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Abstract Proceedings

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Detection of *Listeria monocytogenes* in poultry carcasses slaughtered in Mashad using conventional and Multiplex-PCR methods

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**Objective:**

*Listeria monocytogenes* has been described as one of the major human food-borne pathogens. This study aimed to establish the prevalence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in the poultry carcasses slaughtered and distributed in Mashad.

**Method & Materials:**

In this study a total of 100 poultry carcasses were investigated for the presence of *Listeria monocytogenes*. *Listeria* spp. were identified using cold enrichment method and identified by morphological, cultural and biochemical tests. Then *Listeria monocytogenes* was confirmed using Multiplex-PCR.

**Results & Conclusion:**

Prevalence of *Listeria* spp. was 14% in this study and the incidence rate of *L. monocytogenes* was 3%. The results indicated that equipment and installations as sources of contamination by *Listeria* spp. and *L. monocytogenes* during this study also indicated that Multiplex-PCR method is a convenient and time-saving technique for rapid confirmation of the main serotype i.e. *L. monocytogenes* in a single reaction.

**Keywords:** Poultry carcass, *Listeria monocytogenes*, Multiplex-PCR