UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

STRUCTURAL GENE CHARACTERIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF REAL-TIME PCR DETECTION METHOD FOR INFECTIOUS BRONCHITIS VIRUS

ZARIRAH MOHAMED ZULPERI

FPV 2008 7
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MASTER OF SCIENCE
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA,
2008
STRUCTURAL GENE CHARACTERIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
REAL-TIME PCR DETECTION METHOD FOR
INFECTION BRONCHITIS VIRUS

ZARIRAH MOHAMED ZULPERI

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,
in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Science

August 2008
Dedicated to

My lovely dad and mum,
Mr. Mohamed Zulperi Zakaria and Mrs. Samirah Ismail

My beautiful sis,
Ms. Dzarifah Mohamed Zulperi

And to all my wonderful families and friends

Thank you very much; you all are the light of my life
Infectious bronchitis virus (IBV) causes an acute, highly contagious disease that associated with significant economical losses to the poultry industry worldwide. Since IB vaccine induced immunity is serotype-specific, vaccine failures are often associated with the emergence of antigenic variants that differ from the vaccine viruses. Hence, structural genes characterization of IBV isolates is required for developing strategies to improve currently used vaccines. This study described the sequence analysis of structural genes S1, S2, M and N of two Malaysian IBV strains, MH5365/95 and V9/04. The structural genes were amplified using gene-specific primers in reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and cloned into TOPO TA cloning vector. The cloned products were then sequenced and complete nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the genes were determined and analyzed using bioinformatics tools. Nucleotide sequence alignments revealed many point mutations, short deletions and insertions in S1 region of both IBV strains. Sequence and phylogenetic analysis of S1 and M genes
showed that MH5365/95 and V9/04 are variant strain since it does not relate to any Massachusetts vaccine strains of IBV. Analysis based on other structural genes (S2, M and N), indicated both strains are highly related to each other and there were less mutation occurred in the respective genes.

A one step real-time PCR procedure using SYBR Green I dye was used in this study. The developed PCR was performed using a pair of newly designed primers against N gene. Amplification was detected when primer was used with vaccine strains, H120, Volvac® ND+IB MLV, Cevac® BI L, Poulvac® IB H-120, Cevac® Bron 120 L, Beaudette and M4 and non-vaccine strains, T-strain, MH5365/95 and V9/04 with T<sub>M</sub> ranging from 85.2°C to 86.0°C. The sensitivity of the assay was compared to the conventional method for IBV detection, virus isolation test using 18 clinical samples from IB suspected cases. Six out of 18 suspected IB cases were positive when analyzed using the real-time PCR assay while none of the samples showed consistent results through lesion observation when analyzed using the virus isolation method followed by HA test. Therefore, the SYBR Green I real-time PCR was found to be more sensitive than virus isolation method. In addition, it was found the assay could detect up to 1:10<sup>3</sup> dilution of RNA with the concentration 1X 10<sup>-1</sup> ng/µl. The assay was also proven to be specific in IBV detection since no specific amplification signal was detected when tested avian viruses such as AIV H9N2, IBDV isolate MB067/05 and NDV isolate 00/IKS. Therefore, the study has successfully developed a rapid, sensitive and specific method for IBV detection using SYBR Green I based real-time PCR when compared to virus isolation and HA test. However, further experiment for improvement of the assay is needed to evaluate the reliability of the system in order to replace the traditional diagnostic method for IBV detection.
Penyakit virus bronkitis (IB) menyebabkan penyakit berjangkit yang kronik dan ia menyebabkan kerugian yang besar dalam industri penternakan ayam di seluruh dunia. Oleh sebab vaksin yang terdapat pada masa kini adalah terhad kepada sesetengah serotip, kebanyakan kes kegagalan vaksin IB adalah disebabkan wujudnya serotip IB baharu yang berlainan dengan vaksin IB yang terdapat di pasaran. Oleh itu, kajian terhadap penstrukturan gen virus IB adalah penting untuk menyusun, membangun dan memperbaiki strategi dalam penggunaan dan penyediaan vaksin IB. Dalam kajian ini, gen struktur S1, S2, M dan N bagi dua isolat IB dari Malaysia, MH5365/95 dan V9/04 telah dianalisis. Gen struktur tersebut telah diamplifikasi menggunakan pencetus yang spesifik dalam tindak balas berantai polimerase (PCR) transkriptase berbalik dan hasil PCR telah diklon ke dalam vektor TOPO TA. Klon tersebut disahkan melalui analisis penjujukan nukleotida dan asid amino menggunakan perisian bioinformatik. Didapati, jujukan nukleotida pada gen S1 bagi isolat MH5365/95 dan V9/04 mempunyai banyak
mutasi titik, mutasi pendek dan penambahan nukleotida. Analisis filogenetik bagi gen struktur S1 dan M menunjukkan isolat MH5365/95 dan V9/04 adalah strain varian kerana tidak mempunyai persamaan dengan vaksin IBV strain Massachusetts. Analisis gen struktur yang lain (S2, M dan N) menunjukkan terdapat persamaan di antara kedua-dua isolat dan hanya sedikit proses mutasi yang berlaku di dalam gen tersebut.

PCR masa nyata (real-time PCR) menggunakan pewarna SYBR Green I telah digunakan dalam kajian ini. PCR masa nyata yang dibangunkan ini menggunakan sepasang pencetus baru yang direka berdasarkan kepada gen N. Amplifikasi telah dike Spawn apabila pencetus tersebut diuji dengan strain vaksin, H120, Volvac® ND+IB MLV, Cevac® BI L, Poulvac® IB H-120, Cevac® Bron 120 L, Beaudette dan M41 dan strain bukan vaksin, T-strain, MH5365/95 dan V9/04 dengan T_M pada suhu di antara 85.2°C sehingga 86.0°C. Perbandingan sensitiviti asai tersebut telah dijalankan dengan menggunakan kaedah tradisional untuk mengesan IB iaitu kaedah pengasingan virus melalui ujian sampel klinikal yang disyaki positif IB. Daripada eksperimen tersebut, enam daripada lapan belas sampel klinikal tersebut didapati positif IB apabila kaedah PCR masa nyata digunakan tetapi keputusan adalah tidak konsisten apabila analisis menggunakan kaedah pengasingan virus diikuti dengan ujian HA. Oleh itu, asai PCR masa nyata didapati adalah lebih sensitif berbanding kaedah pengasingan virus. Di samping itu, PCR masa nyata didapati dapat mengesan virus sehingga \(10^{-3}\) pencairan RNA iaitu bersamaan dengan \(1\times10^{-1}\) ng/\(\mu l\) RNA. Ia juga adalah spesifik terhadap virus IB kerana tiada amplifikasi dapat dike Spawn apabila diuji menggunakan virus unggas yang lain seperti AIV H9N2, IBDV isolat MB067/05 dan NDV isolat 00/IKS. Oleh yang demikian, kaedah PCR masa nyata menggunakan pewarna SYBR Green I adalah sensitif, spesifik, cepat dan mudah bagi mengesan IBV apabila dibandingkan dengan kaedah pengasingan virus.
dan ujian HA. Walau bagaimanapun, kajian lanjutan diperlukan untuk menguji tahap keberkesanan asai ini sebelum ia dapat menggantikan kaedah diagnosis tradisional dalam pengesanan virus IB.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my heartiest gratitude and appreciation to Associate Professor Dr. Abdul Rahman Omar, Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for providing invaluable advice and support in this Master research. I also would like to express my sincere thanks to Associate Professor Dr. Siti Suri Arshad, member of the Supervisory Committee for the constructive suggestions, proper guidance and encouragement throughout my study.

My special thanks dedicate to my lovely parents, Mr. Mohamed Zulperi Zakaria and Mrs. Samirah Ismail and sis, Dzarifah Mohamed Zulperi for their love, supports and having faith in me.

It has been a great experience and a joy working with my colleagues in the Biologics Laboratory. Thanks to the staff and lab mates of Biologics Laboratory especially Siti Khatijah, Sheau Wei, Lih Ling, Wan Keng Fei, Hazalina, Nurulfiza, Tan Ching Giap and Hidayah who has helped me to complete this study. My heartiest appreciation also goes to my best friends, Murni Marlina and Ina Salwany for their invaluable friendship and love. Also, thanks to all my friends for always give their full support on my interest.

Finally, I would like to thank Allah for His spiritual guidance and for blessing me with all those wonderful people mentioned above. This Master thesis would not have come true had it not been for the love and blessing from Him.
I certify that an Examination Committee has met on 27th August 2008 to conduct the final examination of Zarirah binti Mohamed Zulperi on her Master of Science thesis entitled “Structural Gene Characterization and Development of Real-Time PCR Detection Method for Infectious Bronchitis Virus” in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the degree of Master of Science.

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Date: 13 November 2008
DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotation and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.

ZARIRAH MOHAMED ZULPERI
Date: 22 September 2008
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<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>°C</td>
<td>degree celcius</td>
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<tr>
<td>µg</td>
<td>microgram</td>
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<tr>
<td>µl</td>
<td>microliter</td>
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<td>µM</td>
<td>micromolar</td>
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<td>µm</td>
<td>micronmeter</td>
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<td>AGPT</td>
<td>agar gel precipitin test</td>
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<td>AMV</td>
<td>avian myeloblastosis virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>bp</td>
<td>base pair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAM</td>
<td>chloroallantoic membrane</td>
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<tr>
<td>cDNA</td>
<td>copied DNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEK</td>
<td>chicken embryo kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cRNA</td>
<td>copied RNA</td>
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<td>C&lt;sub&gt;T&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>threshold cycle</td>
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