Molecular Detection of Enterotoxin A in Clinical Isolates of *Staphylococcus aureus* UFPEDA.

Ferreira, E. P.[1], Silva, W. J. L.[1], Vasconcelos, N. M.[1], Santana, R. C. F.[1], Silva- Lacerda, G. R.[1], Araujo, J. M.[1], Lima, G. M. S.[1]

[1] UFPE – Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (Av. Professor Morais Rego, 1235 Cidade Universitária - 50670-901-Recife – PE)

Staphylococcus aureus is a versatile and opportunistic pathogen that is part of the normal flora of the skin and mucous of mammals and birds. *S. aureus* can cause a variety of infections, and these attributes is the ability to cause toxic effects by producing enterotoxins (SEs). Given the above, this study aimed to identify the enterotoxin A gene (*sea*), the species of S. aureus from clinical and belonging to the Collection of Microorganisms UFPEDA isolates. 16 samples were analysed from clinical isolates of public hospital in the city of Recife-PE. Originally, the isolates were identified through phenotypic characterization and microscopic examination (Gram), biochemical characterizations (catalase and mannitol) and subsequent confirmation of the species by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), to search the coagulase gene (*coa*). Of these isolates, 75% (12) were identified as *S. aureus* and 25% (4) as coagulase negative *Staphylococcus* spp. After that was performed the research of enterotoxin A gene (sea) and was shown that 83.33% are positive for the the gene *sea*. In view of the results obtained confirm how important is the use of a sensitive and rapid technique such as molecular PCR compared to the classical methodology for the identification of strains of *S. aureus* and presence of enterotoxins.

Key words: Coagulase, enterotoxins*, Staphylococcus aureus.*