

Title:

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A propos of a new case of shigellosis by a non-imported multiresistant strain

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Dear Editor,

The most common etiologic agents amongst infectious gastroenteritis in our setting include

Campylobacter and Salmonella (1). Furthermore, enteritis by multi-resistant bacteria are

increasingly uncommon in our milieu (2,3). The presence of Shigella strains with extended

spectrum β-lactamases in Europe has been reported among refugee populations in Greece and

Eastern Europe. In Spain, an autochthonous case of S. sonnei (4) was reported in 2011 and an

additional imported case has been recently described (5). We herein report the first case of

shigellosis by multi-resistant S. flexneri in a patient with no recent history of travelling to exotic

countries.

Case report

The case was a 29-year-old male from Honduras who had last visited his homeland 12 months

earlier, with no other trips abroad ever since. He visited the Emergency Room due to watery,

bloody stools over seven times a day, continuous mesogastric abdominal pain refractory to

conventional painkillers and dysthermia with chills and malaise for less than 24 hours, after eating

spoiled chicken. The body temperature was 37.3 °C. Abdominal tenderness was found on

palpation in the mesogastrium, right hypochondrium and left iliac fossa, which were in association

with increased bowel sounds. Emergency blood tests revealed C-reactive protein at 133 mg/l, mild

hyponatremia (131 mEq/l) and mild hypokalemia (3.1 meq/l). He was discharged with empiric



antibiotic therapy (metronidazole 500 mg/8 h for seven days and azithromycin 500 mg/24 h for six days) due to his clinical stability and good oral tolerance. The symptoms resolved within a few days and follow-up after three weeks revealed a clinical improvement and a return to normal of ions and CRP. Microbiology testing for enteritis were negative, except for CTX-M-15-producing *S. flexneri*, which had *in-vitro* resistance cephalosporins (up to fourth generation compounds), ciprofloxacin and cotrimoxazole. Fosfomycin minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was 0.25 mg/l.

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