage titer reached to its maxmum 150 minutes after UV irradiation (90cm, 30sec), and yield was about 104-fold of noninduced control. In normal cultures, a ratio of colony formers/plaque formers is around 10³ as indicated by broken The induction rate and burst size calculated from linel these curves were 96.5% and 150 respectively. As shown in Fig. 2, not production of phage is larger for shorter irradiation, but induction rate was much lower in such a case.

b. Induction by Mitomycin C (MC) (13): Inducing effect of MC was also examined according to the method of Otsuji et al. (5). Appropriate amount of MC was added to the growing culture of Celebes type El Tor vibrio, and the phage titer was measured after 3 hours. As shown in Fig. 4, the optimal concentration was around 0.5 mcg/ml in the shaking culture, but in the stainding culture, that was only

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0.05-0.1 mcg/ml. The turbidity of the growing culture suddemly decreased about 60 minutes after the addition of MC, and this decrease of turbidity reached its maximum within another 60 or 90 minutes (Fig. 5). From the one-step induction curve in Fig. 6, it was shown that relatively small fraction of the population was induced by MC and total yield of phage was only 10^3 -fold or the control culture.

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4. APPLICATION OF STREPTOMYCIN-RESISTANT INDICAGOR STRAIN ON DETECTION OF KAPPA-TYPE PHAGE

Recently we succeeded to get highly resistant (ca. l mg/ml) mutant of the indicator strain H218 for streptomycin (SM) by means of direct selection technique. This strain (H218 Sm^r) has the same susceptibility range and E.O.P. value with the original H218 strain (12).

By the use of this strain with SM-containing medium, quantitative phage assay and spot test of diagnostic purpose has been simplified. Even when whole culture of test organism is mixed with the indicator organism, only the free phages can be detected by plaque formation under the presence of SM, and colony formation or phage production after the growth of test organism are inhibited. Consequently, any timeconsuming treatment such as centrifugation or filtration is no longer needed for test cultures (15). 5. APPLICATION OF KAPPA-TYPE PHAGE ON BARLY DIAGNOSIS OF CELEBES TYPE EL TOR VIBRIO CARRIERS

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As already stated, most strains of Celebes type El Tor vibrio produce the kappa-type phage about 10^{-3} per bacterium. Therefore, after the enrichment culture of fecal specimen, we can detect kappa-type phages simultaneously with the vibrin. Moreover, as phage detection method requires shorter time than ordinary isolation culture technique, this method seems to be convenient as screening diagnosis technique of the carriers of Celebes type El Tor vibrio. In the earlier report (8), the supernatant fluid of the enrichment culture centrifuged at 4,000 rpm for 30 minutes was used for detection of kappa-type phage by means of spotting on a indicator organism overlayed on nutrient agar plate with soft agar. After the establishment of SM-resistant indicator strain. however, the centrifugation of enrichment culture is ommitted, and the culture fluid is directly spotted on the H218 Sm^r mixed with soft agar containing 100 mcg/ ml of SM and overlayed on nutrient agar plate (Table 4). This technique has been shown more sensitive than ordinary culture technique (Table 5) and proved very applicable in the field work (13).

III. APPLICATION OF FLOORESCHET ANTIDODY TECHNIQUE TO CHOLERA STUDIES

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1. APPLICATION OF FLUORESCENT ANTIBODY TECHNIQUE TO 15 DETECTION OF CHOLERA VIBRIO

Applicability and limitation of fluorescent antibody technique on the diagnosis of cholera vibrio were surveyed (14). Pluorescent anti-Bl Tor vibrio antibody was prepared from hyperimmune rabbit sera according to the method of McDevitt et al. (3). Details of fluorescent microscopy is shown in Table 6. Both El Tor and Asiatic cholera vibrios were stained specifically with anti-El Tor vibrio fluorescent antibody irrespective of their types, whereas laboratory strains of Gram-negative rods other than vibrio species could not be stained with the same antibody solution (Table 7). In the fecal specimens from the non-cholera patients and althy persons, positively stained organisms or particles re found in a very high rate (88%), in which only a few re strongly positive (Table 8). These positively stained ganisms or particles were easily differentiated from cholera .brin in the morphological properties or strength of fluoresmce. The differentiation of specific and non-specific tain was not difficult especially with the aid of observation

by dom-field illumination of the same field using the visible light. Fig. 7 shows the differentiation of EL for vibrio and Emberichia coli by means of such a technique.

The limit of bacterial concentration in this technique to find the stained organisms obviously in the smear was around 10⁶/ml, but after the enrichment culture for 6 hours, the vibrios can be detected from the material which initially contained vibrics as few as several hundreds/ml (Table 9). On the whole, this technique is considered as an effective screening method to detect cholers patients or carriers, as this technique requires shorter time than the ordinary isolation technique.

2. STUDIES OF CROSS STAINING REACTION OF VIBRIOS (15)

Various tibric strains including NAG vibrics and Vibric parahaemolyticus were stained with the fluorescent anti-El Tor vibric antibody to examine the presence of cross staining reaction.

Although no cross agglutination existed, the cross staining reaction was observed between cholera vibrios and other vibrio species. Cholera-like NAG vibrios and V. parahaemolyticus gave strong, y or moderately positive reaction, whereas other species and so-called water vibrios gave only weakly positive or negative reaction (Table 10). Flagellum

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was stained in all the strains of cholera vibrios and V. parahaemolyticus tested, but negative in most other strains.

The NAG vibrio with positive staining reaction (strain 4714) could adsorb only the antibody reacting with its own antigen from the fluorescent antibody solution. On the other hand, cholera vibrios as well as El Tor vibrios could adsorb the whole antibodies from the same solution (Table 11).

The homologous staining reaction was not inhibited by sonication, heating and trypsin treatment, but the staining reaction with heterologous fluorescent antibody was strongly inhibited by such treatments. Treatment with cold or hot trichloracetic acid inhibited both homologous and cross staining reactions. Treatment of acetone-dried organism with 95% phenol at 37 C and trypsinization thereafter, gave strong inhibition of cross staining reaction (Table 12).

The results indicate that only the antigen of Onature contributes to the specific staining reaction, and the cross reaction of MAG vibrios is due to the common antigen(s) of protein nature. The use of anti-NAG vibrio fluorescent antibody gave the similar results and conclusion.

IV. BIOCHMICAL PROPERTIES OF SO-CALLED WATER VIERIOS

As stated in the former section, some strains of eo-

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called water vibrics gave negative fluorescent antibody staining, whereas most other vibrics gave usually positive reaction. Biochemical properties were examined on these vibrics to clarify the Saxonomical relationships between them (11).

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Porty-three strains of water vibrio, of which 5 were stock strains and other 38 were newly isolated, 2 strains of V. cholerae, 3 strains of Bl Tor vibrio, 2 strains of HAG vibrio, and 3 strains of known vibrio species (V. metchnikovii. V. denekei and V. proteus) were tested for the following biochemical characteristics: 1) Acid production from glucose, mannitol, mannose, galactose, fructose, arabinose, rhamnese, sucrese and lactose; 2) Hugh-Leifson test; 3) VP test; 4) MR test; 5) reactions in SIM medium (H_2S , PPA and motility); 6) indole; 7) cholera red; 8) reduction of nitrate; 9) urease; 10) gelstin liquefaction; 11) Kovac's oxidase; 13) cytochrome oxidase; 10 KCN test; 15) utilization of citrate (Simmons); 16) utilization of malonate; 17) lysine decarboxylase; 18) arginine decarboxylase; 19) growth under the presence of 3% or 7% MaCl; 20) susceptibility to triphenyltetrazolium chloride (TTC); 21) susceptibility to vibriostatic agent 0/129; 22) fluorescence under UV light.

The results is shown in Table 13. V. cholerae, including El Tor vibrios, NAG vibrios and other vibrios show the similar pattern in this table, but 5 stock strains of

water vibrio seem completely different. According to Davis and Park's criteria (1), especially negative sugar decomposition and resistance to vibriostatic agent, these strains are considered to be "Comamonas" sp.. Two of newly isolated water vibrio showed similar characteristics. On the other hand, we could not get distinct difference between Asiatic cholers vibrios and El Tor vibrios or other vibrio species by the biochemical characteristics so far tested. Differentistion of such vibrios by biochemical method needs further investigation.

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APPENDIX A

		Nutralisation induces with				
Phages		Anti-happo type(Iteauho) phago serum	Anti-SE(3) phage ' serum			
Item	type phages die 35 striefne.:	100 50 - 100	50 50 - 100 (mootly 50 - 00)			
SE phopo SE3 SE1, 2		99 95 - 100	100- 56 - 190-			
÷:	1	100	97 -			
-41		100	100			
	14	**	%			
:55	v	100	· 👷			

straiization index = $(H_{1} - H_{2}) / H_{1} = 100$ = Number, of plaques in a central plate H,

plaque after neutralization ۴,

Neutralization tests of El Tor vibrio temperate Table 1. phages

VB 12	-	61-7891	+
VB 13	-	61-7870	+
VE 126*	+	61-10348	+
P3 1+	+	62-3755	+
PE 4*	+	62-4191	+
PE 9*	+	62-4192	+
PS 20+	+	64-1711	+
Mel 1*	+	64-1751	+
Mal 3*	+	64-1851	+
Mal 4*	+	64-1879	+
JE 186+	+	65-1270	+
		65-1466	+
		65-4382	+

Sensitivity of K type phage-negative atrains to K type phage

* Lysogenicity was lost during the successive cultivations.

Table 2. Sensitivity of karpa-type phage-negative strains to kappa-type phage

El Tor cholera vibrio Generations PE 1 PE 4 PE 9 PE 20 Mal 2 of successive P* A* P A P A P A P A

Percentage of lysogenic colonies found at random generations of successive cultures of Celebes type

of					1		ł		1	
successive cultures	P*	۸*	. P	•	P		P	•	P	
15			100		1	· ·	96	 	100	
21		100		100	1	100		88		100
29		100	98	100		100		100	98	100
39	96	100	100	100	98	100		100	100	99
	98		100		98		100		97	
58	100	100	100	100	100	96	98	99	98	100

* P = peptone water; A = nutrient agar slant

Table 3. Percentage of lysogenic colonies found at random generations of successive cultures of Celebes type El Tor cholera vibrio

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Enrichment culture in alkaline peptone water



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Incubation for 8 hours

Iysis (+)

· Identification must be carried out by neutralization test and/or lysis test using kappa-type phage resistant strain of H218.

Table 4. A schema for routine diagnosis of Celebes type El Tor vibrio carriers

	water culture of Celebés type El Tor cholera vibrio mixed with human feces							
	Tube No.	1	2	3	-			
	tial population vibric/ml	0.12	1.2	12				
	No. of PFU/ml	0	10	50				
3	"Spot test"	•	• ·	•				
hrs	Colonies on TCBS plate	0	0	0	•			

0 •

0

1.4x10² 2.6x10³

+

0

+

52

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6

hrs

No. of PFU/ml "Spot test"

Colonies on

TCBS plate

Production of I type phage in peptone

Table 5.	An example of model experiment comparing ordinary
	isolation technique and kappa-type phage detection
	technique. In the tube 2, 6 hours after inocula-
	tion, only kappa-type phage was detectable

Micracope: Leits Ortholux UV-source: OSRAM HBO 200W Exciter filter: Schott KGl, BG38 and x UGl Secondary filter: Kenko L40 or Schott UV-abs Objective: Achromat x 100 Ocular: GF x 10 Camera: Leica If with MIKAS Film: Fuji SS or Fuji color R (ASA 100)

Exposure: 1 to 2 min for black and white 2 to 3 min for color picture

Table 6. Details of fluorescent microscopy technique

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Sector		Number ef		-	1786 -	
3,00100	strains	++++	+++	++	•	5~
V. come (Asiatic)	10	7	3	•	•	•
" (E1 Ter)	17	17	0	0		•
Y. mochnikovi	1	•	0	1		•
V. protous	1	0	•	1	•	
V. denskei	1	•	•	1	۲	0
Mê vîbrie	2	•	i	1	•	•
Notor vibrio	5	•	٠	•	. 2	3
V. persheemolyticus	10.		•	9	1	•
E. coll	3	0	0	•	1	2
Salm, typhasa	1	•	۲		•	ŧ
Salm, paratyphi A	1	0 5	•	•	٠	1
Saim, peratyphi B	1	0	0	٠	•	1
Salm, typhimurium	2	0	0	•		2
Shigalla dysentarias	•	0	Q	0	0	4
Shigelia flexneri	•	0	0	Q	0	Ŧ
frotous vulgoris	3	0	0	0	ł	.2
Klobsiella proveniao	[· ·]	• 0	٠	0	Ċ.	. 1
Aerobactor serogenes	1 1	0	0	9	0	ł
Serratia mercescena	1	- - -	. 0	. 0	1	۲
Proudomenes coruginose		0	0	¢	0	. 1

Staining reactions of various Gran-negative basterie

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Table 7. Staining reactions of various Gram-negative bacteria

non-cholers patients						
No. of cases	Number of smears showing fluorescence with the intensity of					
	****	***	**	•	:~-	
- 34	2	3	20	5	4	

Staining reactions of fecal smears from

* The specimens were classified according to the strongest fluorescence found in the specimen.

Table 8. Staining reactions of feed smears from noncholera patients



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Fluorescent antibody staining of El Tor cholera vibrio after the multiplication in enrichment culture for 6 hours

Initial population (CFU/ml)	2.75 x 10 ⁵	2.75 x 10 ⁴	2.75 x 10 ³	2.75 x 10 ²	2.75 x 10 ¹
Number of vibrio in one micro- scopic field	138	31	3.1	0.5	>i in whole fields
Number of vibric in culture (/ml)	7 x 10 ⁸	1.5 x 10 ⁸	1.5 x 10 ⁷	2.5 x 10 ⁶	3

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Table 9.

Fluorescent antibody staining of El Tor cholera vibrio after the multiplication in enrichment culture for 6 hours.

Strein	Staining rea	rtion	Applutination
	basillary body	flagellum	reaction a
4714	•••	-	· - ((+2n)
4715	++	++	-
ter vibrie			
W12	(-
¥¥6	-	-]	-
VVO	•	-]	-
WV11	<u>+</u>	- 1	•
W16	•	-	-
perchecus-			
tions		•	
0-1	++	++	.
03	+	+	-
0-3	→ →	+++	- .
0-4	→→ · · ·	•	•
0-5	+	• (-
0-6	•	±	-
0-7	· +•	•	•
0-6	↔ ·	••	-
· 0-9	•• d	· ••)	• .
0-10	↔	+++	•
netohnikevi	**	•	•
protons	•• • •	· • .]	
denskei.	+	- 1	•

Staining reactions of various vibrics with apti-JU

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Table 10. Staining reactions of various vibrios with anti-JE5 (dgawa type El Tor) fluorescent antibody

Adourbing	Stainet	Staining Por	etion
attion	erentine	becillery body	flage11u
	JES	++++	+++++
	Ognue	· ••••	++++
	4714	+++	-
Jene	0-5	**	
	V. metchnikevi	**	-
	Y. protous	**	
	V. denekot	**	-
	JE5	•	-
	Ounve	:	±
JII)	4714	±	
	0-3	±	-
	V. sotehnikovi	. 2	••
· · ·	Y, protoue	± · · · · ·	-
	Y. denekei	· •	-
. 1	J85	\$:
	Ogne	±	1
	4714	t ±	
	0-3	<u>·</u> •	-
	185	++++	++++
1714	4714	:	-
	0-7	•	**
	JE5 .	++++	++++
-9	4714	+++	-
<u>_</u> 1	0-3	· •	•

Staining remetion of vibries by unti-JBS (El Ter)

Table 11. Staining reaction of vibrios by anti-JE5 (Ogawa type 11 Tor) fluorescent antibody adsorbed with various antigens

freatment	El Tor	246
Jone	++++	+++
Beat (100 ⁰ C, 10 min)	****	**
Semication (10 KC, 15 min)	****	***
Soniestion and heat	***	••
Somication and trypein (0.25%, 30 mi	+++ ln)	++
Sonication, beat and trypein	•••	•
Hot TGA (4%, 100°C, 10im)	***	٠
955 Phonol (3700, 4	tays) ++++	±
Phonol and tryyein	+~++	•

Refert of Various Treatment on PA-stain of El for and HAS Tibrics

Table 12. Effect of various treatment on fluorescent antibody stain of El Tor (Ogawa type) and NAG vibrio

C

	Water vibries		V. cholorne®	Other Vibrie
	Stock	Revly implaces	NAS vibrico	specieof
Zueene	0/5++	36/38	7/7	3/3 0/3
he from <u>clusone</u> Annitol	0/5	0/3+	7/7	1/3
Annene	0/9	34/38	7/7	3/3
in]actone	0/5	29/38 36/38		<u> </u>
The Look	0/5	5/30	5/7	3/3
Renone	0/5	0/38	1 0/7	0/3
	0/9	36/3d 24/38	7/7	33.
			•	
	0/5	36/38 6/38	6/7	1/3
· · · · ·	1 0/6	35/38	0/7	3/3
elfen (0	1/5	0/38	ñ/7	0/3
(H28)	1/5	6/30	0/1	0/3
130 (PPA	1/5	0/70	\$7	33
motility	5/4	30/30	7/7	3/3
niele	0/5	13/30	7/7	3/3
helere red	0/5	4/38	1/1	333
itrole Funet	2/5	2/30	6/7	0/3
elatin	0/5	0/30	75555	3/3
atalaee	5/5	38/38	\$/7	- 3/3
evee's oxidees	5/5	12/38 22/38	7/7	2/2
yteekrent " Ch	5/5 0/5	22/38 6/30	7/7	3/3
	1/5	27/38	6/7	0/3
litrate	0/5	C/38	0/7	0/3
weine .	0/5	21/30	6/7	3/3
rgiaine	0/5	9/38	5/7	5/3
- 1 7#	1/5	70/76	7/7	3/3
wc1 {7	0/5	14/58	0/7	
18 (9,000x) V129	0/5	3/3	0/7 1/7	\$ <u>/</u> 3
Augerossenee	0/5	0/70	0/7	0/3

ne: W2. N218 brio: JD5. Nal 4. Tor A e: 4714. 4715

eria, 4/17 pvii, V. denekei, V. proteum poitive strains/ number of strains 24

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Table 13. Biochemical properties of vibrios

APPENDIX B



Figure 1. Electron micrograph of kappa-type phage (Itazuke). Acomplete phage particle and several ghost phages with contracted tail sheath are seen.

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Figure 7. Fluorescent antibody staining of El Tor cholera vibric mixed with E. coli. By UV illumination, only El Tor cholera vibrios are visible (a). (b) is the same field taken by visible light. E. coli can be seen only in (b). Notice the morphological difference between them.

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Fukuoka, Japan		
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