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Single nucleotide polymorphism in the cytolethal distending toxin B gene confers heterogeneity in the cytotoxicity of *A. actinomycetemcomitans*

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Running head: SNP in cytolethal distending toxin gene

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1 **ABSTRACT**

2

3           Clinical *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* produces cytolethal  
4 distending toxin (CDT) with titers varying from  $10^2$  to  $10^8$  U/mg. SNP analysis of the  
5 Cdt gene in clinical isolates identified a variation of single amino acid at residue 281 of  
6 CdtB, which significantly affected CDT toxicity by modulating chromatin degrading  
7 activity of CdtB.

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1           *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* may be one of the key pathogens in  
2 the etiology of human periodontal disease. It produces a variety of virulence factors  
3 including cytotoxic factors. We (18) and others (9) show *A. actinomycetemcomitans*  
4 Y4 produces a cytolethal distending toxin (Cdt); and this cytotoxic factor is secreted  
5 into the bacterial culture supernatant (18).

6           Cdt is a toxin produced by a wide variety of pathogenic bacteria (For recent  
7 reviews, see (4, 13, 15, 16, 19)). It inhibits the cell proliferation of cultured cells by  
8 arresting cell cycle at G2/M (17). The intoxicated cells show distension of the cell and  
9 nucleus and eventually die. Cdt is a trimer holotoxin where CdtB is the active  
10 subunit and CdtA and CdtC are a heterodimeric subunit apparatus required to deliver  
11 CdtB into the cell (6, 7). Nuclear entry of CdtB relies on the atypical nuclear  
12 localization signal (10, 12); and is essential for the cytotoxic activity (5, 12). CdtB  
13 bears structural similarity to members of the metallo-enzyme super-family including  
14 nucleases and various phosphatases (1). Mutations in amino acids in the DNase I  
15 active site residues of CdtB abolish the cytotoxic activity (2, 5). Upon entering the  
16 nucleus, CdtB appears to induce DNA double strand breaks by phosphorylation of  
17 histone H2AX (8) and re-localization of the DNA repair complex, Mre11-Rad50 (3).  
18 However, it is still unknown whether CdtB acts as a genuine DNase. The possible  
19 mode of DNA damage by CdtB may activate a checkpoint control which results in G2  
20 arrest in the intoxicated cells (13, 15, 19). Cdt may be involved in the pathogenesis of  
21 bacterial chronic infections; however, the molecular patho-physiological role of Cdt is  
22 unknown.

1                   **Identification of SNP in the *cdtB* gene of strains with elevated cytotoxic**  
2 **activity.** We previously reported 40 (89 %) of 45 *A. actinomycetemcomitans* isolated  
3 from periodontitis patients possess the *cdtABC* genes (21). The Cdt activity was found  
4 in the culture supernatant of the 40 strains; however, the titer of the toxin varied from  
5  $10^2$  U to  $10^8$  U among these strains. To determine the mechanism of the variation in  
6 the Cdt titer from the culture supernatant, we selected three isolates, 330, 1773, and  
7 2102, that show high Cdt titers ( $> 10^7$  U) (21). The concentration of the Cdt produced  
8 in the culture supernatant by these strains was compared to strain Y4, a low titer strain  
9 (ca.  $10^2$  U). Immunoblot analysis shows the concentration of Cdt from the three high  
10 titer strains were similar to strain Y4 (Data not shown). We then determined if there  
11 was a difference in the primary structure in the Cdt proteins that could account for the  
12 increased specific activity for the Cdt holotoxin. The *cdtABC* genes were amplified  
13 from the genomic DNA from the clinical strains by PCR and were directly sequenced;  
14 and compared with sequences of genes derived from strain Y4. Two amino acid  
15 substitutions resulting from two single nucleotide alterations were found in the CdtB  
16 sequence of strain 330, 1773, and 2102 where the fourth valine residue, valine4 (V4),  
17 was substituted with alanine (A, GTA→GCA) and histidine281 (H281) was substituted  
18 with arginine (R, CAT→CGT). Since the fourth V or A residue is in the signal peptide  
19 of CdtB, this substitution would not affect the Cdt activity because the signal sequence  
20 is clipped-off during the maturation and secretion process. Therefore, this indicated  
21 the mature CdtB in these strains possessed a single amino acid substitution of H281 to R  
22 that possibly accounted for the increased titer.

1           **Site-directed mutagenesis of H281 affects the holotoxin activity.** To  
2 determine the contribution of a single amino acid substitution on the Cdt activity, we  
3 performed a site-directed mutagenesis using the Y4 CdtB gene where the mutation  
4 conferred an amino acid substitution of H281 to R281. The Y4 type *cdt* locus and  
5 corresponding DNA with the mutation was cloned into the expression vector, pQE60, so  
6 that the C-terminal of CdtC was tagged with six histidine residues. The Cdt holotoxin,  
7 complex of three subunits was purified using Ni-NTA beads as described previously (14,  
8 20). Immunoblot analysis shows the amino acid substitution did not affect the protein  
9 ratio among the subunit components (not shown). The purified holotoxins were titered.  
10 Fig. 1 shows CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C had 10<sup>9</sup> times higher activity than the Y4 type, CdtAB<sup>H281</sup>C.  
11 To determine the function of the amino acid residue at position 281, we created mutants  
12 with different substitutions changing H281 to A281, K281, or D281; and purified the  
13 recombinant CdtB holotoxins. When H281 is substituted with the neutral, non-polar  
14 amino acid, A281, the holotoxin (CdtAB<sup>H281A</sup>C) lost most Cdt activity. When H281 is  
15 replaced with another basic amino acid, K, the holotoxin (CdtAB<sup>H281K</sup>C) showed a  
16 10<sup>6</sup>-fold elevated activity though it was less than CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C. When H281 is  
17 substituted with an acidic residue, D, the holotoxin (CdtAB<sup>H281D</sup>C) showed decreased  
18 activity that was less than the Y4 type. The site directed mutagenesis suggests a  
19 positively charged amino acid at position 281 in CdtB is critical for the A.  
20 *actinomycetemcomitans* Cdt activity where a single amino acid substitution from H to R  
21 (K) at position 281 in CdtB elevates the specific activity of the Cdt holotoxin.

22           We compared the cell-cycle inhibition activity of the variant Cdt holotoxins,

1 CdtAB<sup>H281A</sup>C, CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C and CdtAB<sup>H281K</sup>C to the Y4 type holotoxin. We measured  
2 the relative DNA concentration in the HeLa cells intoxicated with the various  
3 concentrations of the purified Cdt variant holotoxins. Fig. 2 shows CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C and  
4 CdtAB<sup>H281K</sup>C blocked the cell cycle at a low concentration of 6 ng/ml; whereas Y4 type  
5 holotoxin required 6 µg/ml to completely inhibit the cell cycle; and CdtAB<sup>H281A</sup>C was  
6 not able to block the cell cycle at 6 µg/ml. These results roughly agree with the  
7 cytodistending titers of the Y4 type and variant holotoxins. However it should be  
8 noted that CdtAB<sup>H281R/K</sup>C was 6-9 orders of magnitude more active than the Y4-type  
9 holotoxin in cellular distension assay whereas it was approximately only 3 orders of  
10 magnitude more active in cell cycle arresting assay. Moreover in cellular distension  
11 assay CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C was apparently stronger than CdtAB<sup>H281K</sup>C but they showed similar  
12 activities in cell cycle arresting assay. We cannot explain these discrepancies since  
13 molecular mechanism of cellular distension by Cdt treatment and its relation to cell  
14 cycle arrest by DNA double strand breaks are virtually unknown.

#### 15 **Amino acid substitution at position 281 affects CdtB-induced chromatin**

16 **degradation.** We show amino acid substitution at position 281 in CdtB affects the  
17 specific activity of Cdt holotoxin. The substitution may affect the DNase activity of  
18 the CdtB. We determined the DNase activity using the *in vitro* nuclease assay (2, 11).  
19 Fig. 3A shows the weak nuclease activity of Y4 type CdtB. CdtB<sup>H281R</sup> shows  
20 approximately 4-fold stronger activity than CdtB<sup>H281</sup>; whereas CdtB<sup>H281A</sup> had a weaker  
21 activity than the Y4 type CdtB. To determine the direct effect of the amino acid  
22 substitution at position 281, we used a CdtB-microinjection assay and compared the

1 kinetics of the nuclear entry and subsequent chromatin degradation of the variant CdtBs  
2 to that of the Y4 type. After microinjection of the purified CdtBs into the cytoplasm of  
3 HeLa cells, the injected CdtBs migrated into the nucleus within an hour as detected by  
4 immunofluorescence and started to disintegrate the chromatin DNA structure as  
5 visualized using the PI stain (Fig. 3B). Fig. 3C showed that CdtB<sup>H281R</sup> completely  
6 disintegrated the chromatin in 3 h after microinjection; whereas the Y4 type CdtB took 8  
7 h; whereas, CdtB<sup>H281A</sup> showed a much weaker activity in disintegrating the chromatin  
8 DNA. Therefore, the results suggest that amino acid substitution of CdtB at position  
9 281 may strongly affect the chromatin disintegrating activity of CdtB *in vivo*.

#### 10 **Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) analysis of the *cdtB* gene in**

#### 11 **clinically isolated strains.**

12 We investigated the SNP of the *cdtB* gene in clinically  
13 isolated strains. The *cdtB* genes amplified from the genomic DNA of clinical strains  
14 by PCR were directly sequenced. DNA sequencing identified three SNPs, two  
15 correspond to those identified in the three strains showing very high Cdt titers.  
16 Accordingly, 41 strains including the standard strain, Y4, were categorized into four  
17 types based on the SNP in the *cdtB* gene (Fig. 4). Eleven strains (26.8%) belong to  
18 type I where the CdtB sequence is the same as strain Y4 (the 281<sup>st</sup> amino acid is H).  
19 Another eleven strains (26.8%) belong to type II where the 281<sup>st</sup> amino acid of CdtB  
20 sequence is R. Eighteen strains (43.9%) belong to type III containing two amino acid  
21 substitutions in the CdtB, V4 to A and H281 to R. And one strain belongs to type IV  
22 that contains three amino acid substitutions, V4 to A, D199 to G, and H281 to R in the  
CdtB amino acid sequence. In summary, 73.2 % of the investigated A.

1 *actinomycetemcomitans* clinical strains possess a CdtB sequence with R281, and the  
2 rest 26.8 % possess a CdtB sequence with H281. Comparing this using the *HindIII*  
3 RFLP typing we performed previously (21) show the SNP type of the CdtB gene has  
4 some relation to the genomic variation in *A. actinomycetemcomitans*. Most strains of  
5 RFLP type I and II belong to SNP type I. Similarly most of RFLP type III and IV  
6 belong to SNP type II; and for the rest of the strains, the RFLP type V and VI belong to  
7 SNP type III. There was no direct relation between the SNP of the CdtB gene and the  
8 serotype of the strain (not shown). The Cdt titers of strains belonging to SNP type I  
9 are relatively low ( $>10^3$  U). In contrast, 19 strains (including 330, 1773 and 2102) out  
10 of the 29 in SNP type II or III produced higher titers ( $>10^3$  U).

11           Since CdtB induces DNA damage in the target nucleus, most of the previous  
12 functional studies have focused on the amino acids corresponding to the DNase  
13 catalytic sites, metal binding, and possible DNA binding sites. Elwell and Dreyfus (2)  
14 demonstrate mutations at H134, D212, H252, or D251 that correspond to the catalytic  
15 sites or metal binding sites where H152 and D185 were important for the *C. jejuni* Cdt  
16 activity (5). Nestic et al. show the mutations at positions R144, N201 and R117 which  
17 correspond to the DNA-contact sites of DNase I resulted in complete loss of activity  
18 (11). Although data is accumulating where several mutations in the *cdtB* gene reduce  
19 or abolish the Cdt activity, little is known about the amino acid residue(s) whose  
20 mutation elevates the Cdt activity. We show in this study that substitution of H281  
21 with R in Y4 type-CdtB significantly elevates the specific activity of Cdt holotoxin.  
22 The activity correlates with the degree of protonation of the side chain in the amino acid



1 281 suggesting a positive charge at position 281 is important for the Cdt activity. Fig.  
2 5 shows the alignment of CdtB protein sequences from various pathogenic bacteria  
3 including pathogenic *E. coli* and *Haemophilus ducreyi*. This shows all but *E. coli* CDT  
4 I of the aligned amino acid residues corresponding to position 281 in *A.*  
5 *actinomycetemcomitans* CdtB is positively charged. *A. actinomycetemcomitans* CdtB  
6 and *H. ducreyi* Cdt share 97% amino acid identity (18). Recently, the crystal structure  
7 of *H. ducreyi* Cdt was determined; and they demonstrated the structures of CdtB and  
8 DNase I are similar (11). The amino acid position at 281 of CdtB (R in *H. ducreyi*) is  
9 remote from those corresponding to essential amino acids for catalysis of DNase I and  
10 those for putative DNA binding (Supplement 2). However, H281 is exposed to the  
11 surface of the CdtB molecule. Fig. 3A shows the *in vitro* nuclease assay where amino  
12 acid substitution at position 281 of CdtB somehow affects endogenous nuclease activity  
13 although its effect is very small. The effect of amino acid substitution at 281 of CdtB  
14 on nuclease activity was much more apparent when the *in vivo* chromatin-disintegrating  
15 assay was used. There is an observed disparity in the *in vivo* and *in vitro* results (13,  
16 16). We do not understand why there is a very low *in vitro* nuclease activity in CdtB  
17 and there is a very high specific activity to induce cell cycle arrest, cell distension and  
18 chromatin degradation *in vivo*.

19 Our study suggests that the SNP partly explains the significant heterogeneity  
20 of cytotoxic activity present in the culture supernatant of *A. actinomycetemcomitans*.  
21 An epidemiological study to determine the relevance of severity of periodontitis with *A.*  
22 *actinomycetemcomitans* as the primary isolate as compared to the SNP of the CdtB gene

1 is underway.

2 Bacterial strains, plasmids and primers used in this study are listed in  
3 Supplement 1.

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2 FIGURE LEDGENDS

3  
4 **Fig. 1 Cdt activity of the purified Cdt holotoxin prepared from a recombinant *E.***  
5 ***coli* carrying Y4 type *cdt* gene (H281) and *cdt* genes with the mutated *cdtB*.**

6 HeLa cells were placed in a 96-well plate (Falcon; Becton Dickenson) at a  
7 concentration of  $2 \times 10^3$  cells at 100  $\mu$ l per well one day before the experiment.

8 The Y4 type *cdt* locus and corresponding DNA with the mutation was cloned into the  
9 expression vector, pQE60, so that the C-terminal of CdtC was tagged with six histidine

10 residues. Various Cdt holotoxins containing *cdtB* genes with H281 (Y4 type), R281

11 (H281R), A281 (H281A), K281 (H281K), D281 (H281D) were purified using Ni-NTA

12 beads as described previously (14, 20). The purified holotoxins were dialyzed against

13 PBS (NaCl 137 mM, KCl 2.7 mM, Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 8.1 mM, KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 1.5 mM, pH7.3) over

14 night, and the protein concentration was adjusted to 0.1  $\mu$ g/ $\mu$ l by BioRad protein assay

15 kit (BioRad, Hercules, CA) respectively. One hundred micro-liter of filter sterilized

16 (0.22  $\mu$ m) sample was inoculated on the HeLa cell mono-layer of the first well and

17 serially diluted 1:2 in succeeding wells (20). Morphological changes were monitored

18 using phase contrast microscopy (Nikon DIAPHOT 300) from day1 to day3. Cell

19 distension was defined as greater than five times expansion of the cell size compared to

20 control cells. The cytodistendig activity (total activity) was titrated by using as the end

21 point the highest two-fold dilution of culture supernatant showing 50% transformed

22 cells after 72 h incubation. The unit (U) of Cdt activity was defined as the reciprocal of

1 the dilution and the specific activity was defined as U/mg of protein (U/mg).

2

3 **Fig. 2 Flow cytometry of HeLa cell DNA treated with Y4 type Cdt holotoxin or**

4 **variant holotoxins.** The DNA of HeLa cells was analyzed by flow cytometric

5 analysis. Cdt holotoxin or its variant (CdtAB<sup>H281R</sup>C, CdtAB<sup>H281K</sup>C, or CdtAB<sup>H281A</sup>C)

6 was added to the HeLa cell culture at concentrations of 6 ng/ml, 60 ng/ml, 0.6 µg/ml,

7 and 6 µg/ml. After 24 h, harvested cells were fixed with ethanol and stained with PI.

8 Ten thousand cells were scanned using a FACScan flow cytometer (Becton Dickinson to

9 detect PI-fluorescence to measure the relative DNA concentration. The histogram of G1

10 and G2 population was analyzed by Modifit software (Verity Software, Inc.).

11

12 **Fig. 3 *In vitro* nuclease and microinjection assays of Y4 type CdtB and variants.**

13 A, *In vitro* DNase activity of Y4 type CdtB (CdtB<sup>281H</sup>), CdtB<sup>H281R</sup> and CdtB<sup>H281A</sup>. The

14 Y4 type *cdtB* or *cdtB*<sup>mut281</sup> were sub-cloned into the expression vector pET28. The

15 His-tag recombinant proteins were purified as described (14). The plasmid pGEM

16 DNA (1 µg BioRad) was incubated in buffer (20mM Hepes pH7.5, 150mM NaCl, 5mM

17 CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 5mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>) with various concentrations of purified CdtB (0 µg to 10 µg) for 5

18 h at 37 °C. The linear and super-coiled plasmid DNAs were separated using 1 %

19 agarose-gel electrophoresis and visualized with ethidium bromide. B, Y4 type

20 (CdtB<sup>281H</sup>) or variant CdtB (CdtB<sup>H281R</sup>, CdtB<sup>H281A</sup>) with the His-tag at the C-terminus

21 was expressed and purified by Ni-agarose chromatography. Microinjection was

22 performed using an Eppendorf Injectman NI2 (12). Purified proteins were adjusted to

1 a concentration of 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{l}$  and injected into the cytosol at a pressure of 50-120 hpa for  
2 0.2 s. The cells were incubated at 37°C in 5 %  $\text{CO}_2$  for 1-8 h; and then the injected  
3 cells were stained by immunohistochemistry for CdtB (12) and by PI, followed by  
4 observation using confocal microscopy (Carl Zeiss LSM 401). Arrows indicate the  
5 cells microinjected with CdtB. C, The relative chromosomal DNA was measured by a  
6 Mac Scope image analysis system where the reduction of intensity of propidium iodide  
7 stain was plotted against the relative decrease of the signal showing the relative  
8 concentration of intact DNA. Circle: Y4 type CdtB ( $\text{CdtB}^{281\text{H}}$ ), Square:  $\text{CdtB}^{\text{H281R}}$ ,  
9 Triangle:  $\text{CdtB}^{\text{H281A}}$ .

10

11 **Fig. 4 Polymorphism of the CdtB amino acid sequence in clinically isolated *A.***

12 *actinomycetemcomitans*. A. Cytodistending activity, RFLP typing and CdtB typing of  
13 *A. actinomycetemcomitans* clinical strains. The culture supernatant was prepared from  
14 exponentially growing *A. actinomycetemcomitans*. The protein concentration of the  
15 culture supernatant was measured by BioRad protein assay kit (BioRad) at the O.D.=  
16 0.3 after culturing *A.actinomycetemcomitans* in trypticase soy broth (Becton Dickinson,  
17 Sparks, MD) with 0.6% yeast extract (TSBYE, Becton Dickinson) for 3 days. After  
18 the total protein concentration of culture supernatant was adjusted at 0.1  $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{l}$  by  
19 diluting the sample with PBS, 100 $\mu\text{l}$  of the supernatant was added to the culture of  
20 HeLa cells using a 1:2 serial dilution in a 96 multi-well plate. After 3 days,  
21 morphological cyto-distention was determined after fixing with 100 % methanol and  
22 staining with 2% Giemsa solution. The arrowheads show the strains with very high



1 Cdt titer ( $>10^7$  U). Presence or absence of the *cdt* genes was shown by + and -.  
2 Dotted Y-axis line divided the strains with (left side) or without (right side) the *cdtABC*  
3 genes. Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) typing and *HindIII* restriction enzyme  
4 fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) (21) are shown. B. Polymorphism of CdtB  
5 amino acid sequences. Four types of amino acid sequences of CdtB identified in 40  
6 clinical strains were aligned. Conserved amino acid residues are shown in gray. An  
7 arrowhead shows the signal peptide cleavage site. The predicted catalytic sites  
8 conserved in DNase I is shown by stars. The predicted metal binding site conserved in  
9 DNase I are shown by a cross.

10

11 **Fig. 5 Alignment of CdtBs from various microorganisms and DNaseI.**

12 Predicted C-terminal sequences of CdtBs from various pathogenic bacteria were aligned.  
13 The conserved amino acid residues are in gray. The predicted catalytic sites conserved  
14 in DNase I is shown by stars. The predicted metal binding site conserved in DNase I  
15 is shown by a cross. GenBank accession numbers were: *A. actinomycetemcomitans*  
16 Y4 AB011405, *H. ducreyi* 35000, *C. jejuni* 81-176: U51121, *Helicobacter hepaticus*:  
17 AAF19158, *E. coli* CDT I / *E. coli* E6468/62: U03293, *E. coli* CDT II / *E. coli* 9142-88:  
18 U04208, *E. coli* CDT III / *E. coli* 1404: U89305, DNase I / *Mus musculus*: AAH30394 .

1 Supplement 2      **Van der Waals surface representation of *H. ducreyi* CdtB.**  
2                      Conserved residues for DNase catalytic (H274), metal binding (N273) and  
3 DNA binding (R117, R144, and N201) in CdtB were shown in cyan, pink, and yellow,  
4 respectively. R281 is shown in red. This figure was drawn with graphic program  
5 RasMol and atomic coordinates of CdtB (accession code 1SR4) (11) are from the  
6 Protein Data Bank.  
7

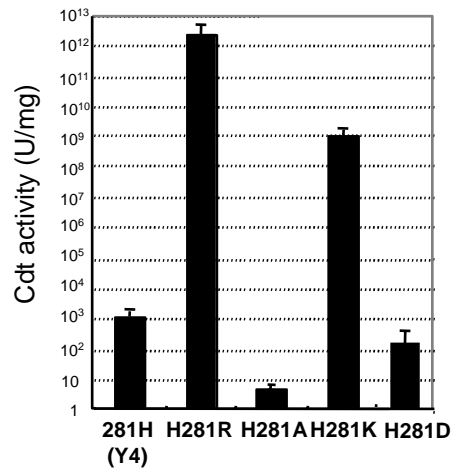


Fig.1 Nishikubo, et al

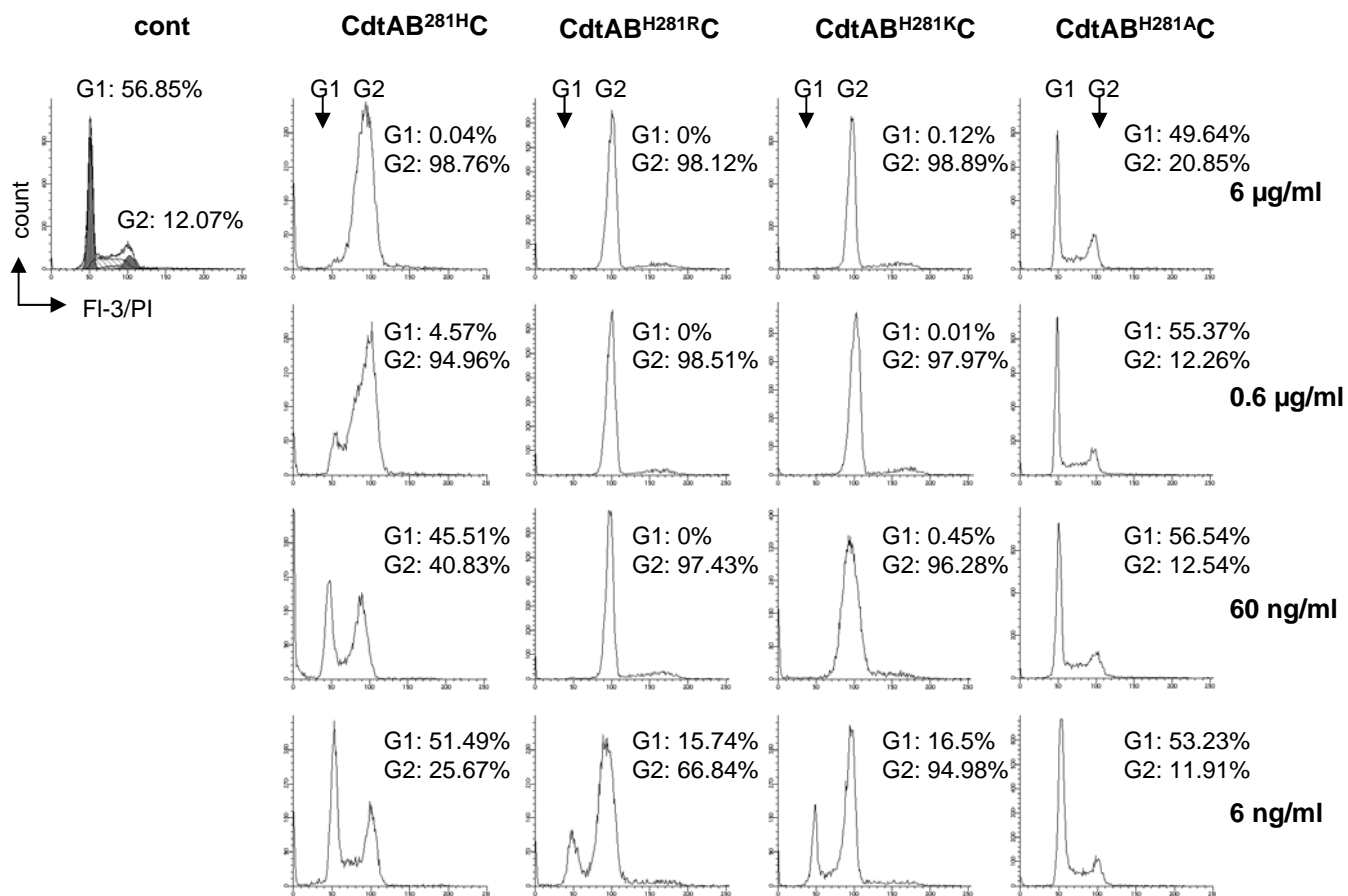


Fig.2 Nishikubo, et al

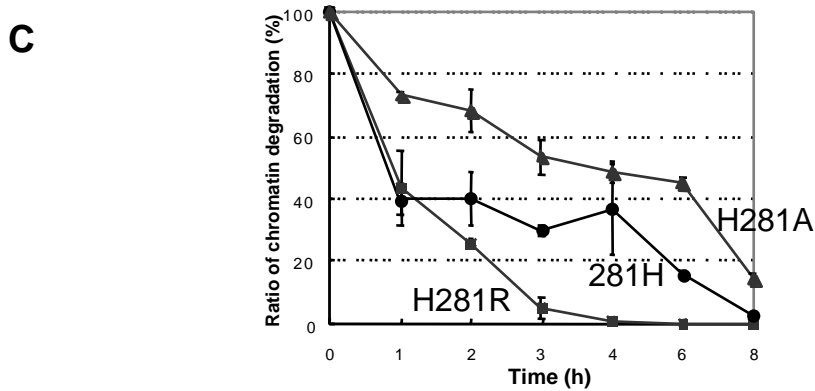
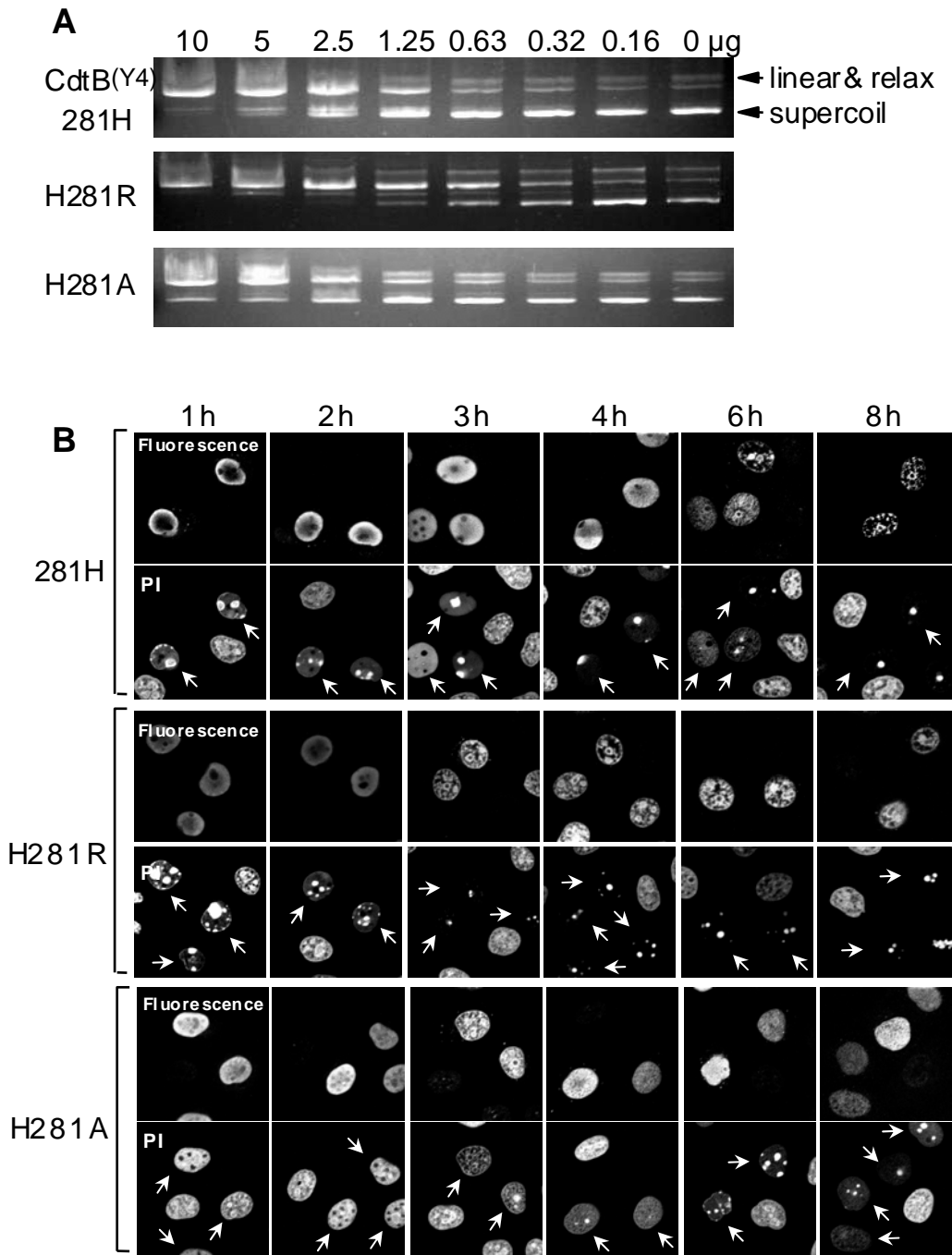


Fig.3 Nishikubo, et al



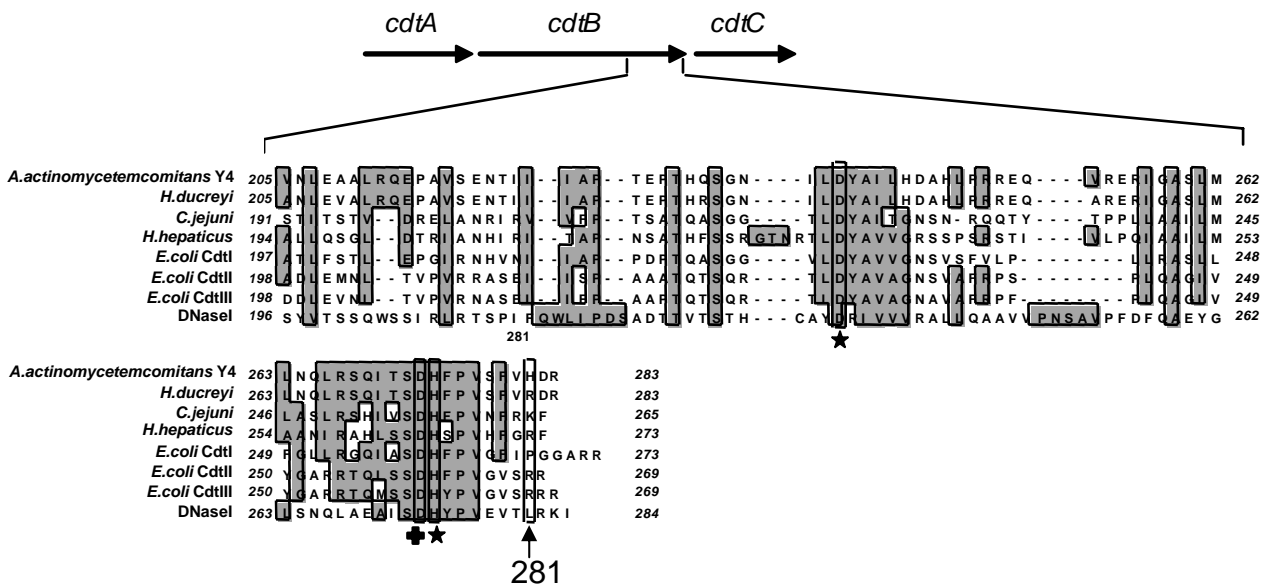


Fig.5 Nishikubo, et al

**Supplementary 1. Strains and primers used in this study**

Strain	Plasmid	Character	Reference
<i>A.actinomycetemcomitans</i> Y4		standard strain	
<i>A.actinomycetemcomitans</i>		45clinical isolates	21
<i>E.coli</i>	M15	pQEcdtABC	Y4 <i>cdtAB</i> <sup>H281</sup> C on pQE60 ( <i>Nco</i> I- <i>Bgl</i> II)
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H281R</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>H281R</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H281A</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>H281A</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H281K</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>H281K</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H281D</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>H281D</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H282H</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>D282H</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H282A</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>D282A</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H283K</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>R283K</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQEcdtAB <sup>H283A</sup> C	<i>cdtAB</i> <sup>R283A</sup> C on pQE60
	M15	pQE60	His-tag protein expression vector
	HMS174(DE3)	pETcdtB	Y4 <i>cdtB</i> <sup>H281</sup> on pET28a ( <i>Bgl</i> II- <i>Eco</i> RI)
	HMS174(DE3)	pETcdtB <sup>H281R</sup>	Y4 <i>cdtB</i> <sup>H281R</sup> on pET28a
	HMS174(DE3)	pETcdtB <sup>H281A</sup>	Y4 <i>cdtB</i> <sup>H281A</sup> on pET28a
	HMS174(DE3)	pET28a	His-tag protein expression vector
	XL-2 blue	pGEM-T easy	PCR cloning vector
			Qiagen
			Novagen
			BioRad

Primers	sequence (5'-3')		
QIA-U	AGGTACCATGGAAAAGTTT	<i>cdtA</i> 5' region with <i>Nco</i> I site	21
QIA-L	AAAGATCTGCTACCCCTGA	<i>cdtC</i> 3' region with <i>Bgl</i> II site instead of stop codon	21
mcdtBfbgl	CAAGATCTGCTAACTTGAGT	<i>cdtB</i> with <i>Bgl</i> II site instead of signal sequences	12
L2188	AGTATTCTCCTTAGCGATCATGAA	<i>cdtB</i> 3' region	12
H281R-U	AGTTTTGTTcgcGATCGCTAAGG	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281R-R	TCCTTAGCGATCgcaACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281A-U	AGTTTTGTTgctGATCGCTAAGGA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281A-R	TCCTTAGCGATCagcaACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281D-U	AGTTTTGTTgatGATCGCTAAGGA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281D-R	TCCTTAGCGATcatcACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281K-U	AGTTTTGTTaaaGATCGCTAAGGA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
H281K-R	TCCTTAGCGATctttAACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D282A-U	AGTTTTGTTTCATgctCGCTAAGGA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D282A-R	TCCTTAGCGGagcATGAACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D282H-U	AGTTTTGTTTCATcatCGCTAAGGA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D282H-R	TCCTTAGCGgatgATGAACAAAACCT	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D283A-U	TTTGTTTCATGATgccTAAGGAGAA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D283A-R	TTCTTCTTAggcATCATGAACAAA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D283K-U	TTTGTTTCATGATaaaTAAGGAGAA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
D283K-R	TTCTCCTTAttATCATGAACAAA	site-directed mutagenesis	This study
AASPC3'	AAATCACCAACAACCATCCAGCTA	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	18
L1812	ATCAGTACCAATGCGGATACCTACT	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	This study
L1629	CCAGGTATATTCCTCAATTGGCGTT	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	This study
L1527	TGCACCTTGTTCTCCGATAATAAT	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	This study
AASPC5'	GAAAGTAAATGGAATATTAATGTGCG	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	18
U1851	TGATGCGGTAAGTTTAATTCGTAATA	<i>cdtB</i> sequencing primer	18



