



# Complete Genome Sequences of Three *Lactobacillus crispatus* Strains Isolated from the Urine of Postmenopausal Women

Neha V. Hulyalkar,<sup>a</sup> Belle M. Sharon,<sup>a</sup> Braden M. Shipman,<sup>a</sup> Amanda P. Arute,<sup>a</sup> Philippe E. Zimmern,<sup>b</sup>  Nicole J. De Nisco<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas, USA

<sup>b</sup>Department of Urology, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, USA

**ABSTRACT** *Lactobacillus crispatus* frequently colonizes the vagina and bladder of healthy women. Although its association with vaginal health is relatively well understood, little is known about its role in urinary tract infection (UTI). Here, we report the complete genome sequences of three urinary *L. crispatus* strains isolated from women with different UTI histories.

Lactobacilli are the most abundant members of the urinary microbiomes of healthy women; however, their role in maintaining bladder health is poorly understood (1–5). In the vagina, lactobacilli provide colonization resistance by maintaining an acidic pH and secreting antimicrobial compounds (5, 6). Urinary lactobacilli may act similarly to resist uropathogen colonization during urinary tract infection (UTI) (1, 7).

Although *Lactobacillus crispatus* is frequently found in the urinary microbiome, before this work only 11 complete genome sequences were available in the NCBI database. Furthermore, no complete genome sequences of *L. crispatus* isolated from urine were available. Complete urinary *L. crispatus* genome sequences will enable analyses of the genetic factors mediating adaptation to the bladder, especially mobile genetic elements. Here, we report the complete genome sequences of three *L. crispatus* strains isolated from the urine of three postmenopausal women who either had no clinical history of UTI or had a history of recurrent UTI (rUTI) but were not experiencing UTI at the time (Table 1), as part of an institutional review board-approved study (STU 032016-006 and MR 17-120).

Clean-catch midstream urine was obtained, plated onto De Man, Rogosa, and Sharpe (MRS) agar, and incubated for 3 days at 35°C in a microaerophilic atmosphere using the GasPak EZ Campy pouch system (BD). Species identification was performed by Sanger sequencing of the 16S rRNA gene and MegaBLAST (BLAST v2.10.0) (8). Well-isolated colonies were cultured in MRS broth for 3 days in a microaerophilic atmosphere at 35°C. Genomic DNA was extracted using the DNeasy blood and tissue kit (Qiagen) and purity analyzed using the 260/280 nm absorbance ratio and agarose gel electrophoresis (8).

The Nextera DNA Flex library prep kit was used for Illumina library preparation, and the NextSeq 500 was used to generate 2 × 150 bp paired-end reads. CLC Genomics Workbench v12.0.3 was used for Illumina read quality assessment and trimming, preserving reads with a Phred score below 20 and a minimum length of 15 bp.

Oxford Nanopore libraries were constructed using the ligation sequencing kit (SQK-LSK109) and barcode expansion kit 1-12 (EXP-NBD104) and sequenced on the MinION platform using R9 FLO-MIN106 flow cells. ONT MinKNOW software was used for live fast base calling, demultiplexing, and barcode trimming. NanoStats v1.2.0 and NanoFilt v2.6.0 were used for quality assessment and trimming, respectively, retaining reads of >200 bp with a Phred score of >7 (9).

Unicycler v0.4.8 (SPAdes v3.13.0, Racon v1.4.10, and Pilon v1.23) was used for hybrid assembly of the Illumina and ONT reads (10–14). Unicycler's default mode generated closed assemblies for Lc1226\_C128 and Lc1700\_C167, whereas bold mode was required for

**Editor** Catherine Putonti, Loyola University Chicago

**Copyright** © 2021 Hulyalkar et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Address correspondence to Nicole J. De Nisco, nicole.denisco@utdallas.edu.

**Received** 13 October 2021

**Accepted** 8 November 2021

**Published** 2 December 2021

**TABLE 1** Accession numbers, assembly parameters, and isolate characteristics of three *Lactobacillus crispatus* isolates from postmenopausal women with different UTI histories

Strain	Host health state	BioSample accession no.	SRA accession no. <sup>a</sup>	No. of raw reads	No. of trimmed reads	Read N <sub>50</sub> (bp)	Read depth (x)	GenBank accession no.	Type of contig (circular)	Total length (bp)	GC content (%)	No. of CDs <sup>b</sup>
Lc116_C48	History of rUTI	<a href="#">SAMN21367957</a>	<a href="#">SRR15987647</a> (O)	260,487	260,038	5,427	352	<a href="#">CP083393</a>	Chromosome	2,350,925	37.2	2,304
Lc1226_C128	History of rUTI	<a href="#">SAMN21367958</a>	<a href="#">SRR16002670</a> (I)	5,740,374	5,671,944	4,789	330	<a href="#">CP083394</a>	Plasmid	96,317	37.5	89
Lc1700_C167	No UTI history	<a href="#">SAMN21367959</a>	<a href="#">SRR15987646</a> (O)	201,546	201,213	4,789	240	<a href="#">CP083392</a>	Chromosome	2,526,154	37.1	2,511
			<a href="#">SRR16002669</a> (I)	6,841,314	6,768,092	4,455	382	<a href="#">CP083389</a>	Chromosome	2,423,824	37.2	2,383
			<a href="#">SRR15987645</a> (O)	225,675	225,180	4,455	220	<a href="#">CP083390</a>	Plasmid	200,485	34.5	178
			<a href="#">SRR16002668</a> (I)	6,475,702	6,396,086	4,455	322	<a href="#">CP083391</a>	Plasmid	194,655	34.5	181

<sup>a</sup>O, ONT; I, Illumina.

<sup>b</sup>Coding sequences.

Lc116\_C48. The genomes were rotated to the start of the *dnaA* or *repA* gene, if found. QUAST v5.0.2 was used to assess the assembly quality (15). Bandage v0.8.1 and BUSCO v1 were used to determine the genome completeness using the bacteria ortholog set on the gVolante v1.2 server (16–18). The genomes were annotated using the NCBI Prokaryotic Genome Annotation Pipeline v4.11 (19, 20), while the GC content and coding sequence number were calculated using Geneious Prime v2020.0.5. All analysis parameters were default unless otherwise specified.

**Data availability.** The genome sequences are available in GenBank under BioProject accession number [PRJNA761982](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject/PRJNA761982). Table 1 displays the BioSample and SRA accession numbers for each isolate.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the Genome Center at UT Dallas for their technical support. We thank the Welch Foundation (AT-2030-20200401 to N.J.D.) and the Felecia and John Cain Distinguished Chair in Women's Health (P.E.Z.) for funding.

## REFERENCES

- Edwards VL, Smith SB, McComb EJ, Tamarelle J, Ma B, Humphrys MS, Gajer P, Gwilliam K, Schaefer AM, Lai SK, Terplan M, Mark KS, Brotman RM, Forney LJ, Bavoil PM, Ravel J, Clemente JC, Derré I, Tan M. 2019. The cervicovaginal microbiota-host interaction modulates Chlamydia trachomatis infection. *mBio* 10:e01548-19. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mBio.01548-19>.
- France MT, Mendes-Soares H, Forney LJ. 2016. Genomic comparisons of *Lactobacillus crispatus* and *Lactobacillus iners* reveal potential ecological drivers of community composition in the vagina. *Appl Environ Microbiol* 82:7063–7073. <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.02385-16>.
- Chee WJY, Chew SY, Than LTL. 2020. Vaginal microbiota and the potential of *Lactobacillus* derivatives in maintaining vaginal health. *Microb Cell Fact* 19:203. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12934-020-01464-4>.
- Zhou X, Bent SJ, Schneider MG, Davis CC, Islam MR, Forney LJ. 2004. Characterization of vaginal microbial communities in adult healthy women using cultivation-independent methods. *Microbiology (Reading)* 150:2565–2573. <https://doi.org/10.1099/mic.0.26905-0>.
- Barrons R, Tassone D. 2008. Use of *Lactobacillus* probiotics for bacterial genitourinary infections in women: a review. *Clin Ther* 30:453–468. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clinthera.2008.03.013>.
- Amabebe E, Anumba DOC. 2018. The vaginal microenvironment: the physiologic role of lactobacilli. *Front Med (Lausanne)* 5:181. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmed.2018.00181>.
- Grin PM, Kowalewska PM, Alhazzan W, Fox-Robichaud AE. 2013. *Lactobacillus* for preventing recurrent urinary tract infections in women: meta-analysis. *Can J Urol* 20:6607–6614.
- Sharon BM, Nguyen A, Arute AP, Hulyalkar NV, Nguyen VH, Zimmern PE, De Nisco NJ. 2020. Complete genome sequences of seven uropathogenic *Escherichia coli* strains isolated from postmenopausal women with recurrent urinary tract infection. *Microbiol Resour Announc* 9:e00700-20. <https://doi.org/10.1128/MRA.00700-20>.
- De Coster W, D'Hert S, Schultz DT, Cruts M, Van Broeckhoven C. 2018. NanoPack: visualizing and processing long-read sequencing data. *Bioinformatics* 34:2666–2669. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/bty149>.
- Bankevich A, Nurk S, Antipov D, Gurevich AA, Dvorkin M, Kulikov AS, Lesin VM, Nikolenko SI, Pham S, Pribelski AD, Pyshkin AV, Sirotkin AV, Vyahhi N, Tesler G, Alekseyev MA, Pevzner PA. 2012. SPAdes: a new genome assembly algorithm and its applications to single-cell sequencing. *J Comput Biol* 19:455–477. <https://doi.org/10.1089/cmb.2012.0021>.
- Vaser R, Sović I, Nagarajan N, Šikić M. 2017. Fast and accurate de novo genome assembly from long uncorrected reads. *Genome Res* 27:737–746. <https://doi.org/10.1101/gr.214270.116>.
- Walker BJ, Abeel T, Shea T, Priest M, Abouelliel A, Sakthikumar S, Cuomo CA, Zeng Q, Wortman J, Young SK, Earl AM. 2014. Pilon: an integrated tool for comprehensive microbial variant detection and genome assembly improvement. *PLoS One* 9:e112963. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0112963>.
- Wick RR, Judd LM, Gorrie CL, Holt KE. 2017. Unicycler: resolving bacterial genome assemblies from short and long sequencing reads. *PLoS Comput Biol* 13:e1005595. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1005595>.
- Sharon BM, Hulyalkar NV, Nguyen VH, Zimmern PE, Palmer KL, De Nisco NJ. 20 August 2021. Hybrid de novo genome assembly for the generation of complete genomes of urinary bacteria using short- and long-read sequencing technologies. *J Vis Exp* <https://doi.org/10.3791/62872>.
- Gurevich A, Saveliev V, Vyahhi N, Tesler G. 2013. QUAST: quality assessment tool for genome assemblies. *Bioinformatics* 29:1072–1075. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btt086>.
- Wick RR, Schultz MB, Zobel J, Holt KE. 2015. Bandage: interactive visualization of de novo genome assemblies. *Bioinformatics* 31:3350–3352. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btv383>.
- Simão FA, Waterhouse RM, Ioannidis P, Kriventseva EV, Zdobnov EM. 2015. BUSCO: assessing genome assembly and annotation completeness with single-copy orthologs. *Bioinformatics* 31:3210–3212. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btv351>.
- Nishimura O, Hara Y, Kuraku S. 2017. gVolante for standardizing completeness assessment of genome and transcriptome assemblies. *Bioinformatics* 33:3635–3637. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btx445>.
- Haft DH, DiCuccio M, Badrettdin A, Brover V, Chetvermin V, O'Neill K, Li W, Chitsaz F, Derbyshire MK, Gonzales NR, Gwadz M, Lu F, Marchler GH, Song JS, Thanki N, Yamashita RA, Zheng C, Thibaud-Nissen F, Geer LY, Marchler-Bauer A, Pruitt KD. 2018. RefSeq: an update on prokaryotic genome annotation and curation. *Nucleic Acids Res* 46:D851–D860. <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkx1068>.
- Tatusova T, DiCuccio M, Badrettdin A, Chetvermin V, Nawrocki EP, Zaslavsky L, Lomsadze A, Pruitt KD, Borodovsky M, Ostell J. 2016. NCBI Prokaryotic Genome Annotation Pipeline. *Nucleic Acids Res* 44:6614–6624. <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkw569>.