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## Isolation of Some Pathogenic Bacteria from Cow Raw Milk in Relation to Public Health at Khartoum State, Sudan.

Hana Abdelgalil Abuzaid

Seham Elias Suliman

Mohamed Abdelsalam Abdalla

### Abstract

This study was conducted to isolate some pathogenic bacteria from raw milk and to assess the risk factors associated with milk consumption in the seven localities of Khartoum state (Khartoum, Jabal Awlia, Bahry, Sharg alnil, Omdurman, Ombadda, Karary) . A total of 102 samples of raw cow milk were collected in winter , summer and autumn seasons from December 2018 to October 2019 from milk equipment , udders of milking cows, and vendors, the samples were analyzed and examined for detection of coliform bacteria and some pathogens contaminate raw milk causing milk borne diseases and effect on public health .The isolates were identified morphologically and biochemically and the results revealed that examined samples showed growth of Gram negative bacteria (233 isolates) and recorded , *Escherichia spp.* 75(32.19%), *Klebsiella spp.* 30(12.88%) *Salmonella spp.*15(6.44%), *Shigella spp.* 20(8.58%), *Proteus merabilis* 37(15.88%), *Proteus spp* 29(12.45%).and *Pseudomonas spp.*7(11.58%) . According to the source of collection the isolates were 65(27.9%) from the udders , 93(40%) from equipment , and 75(32.1%) from vendors and this indicated high contamination in milk equipment . According to the seasons the isolates were 35(15.0%) in winter, 66(28.3%) in summer , and 132(56.7%) in autumn respectively .In conclusion the contamination of milk by bacteria is high because of this dairy workers need more awareness about sanitary measures.

**Keywords:** pathogenic bacteria, cattle , raw milk.

### Introduction

Raw milk is an important vehicle for the transmission of milk-borne pathogens to humans, as can be easily contaminated during milking and handling (Addo *et al.*, 2011). Human may be infected with milk-borne pathogens through consumption of infected raw or unpasteurized milk and milk products (Bertu *et al.*, 2010; Pal and Jadhav, 2013). Bacterial organisms which may gain entry into milk can multiply and cause spoilage, rendering raw or processed milk unsuitable for human consumption due to rancidity, musty odour, or toxin production (Nanu *et al.*, 2007). Organisms in milk indicate inadequate milking procedures, poor storage conditions, or unhygienic productions (Gran *et al.*, 2003; Girmaud *et al.*, 2009). Bacterial contamination of raw milk can originate from different sources including air, milking equipment, feed, soil, faeces and grass (Coorevits *et al.*, 2008).

Sources of microbial contamination in milk include primary microbial contamination from the infected or sick lactating animal, the secondary causes of microbial contamination occurs along the milk value chain which may include contamination during milking by milkers, milk handlers, unsanitary utensils and/or milking equipment and water supplies used in sanitary activities (Pal and Jadhav, 2013).

Fresh milk drawn from a healthy cow normally contains low microbial load and generally contains less than 1000 cfu/ml of total bacteria, but the load may increase once it is stored at normal temperature (Wallace, 2008 ; Salman and Hamad, 2011) . Many milk-borne epidemics of human diseases are spread through milk contamination (Bertu *et al.*, 2010).

Unpasteurized milk and dairy products manufactured from raw milk, have been implicated in many outbreaks (Maher *et al.*, 2001). In Sudan, the raw milk distributed for consumption is not subjected to proper quality control measures which are needed (Mohamed and El Zubeir, 2007).

Most of milk producers in Khartoum State are unaware of the effect of animal health and environmental conditions on producing safe milk due to absence of full certification of employees, absence of technical staff, retardation of milk production and processing system and lack of training and extension programs (Abdalla and Elhagaz, 2011)

The detection of coliform bacteria and pathogens in milk indicates a possible contamination of bacteria either from the udder, milk utensils or water supply used (Olson and Mocquot ,1980, Bonfoh *et al.*, 2003).

Detection of coliform bacteria or pathogenes in milk can be used as an indicator for udder infection (mastitis) , contamination in milking utensils or water supply (Yuen *et al.* , 2012). The presence of total coliforms in foods of animal origin indicates environmental sources of contamination (Mhone *et al.*, 2011). Amongst the coliforms, *Escherichia coli* is the most common contaminant of raw and processed milk (Quinn *et al.*, 2002).

*E. coli* is the most common species of facultative anaerobe found in the gastrointestinal tract of both man and animals and the most commonly encountered pathogen in the Enterobacteriaceae family, therefore the presence of such organism in foods is indicative of fecal pollution ( Soomro *et al.*, 2002 ; Benkerroum *et al.*, 2004).

*Salmonellosis* is one of the most important zoonotic bacterial pathogen of food-borne infection all over the world. The most important serotypes of *Salmonella* are *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella enteritidis* ( Fashae *et al.*, 2010 ; Hendriksen *et al.*, 2011). *Salmonella* spp can cause gastrointestinal disease. The main sources of transmission are water, eggs and raw foods (Karns *et al.*, 2005).

*Salmonella* and *Escherichia coli* are Pathogens that have been frequently involved in foodborne outbreaks associated with the consumption of milk and their presence in milk emerged as major public health concerns, especially for those individuals who still drink raw milk (Ryser, 1998). Food borne *Salmonellosis* has been recognized due to consumption of raw or improperly pasteurized milk and milk products ( Karshima *et al.*, 2013).To protect public health against milk borne infections, there are regulations that require proper hygiene handling of milk and its pasteurization, but in developing countries such regulations are not usually adhered, hence milk borne health risk is higher in these countries (Donkor *et al.* 2007). Lack of knowledge about clean milk production , use of unclean milking equipment and lack of potable water for cleaning purposes were some of the factors which contributed to the poor hygienic quality of raw milk in the study farms (Godefay and Molla, 2000). This study was aimed to isolate some pathogenic bacteria from raw milk and to assess the risk factors associated with milk consumption in Khartoum state

## Materials and Methods:

### Area of Study:

The study was done in Khartoum state which localized between latitude 15.08 and 16.39 north , and longitude 31,36 and 34,25 east .Livestock production systems (Milk, Meat , and Poultry) are

operational within and around Khartoum city. The climate is hot and dry with rains in summer , cool and dry in winter

### Collection of milk samples:

A total of 102 raw cow milk samples were collected from the seven localities of Khartoum state from December 2018 to October 2019 covering all seasons in the state (22 milk samples in winter , 32 in summer and 48 in autumn ) . These samples were taken as follow : 24 samples from the udders directly, 42 from milk utensils inside the farms and 36 from the vendors in the seven localities ( Table 1,2 )

**Table (1) :Collection of raw milk samples seasonally in Khartoum State**

Season	Locality							Total sample number
	Khartoum	Jabal Awli a	Bahr y	Sharg alneel	Umdurman	Umb adda	Karary	
Winter (December 2018 , January, February 2019)	8	3	6	6	5	4	4	34(33.33%) 1-34)(
Summer (March, April, May, June 2019)	5	2	5	4	5	8	3	34(33.33%) 35-68)(
Autumn (July, August, September,October 2019)	7	3	4	6	7	3	4	34(33.33%) 67-102)(
Total	20	8	15	16	17	15	11	102

### Bacteriology :

MacConkey's agar , Xylose lysine deoxycholate agar ( XLD ) ,and Nutrient agar were prepared as solid media for the growth of colonies.

Gram's stain technique was used to describe the pathogenic organisms morphologically ( Barrow and Feltham,1993 ) , and biochemical tests that applied were Indole test, Citrate test, Urease test , Methyl test , Voges Proskaur test ,Catalase test , Oxidase test , Kligler iron agar test , and Motility test. ( Barrow and Fethman, 1993)

### Results

From 102 cow raw milk , 233 of them were G-negative bacteria ( *Enterobacteriaceae* family and *Pseudomonas* spp. ) were isolated

75 (32%) *Escherichia* spp , 30(12.88%) *Klebsiella* spp., 15(6.44%) *Salmonella* spp., 20(8.58%) *Shigella* spp. , 37(15.88%) *Proteus* sp., 66(54.90%) and *pseudomonas* spp. 27 (11.58%) table (2)

**Table 2 : Number of isolated bacteria from cow raw milk (n=233) in Khartoum state**

Isolated bacteria	Total number and ( % )
<b>Escherichia spp.</b>	75 (32.19%)
<i>Klebsiella</i> sp.	30 (12.88%)
<i>Salmonella</i> sp.	15 (6.44%)
<i>Shigella</i> sp.	20 (8.58%)
<i>Proteus</i> sp.	66 (28.32%)
<i>Pseudomonas</i> spp.	27 (11.58%)
Total	233(100%)

**Table (3) : Numbers of isolated bacteria from cow raw milk samples according to the sources of collection .**

Isolates	Sources			Total
	Udder	Farm equipment	Vender containers	
<b>Escherichia spp.</b>	20( 26.7%)	29(38.7%)	26(34.6%)	75
<i>Klebsiella</i>	6(20.0%)	11(36.7%)	13(43.3%)	30
<i>Salmonella</i>	4(26.7%)	4(26.7%)	7(46.6%)	15
<i>Shigella</i>	11(55.0%)	5(25.0%)	4(20.0%)	20
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	14 (21.6%)	32(48.6%)	20 (29.8%)	66
<i>Pseudomonas</i>	9(33.4%)	12(44.4%)	6(22.2%)	27
Total	65(27.9%)	93(39.9%)	75(32.2%)	233

From table ( 3) *Escherichia spp.* , *Proteus spp* , were highest from equipment (38.7% , 48.6% ) and lowest from the udder( 26.7% , 21.6% ) respectively. *Klebsiella spp* and *Salmonella spp* were high from vender containers (43.3% , 46.6%). But, *Shigella spp* was highest in udder samples (55.0%) and lowest in vender containers (20.0%), while *Pseudomonas spp* was highest in farm equipment ( 44.4%) and lowest in vender containers (22.2%)

**Table 4: Distribution of isolated bacteria from cow raw milk in Khartoum state**

Isolations	Locality							Total
	Khartoum	bal Awlia	Bahry	Sharg alneel	Umdurman	Umbadda	Karary	
<b>Escherichia spp.</b>	12	7	11	14	12	13	6	75
<i>Klebseilla</i>	4	1	1	6	7	7	4	30
<i>Salmonella</i>	1	1	2	5	2	2	2	15
<i>Shigella</i>	6	2	4	1	3	2	2	20
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	7	1	14	14	14	9	7	66
<i>Pseudomonas</i>	5	2	4	2	3	4	7	27
Total	35	14	36	42	41	37	28	233
	(15 %)	(6%)	(15.5%)	(18%)	(17.6%)	(15.9%)	(12%)	(100%)

Table (4) showed that Sharg alnil locality represented high percentage (18.0%) , whereas, Karary represented lower percentage (12.0%).

**Table 5: Isolated bacteria isolated from cow raw milk seasonally in Khartoum State**

Isolations	Seasons			Total
	Winter (December 018 , January, February 2019)	Summer (March, April, May, June 2019)	Autumn(July ,August, September, October 2019)	
<b>Escherichiaspp.</b>	7 (9.4%)	28(37.3%)	40(53.3%)	75
<i>Klebseilla</i>	7(23.3%)	18(60%)	5(16.7%)	30
<i>Shigella</i>	12(60%)	5(25%)	3(15%)	20
<i>Salmonella</i>	2(13.3%)	1(6.7%)	12(80%)	15
<i>Proteus spp.</i>	3(4.54%)	5(7.58%)	58(87.88%)	66
<i>Pseudomonas</i>	4(14.8%)	9(33.3%)	14(51.9%)	27
Total	35(15.0%)	66(28.3%)	132(56.7%)	233

As shown in table 5 the contamination of milk by bacteria was highest in autumn season (56,7%) , medium in summer season (15.0%) and lowest in winter (28.3%).

#### Discussion:

The results of this study revealed that all isolated organisms were gram.negative (233 isolates from 102 cow raw milk samples (table 2). This indicated that contamination of milk in Khartoum state by **Escherichia spp** organism was more than other organisms, , while [Donkor et al.\(2002\)](#) in Ghana isolated (2.1%) **Escherichia coli**, (16.7%) **Klebsiella spp** , (7.3%) **Proteus spp** ,and they recorded that most of the organisms identified were enterobacteria indicating probable faecal contamination of the milk as a result of poor hygiene. Generally, the organism *E.coli* considered more member of coliforms that contaminate raw milk ([Soomro et al. , 2002](#) ; [Zeinhom and Gihan , 2014](#) ; [Robert et al., 2014](#) . But [Haftay et al. \(2018\)](#) .who isolated *E. coli* in highest percentage than other organisms .

[Rundasa et al. \(2019\)](#) reported that the prevalence of the major problems of dairy cows in milk production that reduced the quality of milk is the distribution of this bacterial pathogen in the herd which indicates the economic impact of the diseases.

According to the source of collection (Table 4), the isolated pathogens were 65(27.9%) from the udders, 93(40%) from equipment, and 75(32.1%) from vendors's containers and this indicated that milk of equipment was highly contaminated and this agreed with [Jayarao and Wang \(1999\)](#) in eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota who found same results, and not agree with [Rajeev and Amit, \(2010\)](#) who found that out of all milk samples examined. The highest contamination was recorded from the milk collected from vendors 26% followed by dairy farms 20%. In this results, temperature and humidity were lead to increasing in the growth of bacteria in milk collected from Khartoum state (table 5) and this was in accordance with previous studies ([Harmon, 1994](#); [Adams et al., 1999](#); [McCarthy et al., \(2001\)](#); and [Bernabuccie et al., 2010](#)). From the above results it can concluded that, the contamination rate of milk is high, which means the lack of knowledge and awareness among dairy workers about health aspects. This calls for developing plants to aware and educates dairy workers, take strict health measures, and impose laws that guarantee the safety of milk and the safety of dairy workers and consumers.

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