Staphylococcus aureus isolates from healthy individuals from Concordia University St. Paul

Introduction

- Collected 1,632 nasal swabs over the past 5 years in an attempt to characterize nasal isolates of Staphylococcus aureus from healthy individuals
- 1,407 nasal swabs processed, with 371 characterized as S. aureus
- 26.4% Carriage Rate
- Current study is to characterize toxin production of S. aureus isolates

Methods

- Make Template DNA Stocks from 12 S. aureus isolates
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)
  - Colony PCR based on DNA primers to get DNA from the 12 S. aureus isolates
- DNA Gel Electrophoresis
  - GelGreen Gel Imager

Results

- Tested 12 S. aureus isolates for toxins:
  - Alpha Toxin
  - Staphylococcus Enterotoxin A
  - Toxic Shock Syndrome Toxin-1 (TSST-1)
- All 12 S. aureus isolates tested positive for alpha toxin and SEA toxin
- Only 2 isolates tested positive for TSST-1

Acknowledgements & References

Special thanks to Dr. Patrick Schlievert (University of Iowa) for helpful conversations. This research was partially funded by eight CSP Faculty Development Grants. This work has IRB approval from CSP (studies 2016_42 & 2018_37).