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GENETIC RECOMBINATION IN INTESTINAL BACTERIA III. STUDY OF THE GENETIC STRUCTURE OF DYSENTERY BACILLUS HYBRIDS (SEROLOGICAL PROPERTIES)

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UNITED STATES ARMY BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES Fort Detrick, Frederick, Maryland



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# GENETIC RECOMBINATIONS IN INTESTINAL BACTERIA III. STUDY OF THE GENETIC STRUCTURE OF DYSENTERY BACILLUS HYBRIDS (SEROLOGICAL PROPERTIES)

/Following is the translation of an article by A. A. Abidov in the Russian-language publication Byulleten' Eksperimental'noy Biologii i Meditsiny (Bulletin of Experimental Biology and Medicine), No 9, 1963, pages 76-80.7

From the laboratory of genetics of microorganisms (Director -- Doctor of Biological Sciences A. P. Pekhov) of the Institute of Experimental Biology (Director -- Professor I. N. Mayskiy) of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, Moscow and the Institute of Regional Experimental Medicine of the Academy of Sciences Usbek SSR, Tashkent

(Received by editor 6 January 1963; presented by Full Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR N. N. Zhukov-Vereshnikov)

In previous reports we presented information on isolation of 183 recombinants obtained by crossing the strains <u>E. coli</u> HfrH, HfrR, HfrC, and HfrH $\lambda$  + with 35 <u>Sh Flexneri</u> cultures, together with data on their biochemical properties (1,2). This report presents results of a serological examination

of isolated lactosopositive recombinants of dysentery bacilli.

#### Experimental Methods

Serological properties of recombinants were determined by the generally accepted method, using the agglutination reaction on glass contained adsorption Flexner serum and monoreceptor sera (A, B, C, D. E, and F).

In addition, agglutinating sera to five <u>Sh Flexneri</u> cultures were prepared (by immunisation of rabbits) (3584, titer 1:6400; 2050, titer 1:5200; 1363, titer 1:3200; 2047, titer 1:1600; 1570; titer 1:800), to four strains of <u>E. coli</u> HfrH, titer 1:3200;

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HfrH2 + titer 1:1600; HfrR titer 1:400, HfrC titer 1:400) and to four recombinant strains (2050-p-4, titer 1:1600, 2047-b-5, titer 1:6400; 5098-g-5, titer 1:1600, 2055-b-1, titer 1:1600. The hemagglutination reaction was performed with the latter strains by means of their series dilution.

#### Experimental Results

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All recombinants preserve the capacity to agglutinate antidysentery adsorbed Flexneri serum. After establishment of the agglutinability of the recombinants of polyvalent adsorbed Flexneri eerum, their property of agglutinability was verified also with monoreceptor sera. It was established that the recombinants 5008-p-1 to 5003-p-12 cease to be agglutinated by the (original) antiserum of the f type and began to react with the antitypical sera "E" and "C". The recombinants 2047-p-1 to 2047-p-5, in addition to their original antiserum of the "C" type, began to be agglutinated with the type "A". The recombinants 2050-p-1 to 2050-p-28 lost their capacity of agglutinability by the original antiserum "B" and began to react with the type serums "C" and "A".

An exception is found in a single recombinant 2050-p-3, preserving the agglutinability of the original antiserum.

An analogous effect was noted in the hybrids 2043-p-1, 2048-p-1 to 2048-p-8.

The recombinants of dysentery Flexneri bacilli 3584, 628, 2055, 2047 preserve their property of agglutinability by the original antiserum "C".

Thus, the results of the agglutination reaction by monoreceptor sera demonstrates, in addition to the preservation of the agglutinability by the antisera of the original cultures, the possibility of one type of dysentery type of bacteria transforming into another.

In order to more graphically determine the serological kinship between the combinants and original cultures, we present below an amplified account of the hemagglutination reaction with the sera prepared.

From the table it is clear that the recombinants 5008-p-1to 5008-p-12, 2047-p-1 to 2047-p-5, 2050-p-1 to 2050-p-28, 5030-p-1to 5030-p-10, 845-p-1, 2, 3, 3584-p-1 to 3584-p-34, 621-p-1, 628-p-2, 2048-p-1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 2046-p-1 to 2046-p-14, 2044-p-1 to 2044-p-5, 75/2-p-1, 2, 828-k-1, 970-k-1, 2054-k-3, 4, 13, 16, 18, 23, 2046-m-1, 3584-m-1 to 3584-m-20, 2050-m-1 to 2050-m-14, 2-55-m-1, 2, 3, 4, 2055-b-1, 2, 3, 2047-b-1 to 2047-b-6 -- are agglutinated by the antidysentery sera 3584, 2050, 1363, 2047, and 1570 from 1:32 to complete titer. Thus, in spite of the fact that these cultures differ significantly from the original cultures in biochemical

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properties, in high titers they are agglutinated by antidysentery sera.

At the same time the zoological kinship between the recombinants themselves was verified by carrying out an agglutination reaction with the corresponding antisera (homologous). The result obtained allowed us to separate recombinants into two groups.

The first group included the cultures 2047-p-1 to 2047-p-5. 2050-p-1 to 2050-p-28, 5030-p-1 to 5030-p-10, 845-p-1, 2, 3, 3584-p-1 to 3584-p-34, 621-p-1, 628-p-2, 2048-p-1, 4, 7, 2046-p-1 to 2046-p-14, 2044-p-2, 3, 4, 5, 75/2-p-1, 1, 2, 828-k-1, 970-k-1, 2049-m-1, 2047-m-6, 8, 3584-m-1 to 3584-m-20, 2050-m-1 to 2050-m-14, 2055-m-1, 2, 3, 4, 2055-b-1, 2, 3, 2047-b-1 to 2047-b-6. The cultures listed entered into the agglutination reaction with antisera to the recombinant 2054-p-4 from 1:8 to complete titer. with the antiserum to the recombinant 2047-b-5 from 1:32 to complete titer, and with the antiserum to the recombinant 2055-b-1. also from 1:32 to complete titer.

The second group of strains includes the cultures 5008-p-1 to 5008-p-12, 5030-p-1 to 5030-p-10, 845-p-1, 2, 3, 3584-p-1 to 3584-p-34, 2055-b-1, 2, 3, which are agglutinated by antiserum to the recombinant 5008-p-5 from 1:32 to complete titer.

The recombinants studied, as well as the original strains of dysentery causative agent show serological kinship, which evidences that they belong to the same serological group.

We further verified the serological relationship between the original dysentery, intestinal bacilli, and their recombinants. We noted that strains of dysentery bacilli Flexneri 3584, 2050, 2047, 1363, 1570 enter into the reaction of applutination by antisera of the recombinants 2050-p-4, 2047-b-5, 5008-p-5, 2055-b-1 in dilutions from 1:8 to 1:2 titers.

We must emphasize that not a single Sh Flexneri strain entered into reaction with the antiserum to <u>5. coli</u>, and vice Versa.

A serological relationship was noted in the opposite direction, that is, between Sh. Flexneri and their recombinants.

Thus, although dysentery bacteria hybrids differed considerably in biochemical properties from dysentery bacteria, they still retained the antigenic properties of the original strains. Our data agrees with the results of Luria and Burrous (3).

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