

Prevalence of *Arcobacter* spp on chicken meat at retail markets and in farm chickens in Selangor, Malaysia.

ABSTRACT

The occurrence of *Arcobacter* was determined in chicken meat parts (thighs, wings, breasts) purchased from various wet markets (fresh warm meat) and supermarkets (chilled meat) in Selangor, Malaysia. Forty eight of the 123 (39%) of chicken meat parts was *Arcobacter*-positive with *Arcobacter butzleri* as the only species isolated. The fresh warm meat (41%) showed higher occurrence of *arcobacters* than those chilled (37%), however the difference was not statistically significant ($\chi^2 = 0.2$; $p = 0.655$). A farm-level study was also conducted in broiler chickens from six farms but the bacteria were not detected in any of the 210 cloacal swabs collected. Thus, the presence of *arcobacters* on chicken meat retailed in markets may render such meat a significant public health risk for humans.

Keyword: *Arcobacter* spp; Chicken meats; Farm chickens; Malaysia.