

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00505621

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DVSc, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-02-08 09:21

Reviewer performed review: 2020-02-09 09:58

Review time: 1 Day

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	[Y] Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		[] Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection		[] Advanced
				[Y] General
				[] No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:
				[] Yes
				[Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Schwan et al. tried to determine if uropathogenic *E. coli* (UPEC) grown in an acidic pH environment affected *fliC* transcription and whether *GadE* regulated that transcription, they found that transcription of *fliC* fell when the *E. coli* carrying the *fliC-lacZ* fusion was grown in an acidic pH/high osmolarity environment, and derepressed in an UPEC *gadE* mutant strain grown under acidic conditions compared to wild-type bacteria. The paper is helpful for readers to understand the role of flagella in UPEC infection. It can be accepted after a minor revision. Major comments: 1. The paper focused on *fliC* expression of UPEC in different pHs and/or osmolarities, the prevalence of *fliC* in UPEC strains reported elsewhere should be introduced in the part of "Introduction". For example, De Souza et al. stated that 95% and 84% *fliC* positive rates were found in UPEC isolated from nosocomial and community samples collected in Brazil, respectively (De Souza et al. *Infection and Drug Resistance*, 2019, 12:3595–3606). However, Zhao et al. reported that only 16% *fliC* presented in UPEC from humans with community-acquired UTIs, originating from Jiangsu province and Anhui province in eastern China (Zhao et al. *Microbiology*, 2009, 155:1634–1644). Authors might cite these references in order to outline the approximate prevalence of *fliC* in UPEC strains. 2. In this study, β -galactosidase assays were employed to determine the *fliC* expression in the *E. coli* carrying the *fliC-lacZ* fusion (such as DH5 α /pNK2-29, EK227/pNK2-29). Is it possible to detect *fliC* expression in different pHs and/or osmolarities in an UPEC strain, for example, NU149? Since neither DH5 α nor EK227 was UPEC strain, author might discuss about this concern. Minor comments: 1. Line 79, square bracket [4-7] was not complete. 2. Lines 161 and 171, the phrase "were use" should be checked. 3. Line 518, "c" should be "d".



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INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00503062

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DDS, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: Le Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-02-16 01:33

Reviewer performed review: 2020-02-17 09:10

Review time: 1 Day and 7 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection		<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
				<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The results are clear and interesting. The manuscript is basically well written. There are some questions. Authors examined the effect of a gadE mutant of uropathogenic E. coli clinical isolate NU149 on the bacteria motility. Were the similar results obtained with a gadE mutant of E. coli K-12 strain EF1007? What is the meaning to examine two E.coli K-12 strains, MC4100 and EK227? Are there reports to show the relation between overexpression of GadE and the pathogenicity of uropathogenic E.coli? Minor comments. Page 3, line 67. "to wild-type bacteria" should be "to that in wild-type bacteria under the same conditions". Page 6, lines 133, 135, 137, 141, 143. Use one style for USA or United States. Page 6, lines 132, 143. Describe kit names. Page 10, lines 196, 200. "affected" reads "affects" or "affect". Page 11, line 209. "to the E. coli population" should be "to that in E.coli". Page 11, line 224. "93 Miller units" should be "295 Miller units", shouldn't it? Page 14, line 287. "gadE promoter" should be "fliC promoter", shouldn't it?

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication



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[] Plagiarism

[Y] No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00506525

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Research Associate

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Mexico

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: Le Zhang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-02-15 18:40

Reviewer performed review: 2020-02-19 17:49

Review time: 3 Days and 23 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	RE-REVIEW	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision		Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection		<input type="checkbox"/> General
				<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
				Conflicts-of-Interest:
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Update the references, the most recent is from 2018.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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BPG Search:

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- ☐ No

RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00506525

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc, PhD

Professional title: Doctor, Research Associate

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Mexico

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Qiao Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-30 16:11

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-31 03:02

Review time: 10 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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Review the list of references, as most are double numbered, both in the list and in the text.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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BPG Search:

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RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00503062

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DDS, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Qiao Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-03-30 07:28

Reviewer performed review: 2020-03-31 05:42

Review time: 22 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS



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I checked the revised version of the manuscript. The revision is still incomplete. Authors should revise the manuscript carefully according to reviewers' comments. And submit only complete revised version of the manuscript, not the manuscript with the change history! Reply to Reviewer #1 comments: Authors stated that "We noted in the discussion that both the K-12 and UPEC strains behave in similar manners in both the fliC transcription and motility analyses." Where in Discussion section did authors add the description? Show the position. Reply to Reviewer#2 comments 1. Table 5 shows only the results with UPEC strain NU149. In the reply, authors stated that results of bacteria motility with E.coli K-12 strain, the gadE mutant, and the complemented gadE mutant are similar to the results with UPEC strain NU149. Describe the results with K-12 strain briefly in Results section. 2. Kit names are not corrected (Line 136). The word "commercial" should be removed (Line 147). 3. Line 205. "affected" should be "affect". 4. Line 230. Correct "93? Miller units".

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
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RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

Manuscript NO: 54579

Title: GadE regulates fliC gene transcription and motility in Escherichia coli

Reviewer's code: 00505621

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DVSc, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: China

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-02-07

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Qiao Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2020-04-01 04:02

Reviewer performed review: 2020-04-01 09:23

Review time: 5 Hours

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Schwan et al. tried to determine if uropathogenic *E. coli* (UPEC) grown in an acidic pH environment affected *fliC* transcription and whether *GadE* regulated that transcription, they found that transcription of *fliC* fell when the *E. coli* carrying the *fliC-lacZ* fusion was grown in an acidic pH/high osmolarity environment, and derepressed in an UPEC *gadE* mutant strain grown under acidic conditions compared to wild-type bacteria. The paper is helpful for readers to understand the role of flagella in UPEC infection. After a revision, the authors have placed both my major and minor comments. A specific comment is following: 1. In the line 88 of page 4, the reference No. should be [13] other than [12] while in the line 89, the reference No. should be [12] other than [13] based on the references list between lines 405 and 412 in page 21, so the order of references 12 and 13 in the in page 21 should be switched.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

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- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No