

Table of Content

Acknowledgement	i
List of Abbreviations	v
List of Tables	vi
List of Figures	vii
ABSTRACT	1
CHAPTER 1: Introduction and Review of literature	5
1.1 <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	6
1.2 What is biofilm?	6
1.3 <i>P. aeruginosa</i> biofilm and pathogenesis	7
1.4 Antibiotic resistance mechanism in <i>P. aeruginosa</i> biofilm	11
1.4.1 Persister cell formation in <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	13
1.4.2 Biofilm resistance in <i>P. aeruginosa</i> biofilm:	19
CHAPTER 2: Rationale and Objectives	22
CHAPTER 3: Collection, isolation, and identification of clinical isolates of UTI pathogenic <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	25
3.1 Introduction	26
3.2 Materials and Methods	27
3.2.1 Collection of isolates	27
3.2.2 Isolation and Identification	27
3.2.3 Gram staining	27
3.2.4 16S rRNA gene amplification and analysis	27
3.3 Results	30
3.3.1 Isolation and identification	30
3.3.2 16S rRNA gene amplification and analysis	32
3.4 Discussion	37
CHAPTER 4: Characterization of biofilm components	39
4.1 Introduction:	40
4.2 Materials and Methods	42

4.2.1	Biofilm assay.....	42
4.2.2	Growth curve.....	42
4.2.3	In vitro biofilm quantification on catheters.....	42
4.2.4	Field Emission Gun Scanning Electron Microscope (FEG-SEM).....	43
4.2.5	Light microscopy	43
4.2.6	Twitching motility.....	43
4.2.7	Gene Expression analysis.....	43
4.2.8	Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM).....	47
4.2.9	Quantification of biofilm matrix components.....	47
4.2.10	Enzymatic digestion of biofilm.....	49
4.2.11	Addition of eDNA and extracellular protein in biofilm.....	49
4.2.12	Statistical analysis	50
4.3	Results	51
4.3.1	Biofilm categorization of UTI isolates of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	51
4.3.2	Biofilm quantification on catheters.....	51
4.3.3	FEG-SEM of biofilm on catheters	54
4.3.4	Adhesion assay.....	55
4.3.5	Twitching motility.....	55
4.3.6	CLSM of biofilm.....	56
4.3.7	Components of biofilm	59
4.3.8	Effect of exogenous treatments (enzymes, eDNA, proteins) on biofilm formation 60	
4.4	Discussion.....	62
CHAPTER 5: Antibiotic resistance in biofilm.....		68
5.1	Introduction.....	69
5.2	Materials and Methods.....	71
5.2.1	Bacterial strains, growth conditions, and antibiotics used for the study.....	71
5.2.2	Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) determination.....	71
5.2.3	Planktonic persister assay	72
5.2.4	Cellular Redox activity in the planktonic stage	72
5.2.5	Fluorescence microscopy	72
5.2.6	Gene expression in the planktonic stage	73
5.2.7	Biofilm Model:.....	76
5.2.8	Biofilm quantification	76
5.2.9	Biofilm Time kill-curve assay.....	77
5.2.10	Cellular Redox activity in the biofilm stage	77

5.2.11	Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy of Biofilm	77
5.2.12	The gene expression in the biofilm stage.....	78
5.2.13	Whole genome sequence analysis.....	78
5.2.14	Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC) determination.....	79
5.2.15	Biofilm formation and quantification assay:.....	79
5.2.16	Biofilm antibiotic susceptibility testing	79
5.2.17	Pyocyanin quantification.....	79
5.2.18	Quantitative RT-PCR (qRT-PCR)	80
5.2.19	Statistical analysis	82
5.3	Results	83
5.3.1	MIC determination for <i>P. aeruginosa</i> isolates.....	83
5.3.2	Formation of PCs during the planktonic stage.....	83
5.3.3	Redox activity in planktonic stage	85
5.3.4	Fluorescent Microscopy of persisters in planktonic stage	87
5.3.5	Expression of stringent response and TA system in the planktonic stage	89
5.3.6	Formation of PCs during the biofilm stage.....	91
5.3.7	Redox activity in biofilm stage	93
5.3.8	CLSM of persisters in biofilm stage	93
5.3.9	Expression of stringent response and TA system in the biofilm stage	96
5.3.10	Whole genome sequence analysis.....	98
5.3.11	MIC determination.....	101
5.3.12	Biofilm quantification.....	101
5.3.13	Biofilm antibiotic susceptibility testing	102
5.3.14	Pyocyanin quantification.....	103
5.3.15	Gene expression of biofilm-mediated antibiotic resistance genes	104
5.4	Discussion.....	106
	SUMMARY	113
	CONCLUSION.....	120
	APPENDICES.....	123
	REFERENCES.....	126
	PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS	157