

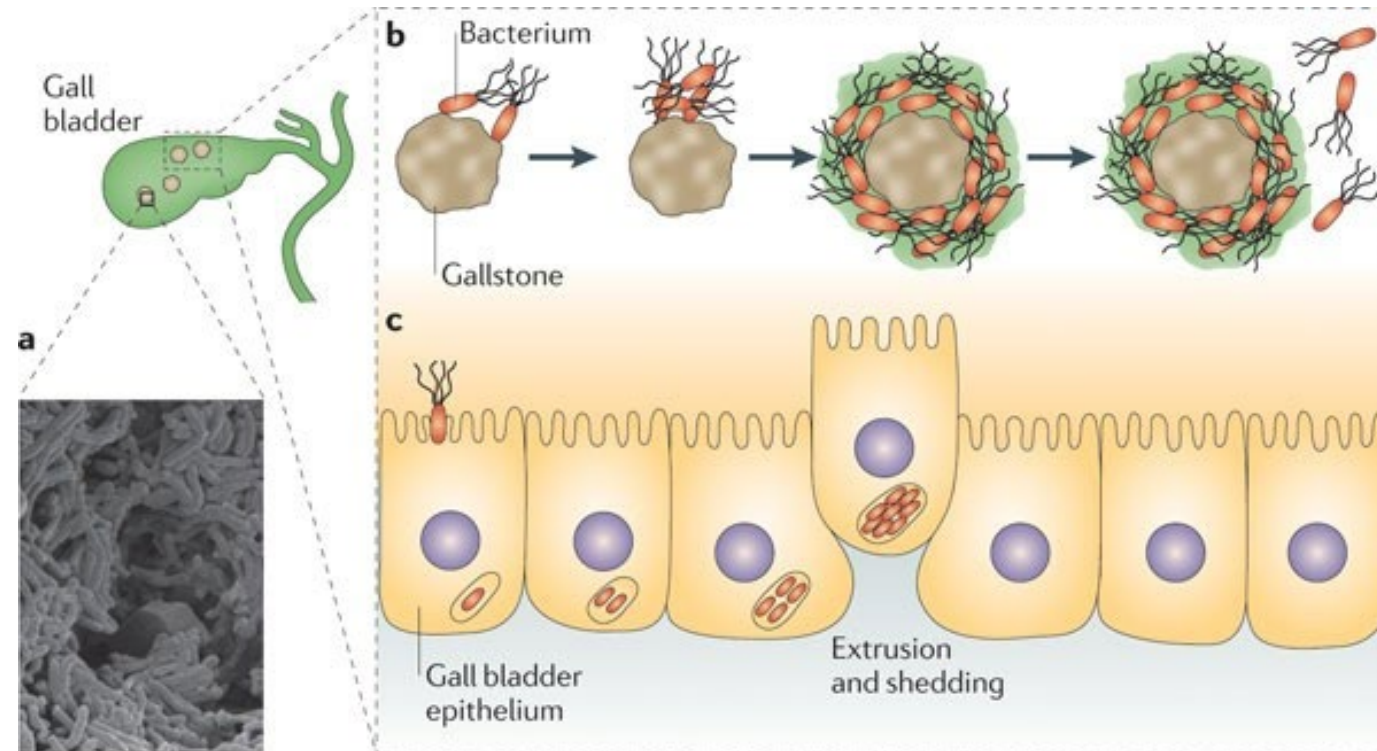
# Role of Gallstones in *Salmonella* Typhi Stool Carriage and Shedding in an Urban Typhoid Endemic Setting in Nairobi, Kenya

Peter Muturi, PhD Student  
Kenya Medical Research Institute

7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

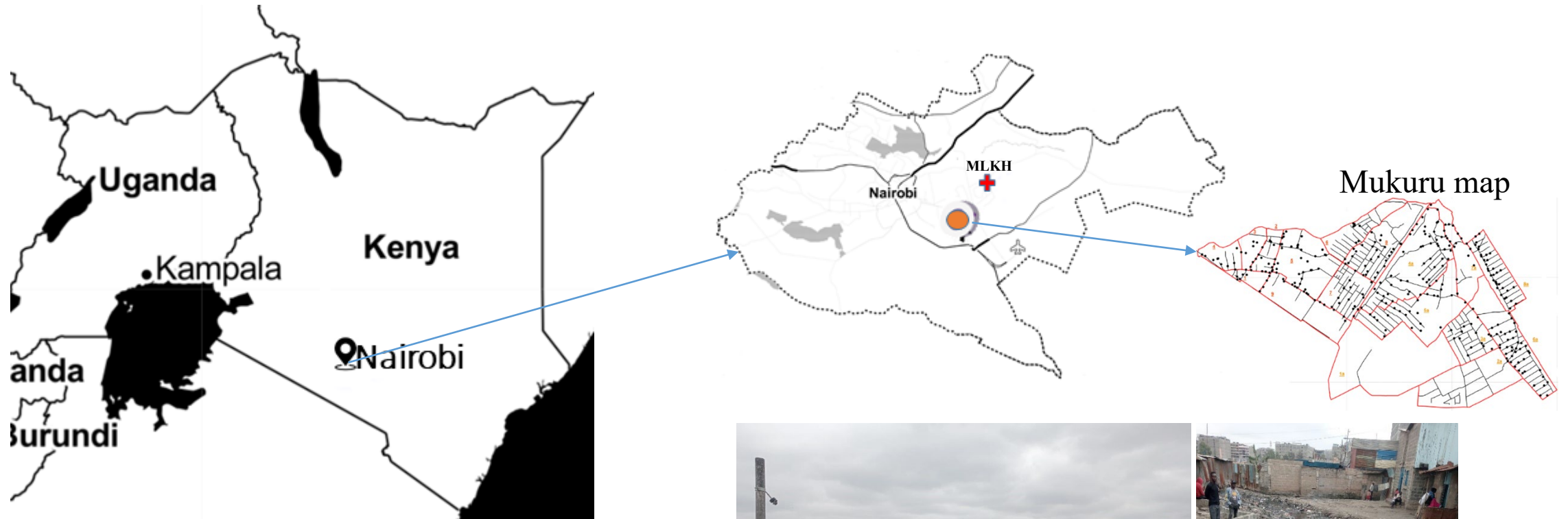
# Typhoid Acute infection and Asymptomatic Carriage

- Typhoid fever has an estimated annual global incidence of 11-20 million cases and a mortality rate of 2–3% even with adequate antibiotic therapy.
- Approximately 5% of those infected fail to clear the bacteria and become carriers.
- In chronic carrier state, *S. Typhi* colonizes the biliary tract especially in patients presenting with **cholesterol gallstones (GS)**; approximately 90% of chronically infected carriers have GSs.



# Study Area/Site

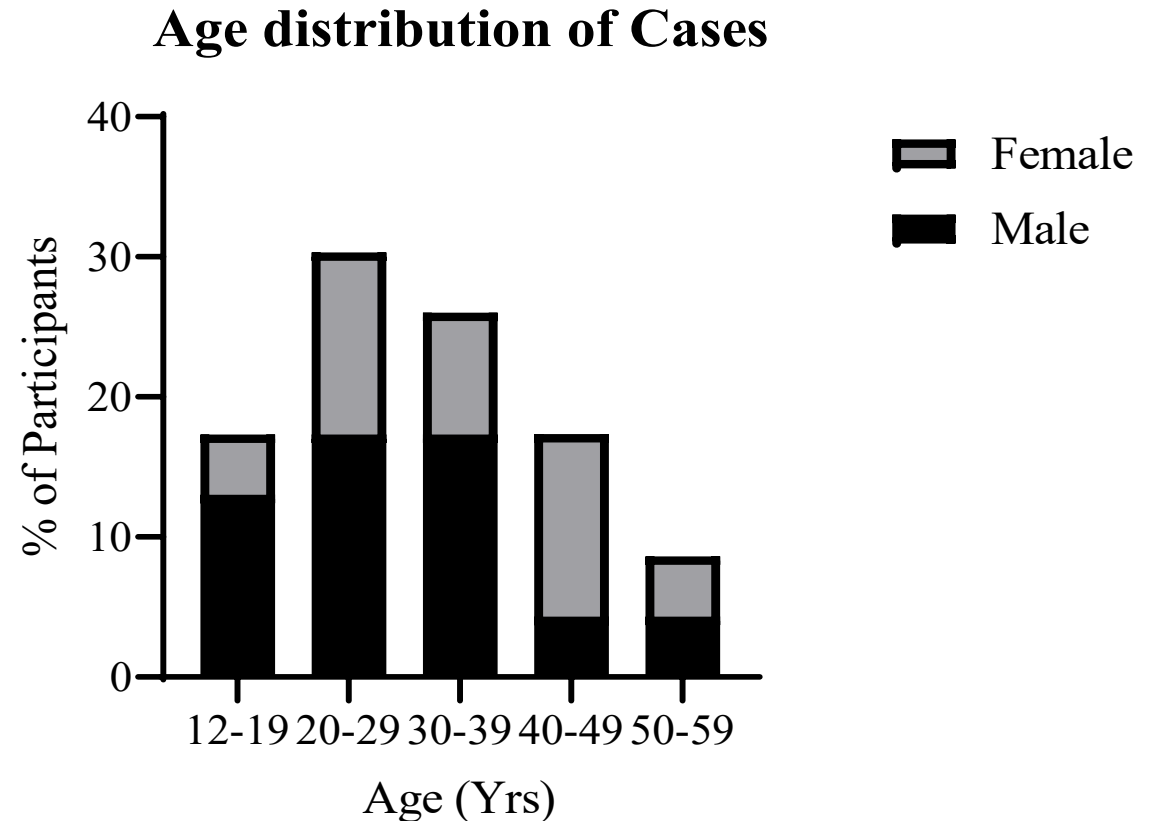
- **Mukuru informal settlement**-an endemic typhoid setting
- **Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital (MLKH)**-county referral hospital



# Study participants

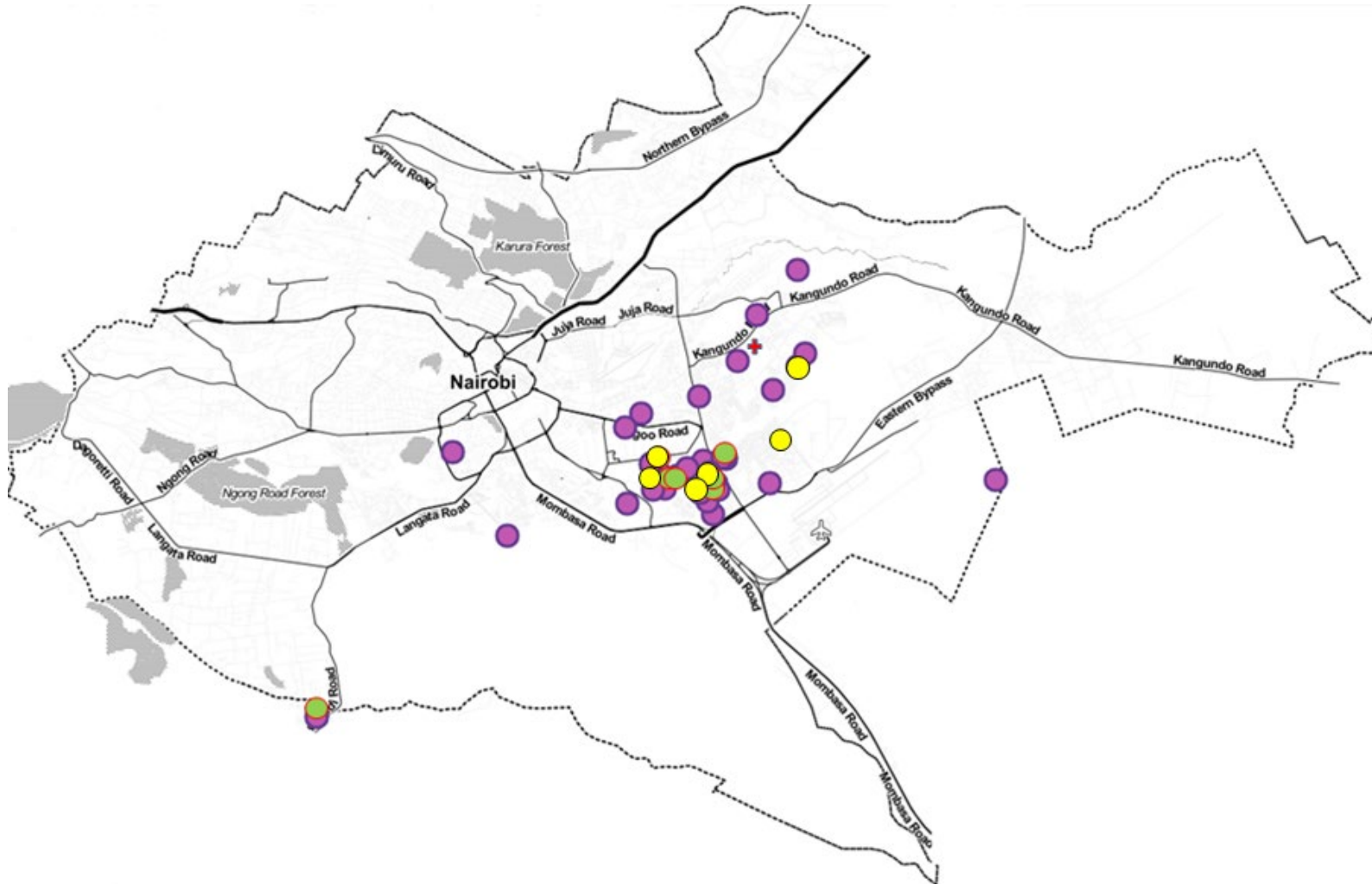
- Confirmed (Blood and/stool culture positive) **acute cases** aged  $\geq 12$  yrs and their **household contacts**
- Follow-ups were done after treatment and Ultrasound scan done to detect Gallstones in Gallbladder.

- 23 acute cases and household contacts were successfully followed up





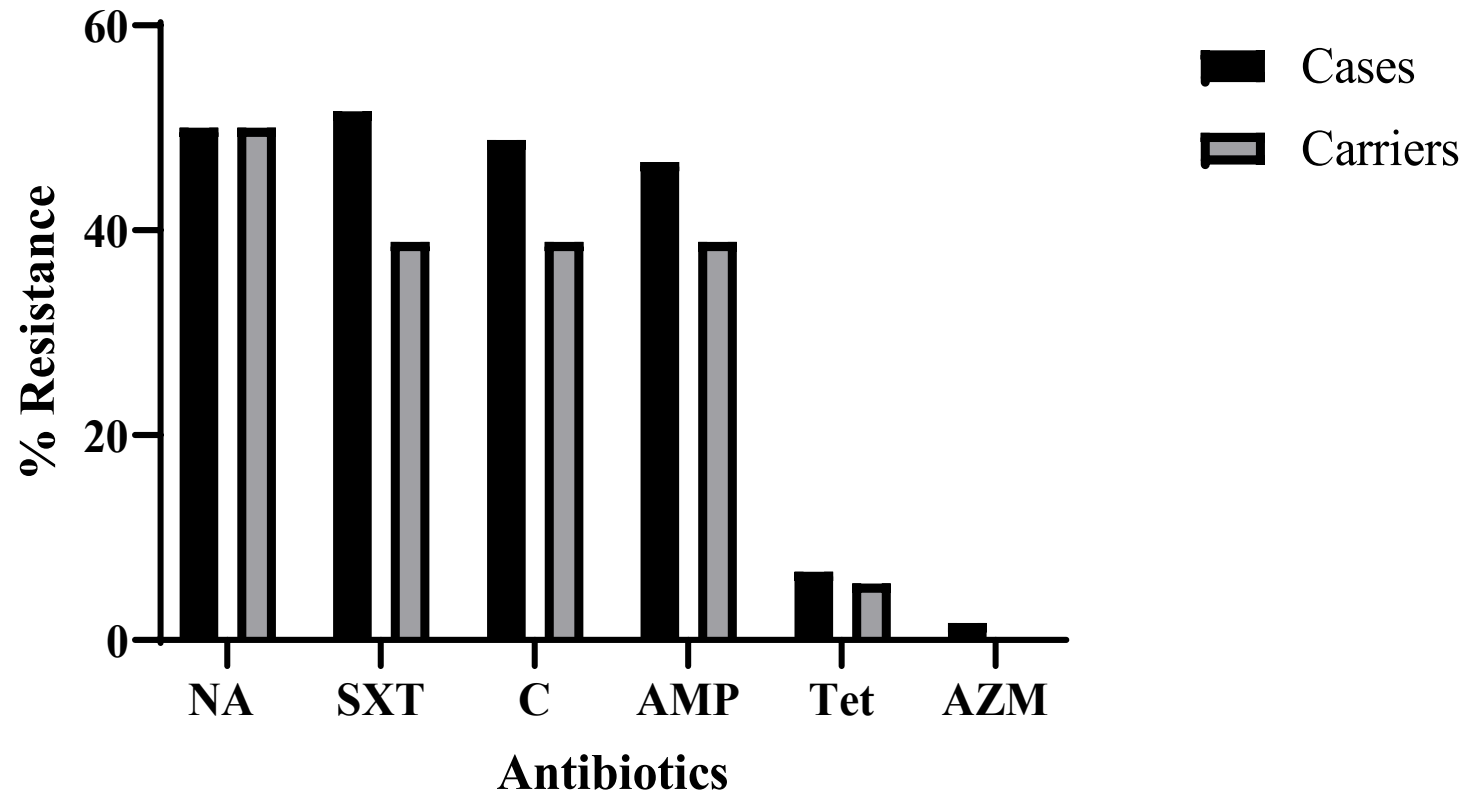
# Hotspots for *S. Typhi* Carriage in Nairobi/Within the Study Area



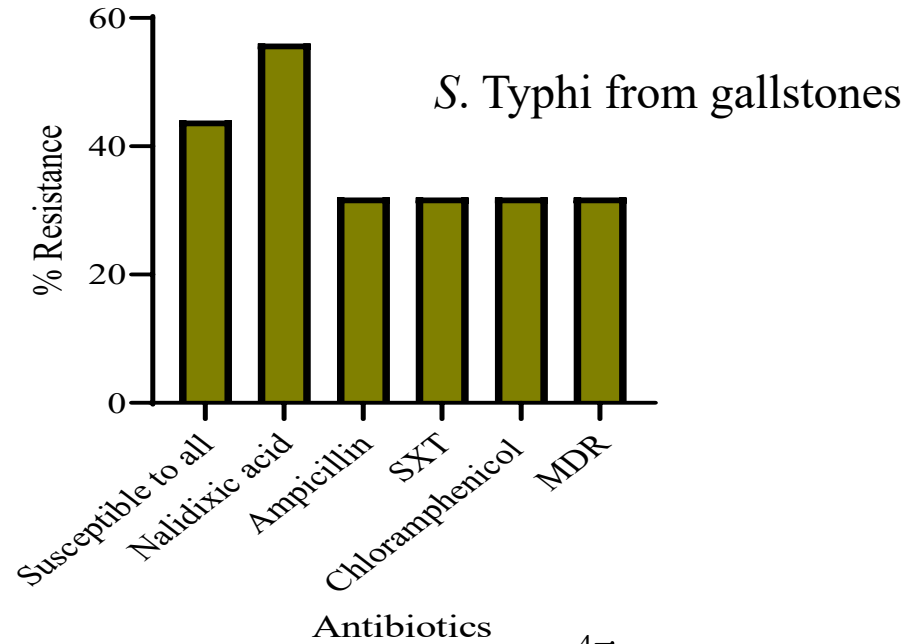
- Shedding/no gallstones
- Shedding/gallstones present
- Not Shedding

# Antimicrobial Resistance Patterns

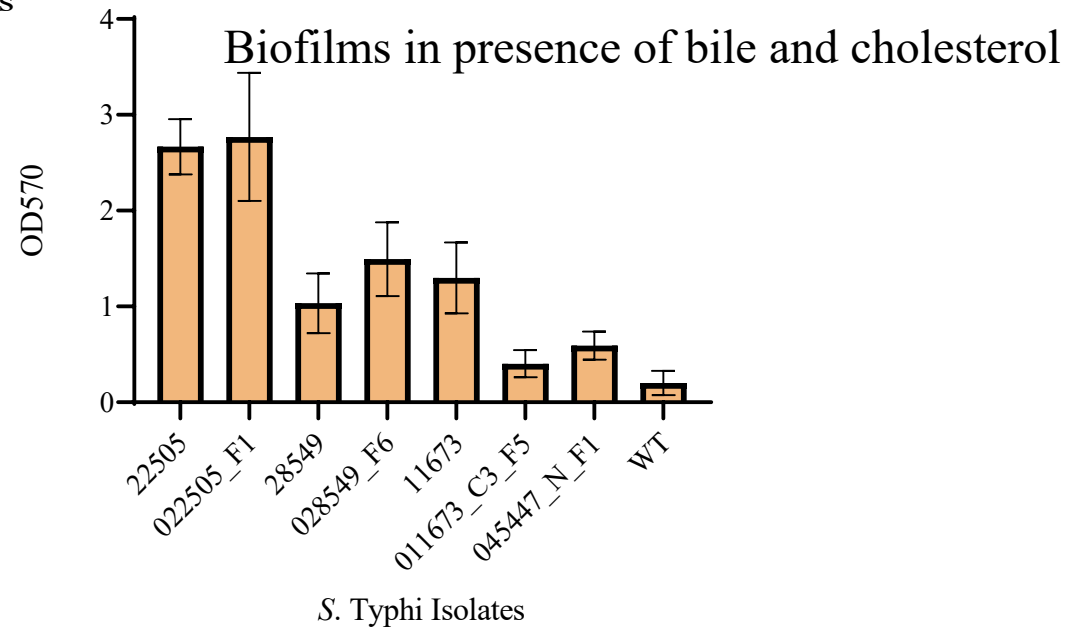
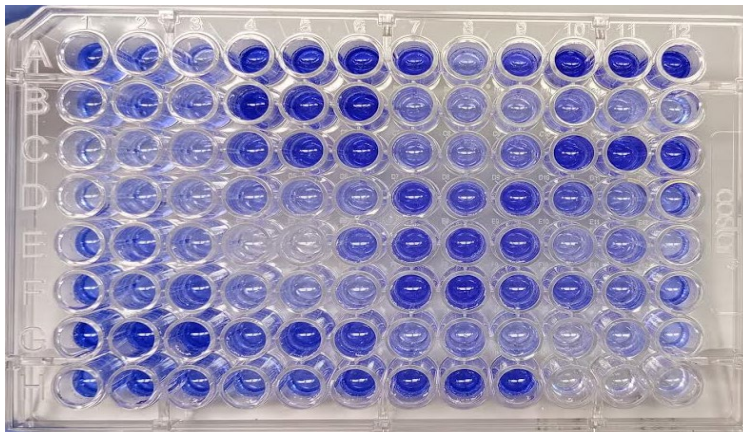
Cases vs carriers



# Antimicrobial Resistance Patterns



## *In-vitro* Biofilm Forming Ability





## Conclusion

- Some patients fail to clear *Salmonella* Typhi immediately after treatment and go on to shed the bacterium.
- Cholesterol gallstones facilitate establishment of *S. Typhi* chronic carrier state, an important phase towards chronic shedding.
- Chronic shedding especially for MDR strains, is playing a major role in transmission and persistence of household and community typhoid infections
- **Follow up analysis:** WGS and phylogenetic relatedness for strains from cases, contacts and galls stones

# Acknowledgment

## Partners and collaborators



## Funding



National Institute of  
Allergy and  
Infectious Diseases

Grant: R01AI099525

- **The field and Lab Teams**

