

resistance) when compared to non-ST131 isolates (50.9% resistance). When overall antimicrobial resistance scores were compared, ST131 clade C showed a significantly higher level of resistance (mean = 10) compared to non-ST131 isolates (mean = 5) ($p = 0.0001$). ST131 clade C isolates did not exhibit an increased ability to produce biofilm, as determined by the Congo red binding assay. High occurrences of ST131 clade C and increased resistance to fluoroquinolones and extended-spectrum cephalosporins in ST131-clade C were evident from the study. The recently identified ST131-C1-M27 clone is also present in Sri Lanka. Further studies are warranted to determine the distribution of ST131 and its subclades in other regions of the country.

Keywords: E.coli, ST131, Clades

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