

Table of Contents

<u>Chapter</u>	Description	<u>Page</u>
1	Introduction	1
1.1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	1
1.2	Staphylococcus aureus iron acquisition mechanism.....	3
1.3	Iron limitation and protection from bacterial infections.....	4
1.4	Metal-dependent regulation.....	6
1.5	Haptoglobin Synthesis and Structure.....	7
1.6	Other Haptoglobin structures.....	9
1.7	Haptoglobin-Related Gene (Hpr).....	10
1.8	Hp0 Phenotype.....	11
1.9	Hemoglobin Structure and Function.....	13
1.10	Hemoglobin-Haptoglobin Binding.....	14
1.11	Geographic Distribution of Haptoglobin Alleles.....	16
1.12	Haptoglobin Functions.....	21
1.12.1	Haptoglobin-Hemoglobin binding and renal failure protection.....	22
1.12.2	Reduction of free toxic radicals	23
1.12.3	Nitric Oxide inhibition.....	24
1.12.4	Hp phenotypes effects on immune system.....	25
1.12.5	Angiogenesis.....	26
1.13	Haptoglobin phenotyping.....	27
1.14	Association of Hp Polymorphism with diseases	28
1.15	Objectives and Specific Aims.....	35
2	Materials and Methods.....	36
2.1	Sample collection and samples information.....	36
2.1.1	Nasal swabs and processing.....	36
2.1.2	Blood samples	36
2.2	Starch Gel Electrophoresis of Haptoglobin.....	37
2.3	Methods.....	38
2.3.1	Preparation of Starch Gels.....	38
2.3.2	Preparation of Hemolyzed Red Blood Cell Suspension.....	39
2.3.3	Hemoglobin-Haptoglobin Complex Formation.....	39
2.3.4	Electrophoresis.....	40
2.3.5	AEC Immuno Peroxidase Staining.....	41
2.4	Allele Frequency Calculation.....	43
2.5	Statistical Analysis.....	43
3	Results	44
3.1	Staphylococcus aureus nasal carriage rate.....	44
3.2	Haptoglobin polymorphism among cases and control.....	45
3.3	Allele Frequency of Haptoglobin.....	49
4	Discussion.....	50
4.1	Prevalence of <i>S. aureus</i> nasal carriage among study population.....	50
4.2	Haptoglobin phenotypes in nasal carriage of <i>S. aureus</i>	51
4.3	Allele frequency.....	53
	Recommendations	55
	References.....	56