Hemolysis in *E. coli* O104:H4 Infection

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Sir, the present outbreak of *Escherichia coli* serotype O104: H4 in Europe is an important new emerging infection [1, 2]. In addition to enteric pathology, the present infection also significantly induces the hemolysis. Indeed, some kinds of *E. coli*, especially for O157 can result in hemolysis and usually accompanied with renal disorder forming the specific syndrome called hemolytic-uremic syndrome [3]. Focusing on the first report *E. coli* O104: H4 infection by Bae et al., the hemolytic blood picture could be seen [4]. Nevertheless, several cases in present outbreak also present hemolysis. This reflects the possibility to induce hemolysis of this specific kind of *E. coli* that is similar to that of well-known *E. coli* O157. Nevertheless, there are still many remain questions to be answer on the hemolysis in *E. coli* O104: H4 infection including

(a) the ultrastructure of the *E. coli* O104: H4 and relationship to hemolysis and (b) the clinical and treatment of this condition.

References

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