Legions of Doom part 2

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Outline and Questions

- History of Legionella infection at UIHC
- What are the novel aspects of *Legionella pneumophila* infection of macrophages?
 - Coiling phagocytosis
 - Generation of an ER-derived compartment
 - Harnessing the proteasome for nutrient acquisition and growth
- Antibiotics macrolides vs. fluoroquinolones?

Legionella pneumophila – causative agent of Legionnaire's disease

1976 – Philadelphia hosted the convention of the Pennsylvania American Legion

- -within 6 days 182 attendees were sick \rightarrow 29 deaths
- -pneumonia caused by unknown unrecognized bacterium
- air conditioning and water handling system implicated

Legionella pneumophila

 -1-40% of nosocomial pneumonias
-spread by inhalation of contaminated water

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LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE

Description of an Epidemic of Pneumonia

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Abstract An explosive, common-source outbreak of pneumonia caused by a previously unrecognized bacterium affected primarily persons attending an American Legion convention in Philadelphia in July, 1976. Twenty-nine of 182 cases were fatal. Spread of the bacterium appeared to be air borne. The source of the bacterium was not found, but epidemiologic analysis suggested that exposure may have occurred in the lobby of the headquarters hotel or in the area immediately surrounding the hotel. Person-to-person spread seemed not to have occurred. Many hotel employees appeared to be immune, suggesting that the agent may have been present in the vicinity, perhaps intermittently, for two or more years. (N Engl J Med 297:1189-1197, 1977)

-natural host of *Legionella pneumophila* in the environment is fresh water amoebae

PERSISTENCE OF LEGIONELLA PNEUMOPHILA IN A HOSPITAL'S WATER SYSTEM: A 13-YEAR SURVEY

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ABSTRACT -

OBJECTIVE: To describe the molecular epidemiology of *Legionella pneumophila* infections in the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC).

DESIGN: Molecular epidemiological study using pulsedfield gel electrophoresis (PFGE).

SETTING: A large university teaching hospital.

ISOLATES: All surviving isolates obtained from cultureproven nosocomial *L pneumophila* infections and all surviving isolates obtained from the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics' water supply between 1981 and 1993.

RESULTS: Thirty-three isolates from culture-proven nosocomial cases of *L pneumophila* pneumonia were available for typing. PFGE of genomic DNA from the clinical isolates identified six different strains. However, only strain C (16 cases) and strain D (13 cases) caused more than 1 case. Strain C caused clusters of nosocomial infection in 1981, 1986, and 1993 and also caused 4 sporadic cases. Strain D caused a cluster in 1987 and 1988 plus 4 sporadic cases. Of the six strains causing clinical infections, only strains C and D were identified in water samples. PFGE identified three strains in the water supply, of which strains C and D caused clinical disease and also persisted in the water supply during most of the study period.

CONCLUSION: Specific strains of *L* pneumophila can colonize hospital water supplies and cause nosocomial infections over long periods of time (*Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 1999;20: 793-797).

UIHC



FIGURE 2. Schematic drawing of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics illustrating the location of the four outbreaks and the Legionella pneumophila strains causing each outbreak.

2015 – outbreaks In New York City

Unusual "coiling phagocytosis"

Phagocytosis = receptor and actin-mediated mechanism macrophages use to engulf bacteria, fungi, and parasites.

Typical forming phagosome morphologies: 'pseudopod extension' or 'sinking':









Cell, Vol. 36, 27-33, January 1984,

Coils rapidly resolve – mechanism unknown



Gold \rightarrow Beta2 microglobulin





CR3 enriched vs. exclusion of HLA-DR, B2M and other antigen presentation molecules from the inner coil

J. Exp. Med. © The Rockefeller University Press Volume 175 May 1992 1317–1326

Cell, Vol. 36, 27-33, January 1984,

Phagosome maturation

pH 6.5

pH 5.0

Sequential modification of phagosome composition by fusion with early endosomes, late endosomes and lysosomes.





Dot/ICM effectors allow avoidance of lysosomes and promote association with ER-derived vesicles by manipulation of GTPases including Rab1 and Arf

Smooth vesicles surround Legionella compartments within 15 min of infection







Additional studies revealed that the vesicles were derived from the smooth ER

J. EXP. MED. © The Rockefeller University Press Volume 158 October 1983 1319–1331 Journal of Cell Science 114, 4637-4650 (2001)





After 1-2 hours, Legionella compartments are also surrounded by mitochondria



The significance of proximity to smooth vesicles and mitochondria unclear

By 8 hours, *Legionella* compartments become studded with ribosomes, **Vacuole membrane resembles the Rough ER (RER)**.

The RER-derived vacuole supports Legionella replication





Model

What have we learned about the underlying mechanism since 1983?



Legionella – Type IVB Secretion System – More than 300 injected effector proteins!!



Effectors are also called 'Dot/Icm' substrates

Some effectors alter membrane trafficking

Others facilitate bacterial nutrient acquisition

Required for Legionella growth and survival

Effectors redundancy complicates studies of effector function.



DotA allows Legionella to avoid trafficking to lysosomes

dotA mutants colocalize with LE/lysosome markers



Other Effectors intercept vesicles from ER or ERGIC to modify the Legionella vacuole



Small GTPases of the Rab and Arf families regulate membrane trafficking.

RalF and **SidM/DrrA** are effectors that activate Arf and Rab1

Normal role in ER \rightarrow Golgi traffic, But co-opted by *Legionella*

Allow modification of the Legionella compartment

TRENDS in Microbiology



Dot/ICM effectors allow avoidance of lysosomes and promote association with ER-derived vesicles by manipulation of GTPases including Rab1 and Arf

Legionella also harnesses the proteasome to obtain nutrients for growth –

- nutritional remodeling of host cells -



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Poly-Ubiquitinated proteins accumulate on the LCV – requires AnkB and DotA





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AA accumulate with Legionella growth



Proteasome inhibitors impair growth -rescue with exogenous amino acids



Exogenous AA rescue growth of AnkB mutant



Proteasome inhibitor

Science v. 334, Dec 2011

Summary

- Like T3SS, type IV secretion systems (T4SS) allow pathogenic bacteria to introduce effector proteins into to host cells that alter cell function and are required for bacterial growth and survival.
- Legionella is engulfed via an unusual coiling mechanism, and the new LCV avoids interactions with the endo/lyso pathway in a T4SS-dependent manner that requires the effector DotA.
- Additional effectors allow the LCV to intercept vesicles from the early secretory pathway via effects on Rab1, Sec22 and ARF, and bacteria replicate in an RER-like vacuole.
- Still other effectors allow *Legionella* to harness the proteasome to acquire amino acids that support bacterial growth.
- Now back to Dan....