

Carriage of *Campylobacter* spp. and *Salmonella* spp. by House Flies

Choo Li Chen & ¹Saleha Abdul Aziz

¹Department of Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Abstract

Sixty samples consisting of three house flies in each, were collected around a large animal ward of University Veterinary Hospital (UVH) UPM, a cafeteria and a poultry farm. Twenty samples were collected from each site. The external surface and internal content of each sample were examined for *Campylobacter* spp. and *Salmonella* spp. All samples were cultured for *Campylobacter* spp. via direct plating on CCDA. Three samples (2.5%) were positive for *Campylobacter* spp. Pre-enrichment, enrichment and direct plating on XLT4 agar were done for isolation of *Salmonella* spp. from the house flies. Ten samples were positive for *Salmonella* spp. Isolation of *Salmonella* spp. from all three sites suggested that the areas were contaminated with *Salmonella* spp. It is possible that the flies could have picked *Salmonella* spp. from other places around the campus. This study showed that house flies could carry both *Campylobacter* spp. and *Salmonella* spp. internally and externally. The flies could readily contaminate the environment with their droppings or come in direct contact with food or feed. It is advisable that the population of house flies must be controlled by proper manure management, sanitation and clean lifestyle.

Keywords: house flies, carriage, *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*.