

College of Health & Medical Techniques
Department of Medical
Laboratories Techniques

## SHIGELLA AND SALMONELLA

#### 1- SHIGELLA

**Genus:** *Shigella* , **Familly**: Enterobacteriaceae ,**Tribe**: Escherichia , **Genus**: Salmonella

Discovered by Kiyoshi Shiga in 1898., It is the causative agent of human shigellosis.

**Classification:** There are more than **40 serotypes**. The classification of *Shigella* e relies on **biochemical** and **antigenic** characteristics (O antigens). The pathogenic species are *Shigella sonnei*, *Shigella flexneri*, *S. dysenteriae*, and *Shigella boydii*.

### **Important Properties:**

Shigella e are

- short Gram-negative rods.
- non-lactose-fermenting.
- Resistant to bile salts
- Divided into four groups: A, B, C, and D according to (O) antigen.

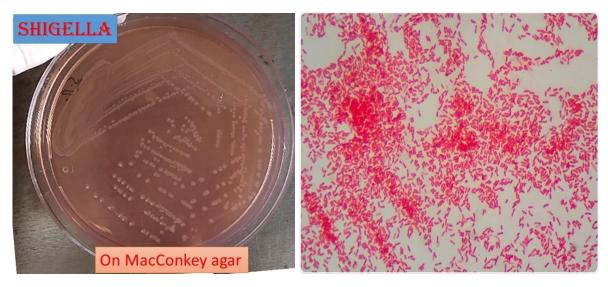
Shigella can be distinguished from salmonellae by three criteria:

- They produce **no gas** from the fermentation of **glucose**
- $\bullet$  They **do not** produce  $H_2S$
- They are **non-motile**.



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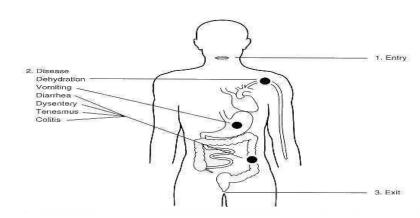
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### **Virulence Factors:**

- 1. K. capsular antigen
- 2. O. antigen (HL)
- 3. Shiga toxin: with **cytotoxic** and **neurotoxic** activity.

# Pathogenesis of Shigella:



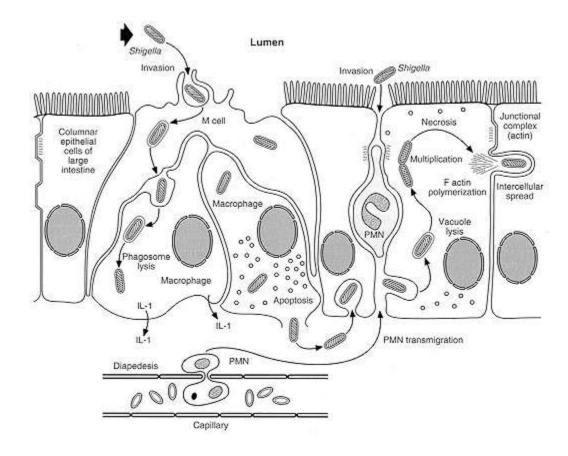
- ullet Shigella causes bacillary dysentery, Low infective dose < 200 bacilli (can be transmitted easily unlike salmonella (More serious and virulent than salmonella)
- Incubation period = 1-3 days



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• Upon ingestion, the bacteria **pass** through the **gastrointestinal** tract until they reach the **small intestine**. There they begin to **multiply** until they reach the **large intestine**. In the large intestine, the bacteria cause cell **injury** and the beginning stages of Shigellosis via two main mechanisms: **direct invasion of epithelial cells** in the large intestine and **production of enterotoxin** 1 and **enterotoxin** 2. High fever, chill, abdominal cramp and pain accompanied by tenesmus, bloody stool with mucus & WBC and HUS are involved.





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## **Laboratory Diagnosis:**

**Specimens:** include **fresh stool**, **mucus flecks**, and **rectal swabs** for culture. **Large numbers** of **fecal** leukocytes and some red blood cells often are seen microscopically. **Culture:** The materials are streaked on differential media (eg, MacConkey or EMB agar) and on selective media (Hektoen enteric agar or xylose-lysine-deoxycholate agar), which suppress other Enterobacteriaceae and Gram-positive organisms. **Colorless** (lactose-negative) colonies are inoculated into TSI agar. Organisms that **fail** to produce H<sub>2</sub>S, that **produce acid** but **not gas** in the **butt** and an **alkaline** slant in TSI agar medium.

Salmonella Shigella (SS) Agar: Shigella Clear, colorless, transparent.

XLD- Agar: Shigella flexneri Red Colonies

TSI-Agar: Salmonella Alkaline slant/acidic butt (K/A); - H<sub>2</sub>S and Gas-

#### 2- Genus: Salmonella

**Introduction:** The organisms are named after the American veterinary pathologist **Daniel Elmer Salmon** in 1885. Currently, there are three recognized species: *S. enterica, S. bongori and S. subterranean*. Salmonella is found worldwide in cold- and warm-blooded animals (including humans), and in the environment. They cause illnesses such as **typhoid fever**, **paratyphoid fever**, and foodborne illness.

#### **Classification:**

• The members of the genus Salmonella were originally classified on the basis of **epidemiology**; **host range**; **biochemical reactions**; and **structures** of the O, H, and Vi (**when present**) antigens.



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- *Salmonella* spp. have both H and O antigens. There are over 60 different O antigens, and individual strains may possess several O and H antigens; the latter can exist in variant forms, termed 'phases'. *Salmonella* serotype **Typhi** also has a **capsular polysaccharide** antigen referred to as 'Vi' (for **virulence**), which is related to **invasiveness**
- Over 2500 serotypes are distinguished, most of which belong to the species *S. enterica*. However, many of these have been given binomial names (e.g. *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella enteritidis*), although they are not separate species. In clinical practice, laboratories identify microorganisms according to their binomial name.

Important Properties: Salmonellae are motile rods that characteristically ferment glucose and mannose without producing gas but do not ferment lactose or sucrose. Most salmonellae produce H<sub>2</sub>S. They are often pathogenic for humans or animals when ingested.

#### **Virulence Factors:**

- **1. Type III secretion systems:** which **facilitate** secretion of virulence factors of Salmonella into host cells.
- **2. Endotoxin:** Endotoxin is responsible for many of the systemic manifestations of the disease caused by *Salmonella* spp.
- 3. Fimbriae: The species-specific fimbriae mediate binding of *Salmonella* to M (microfold) cells present in Peyer patches of the terminal part of the small intestine. These M cells typically transport foreign antigens, such as bacteria to the underlying macrophages for clearance.

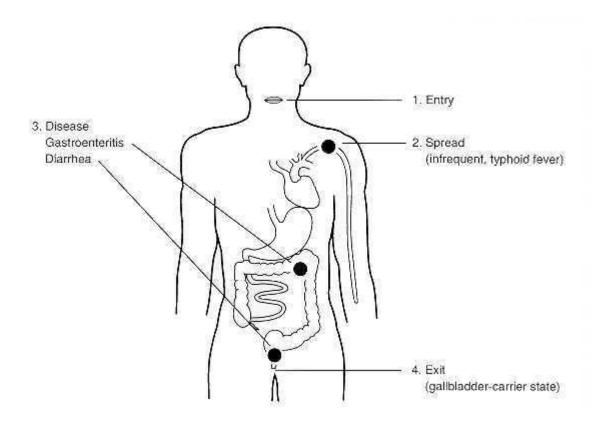


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- **4.Acid tolerance response gene:** The acid tolerance response(ATR) gene protects *Salmonella* spp. from **stomach acids** and the **acidic** pH of the **phagosome**, thereby facilitating survival of bacteria in phagosomes
- **5. Enzymes: Catalase** and **superoxide dismutase** are the enzymes that protect the bacteria from **intracellular killing** in **macrophages**.

Pathogenesis of Salmonella: The three types of Salmonella infections (enterocolitis, enteric fevers, and septicemia وجود البكتريا بمجرى الدم وتكاثرها have different pathogenic features.



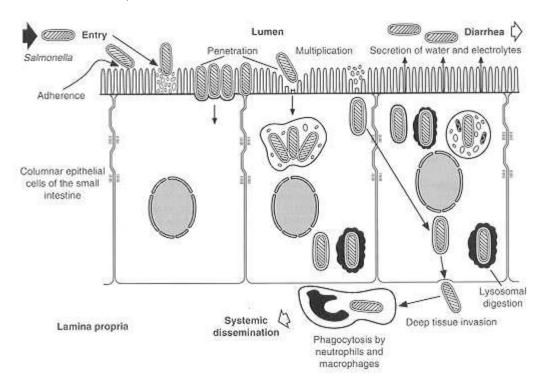
(1) **Enterocolitis**: is characterized by an **invasion** of the **epithelial** and **sub-epithelial tissue** of the small and large intestines.



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- (2) In **typhoid** and other **enteric** fevers, infection begins in the **small** intestine, but few **gastrointestinal** symptoms occur.
- (3) **Septicemia** accounts for only about 5–10% of Salmonella infections and occurs in one of two settings: a patient with an underlying **chronic disease**, such as **sickle cell anemia** or **cancer**, or a child with enterocolitis.



# **Laboratory Diagnosis:**

In enterocolitis: the organism is most easily isolated from a stool sample in selective media e.g. XLD (Xylose lysine deoxycholate agar), DCA (deoxycholate citrate agar), salmonella-*Shigella* (SS) agar, and enrichment media, e.g. selenite broth; identification of *Salmonella* spp. by biochemical agglutination tests. Phage typing can be used for typing individual strain.



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Salmonella *Shigella* (SS) Agar: salmonella **colorless**, **transparent**, with a **black center** if **H**<sub>2</sub>**S** is produced

XLD- Agar: Salmonella Typhi red Colonies, black centers.

TSI-Agar: Salmonella **Alkaline** slant/**acidic** butt (K/A); + H<sub>2</sub>S and Gas +.

In the enteric fevers: a **blood culture** is the procedure most likely to reveal the organism during the first weeks of illness. **Stool cultures** may also be positive, especially in **chronic carriers** in whom the organism is secreted in the bile into the intestinal tract. **Urine culture** results may be positive after the second week.

### **Serologic Methods**:

- I. Agglutination test
- **II.** Tube dilution agglutination test (Widal test): Serum agglutinins rise sharply during the **second** and **third** weeks of *S* serotype Typhi infection.