DNA FINGERPRINT ANALYSIS OF DRUG RESISTANT MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS STRAINS ISOLATED IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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SUMMARY

DNA fingerprints were established in 12 drug resistant and 12 susceptible \textit{M. tuberculosis} strains collected from patients residing in Prague, Czech Republic. The Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) technique was based on the detection of the insertion sequence \textit{IS6110} in \textit{Pvu}I digested chromosomal DNA. All investigated strains possessed at least 5 copies of \textit{IS6110} ranging from 5 to 15 copies in the drug resistant isolates and 5 to 11 copies in susceptible isolates. Three multidrug resistant strains displayed identical fingerprints (6 bands), and two strains resistant to pyrazinamide had the same banding pattern (12 bands). The remaining isolates differed either in number or location of the \textit{IS6110} copies. Thorough epidemiological analysis did not furnish proof of direct contact among these patients.

Key words: Mycobacterium tuberculosis, restriction fragment polymorphism, RFLP, DNA fingerprinting, resistance to anti-tuberculosis drugs

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