




# New Variant of Multidrug-Resistant *Salmonella enterica* Serovar Typhimurium Associated with Invasive Disease in Immunocompromised Patients in Vietnam

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**ABSTRACT** Nontyphoidal *Salmonella* (NTS), particularly *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium, is among the leading etiologic agents of bacterial enterocolitis globally and a well-characterized cause of invasive disease (iNTS) in sub-Saharan Africa. In contrast, *S. Typhimurium* is poorly defined in Southeast Asia, a known hot spot for zoonotic disease with a recently described burden of iNTS disease. Here, we aimed to add insight into the epidemiology and potential impact of zoonotic transfer and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in *S. Typhimurium* associated with iNTS and enterocolitis in Vietnam. We performed whole-genome sequencing and phylogenetic reconstruction on 85 human (enterocolitis, carriage, and iNTS) and 113 animal *S. Typhimurium* isolates isolated in Vietnam. We found limited evidence for the zoonotic transmission of *S. Typhimurium*. However, we describe a chain of events where a pandemic monophasic variant of *S. Typhimurium* (serovar I:4,[5],12:i:— sequence type 34 [ST34]) has been introduced into Vietnam, reacquired a phase 2 flagellum, and acquired an IncHI2 multidrug-resistant plasmid. Notably, these novel biphasic ST34 *S. Typhimurium* variants were significantly associated with iNTS in Vietnamese HIV-infected patients. Our study represents the first characterization of novel iNTS organisms isolated outside sub-Saharan Africa and outlines a new pathway for the emergence of alternative *Salmonella* variants into susceptible human populations.

**IMPORTANCE** *Salmonella Typhimurium* is a major diarrheal pathogen and associated with invasive nontyphoid *Salmonella* (iNTS) disease in vulnerable populations. We present the first characterization of iNTS organisms in Southeast Asia and de-

Received 17 May 2018 Accepted 7 August 2018 Published 4 September 2018

**Citation** Mather AE, Phuong TLT, Gao Y, Clare S, Mukhopadhyay S, Goulding DA, Hoang NTD, Tuyen HT, Lan NPH, Thompson CN, Trang NHT, Carrique-Mas J, Tue NT, Campbell JI, Rabaa MA, Thanh DP, Harcourt K, Hoa NT, Trung NV, Schultz C, Perron GG, Coia JE, Brown DJ, Okoro C, Parkhill J, Thomson NR, Chau NVV, Thwaites GE, Maskell DJ, Dougan G, Kenney LJ, Baker S. 2018. New variant of multidrug-resistant *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium associated with invasive disease in immunocompromised patients in Vietnam. mBio 9:e01056-18. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mBio.01056-18>.

**Editor** Philippe J. Sansonetti, Pasteur Institute

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scribe a different evolutionary trajectory from that of organisms causing iNTS in sub-Saharan Africa. In Vietnam, the globally distributed monophasic variant of *Salmonella* Typhimurium, the serovar I:4,[5],12:i:– ST34 clone, has reacquired a phase 2 flagellum and gained a multidrug-resistant plasmid to become associated with iNTS disease in HIV-infected patients. We document distinct communities of *S. Typhimurium* and I:4,[5],12:i:– in animals and humans in Vietnam, despite the greater mixing of these host populations here. These data highlight the importance of whole-genome sequencing surveillance in a One Health context in understanding the evolution and spread of resistant bacterial infections.

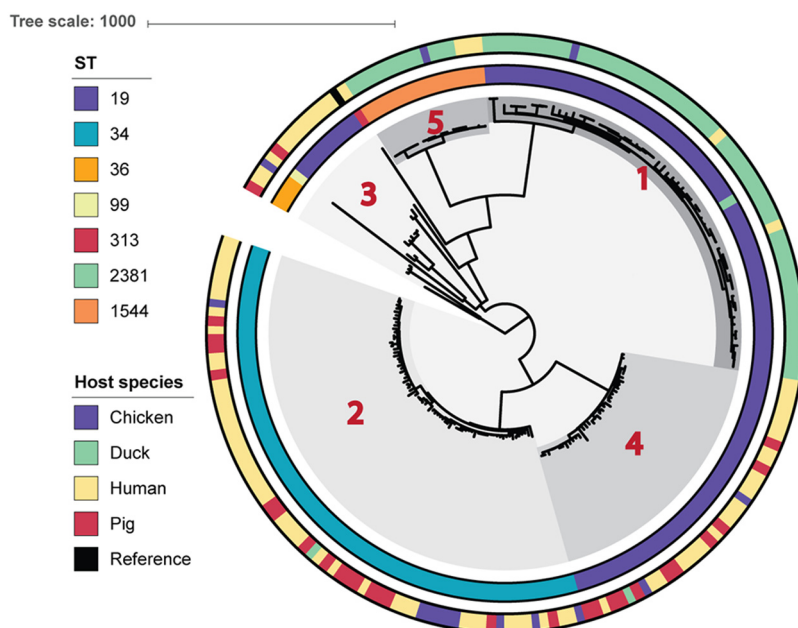
**KEYWORDS** *Salmonella* Typhimurium, antimicrobial resistance, genomics, invasive salmonellosis

**N**ontyphoidal *Salmonella* (NTS) is a common cause of bacterial enterocolitis (diarrheal disease) in humans and animals (1). Additionally, subsets of NTS organisms are also associated with an aggressive invasive disease in susceptible humans (2) and have been shown to cause invasive disease in animals (3, 4). Invasive NTS (iNTS) infections principally occur in sub-Saharan Africa, are life-threatening, and are commonly associated with malnourished infants and the immunocompromised, particularly those infected with HIV. Notably, iNTS disease is generally uncommon outside sub-Saharan Africa, but the disease has recently been described in a comparatively small patient cohort in Southeast Asia (5). The microbiological reservoirs of these two NTS disease presentations are distinct, with organisms causing enterocolitis in humans in industrialized countries primarily thought to arise through the food chain (1). In contrast, the principal source of the organisms causing iNTS in sub-Saharan Africa is thought to be the human population (6).

One of the most common NTS serovars associated with both enterocolitis and iNTS in humans is *Salmonella enterica* subsp. *enterica* serovar Typhimurium (*S. Typhimurium*). This serovar is globally ubiquitous and can be isolated from a range of other animal species. Successive human epidemics of *S. Typhimurium* have been described over the past several decades, many of which have been caused by variants that exhibit resistance to multiple antimicrobials, including those recommended for clinical care. These epidemic variants are of great concern, as antimicrobial-resistant *Salmonella* infections are associated with a higher probability of hospitalization and treatment failure, leading to a prolonged infection and increased likelihood of onward transmission (7).

An accurate understanding of how antimicrobial-resistant *Salmonella* variants emerge and spread is essential for controlling their geographic scope and limiting their potential public health impact. The advent of high-throughput whole-genome sequencing (WGS) and phylogenetics has enabled detailed investigations of the sources and potential transmission routes of *S. Typhimurium* variants (2, 8). These studies permitted the identification of distinct *S. Typhimurium* populations found in collocated animals and humans in an industrialized country (8) and outlined the complex phylogeography of an epidemic iNTS-causing *S. Typhimurium* across sub-Saharan Africa (2).

While there is a good understanding of the *S. Typhimurium* genomic landscape in Europe and sub-Saharan Africa, such an investigation has not yet been performed extensively for *S. Typhimurium* originating from Southeast Asia, a known global hot spot for zoonotic disease. Vietnam is a low-middle-income country (LMIC) in Southeast Asia, characterized by widespread human-animal interaction and the excessive use of antimicrobials in humans and agriculture (9, 10). Here, we exploited WGS, phylogenetic reconstruction, and genomic analysis to provide insight into the epidemiology and potential impact of zoonotic transfer and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in *S. Typhimurium* and its monophasic variant *Salmonella* I:4,[5],12:i:– in Vietnam. Additionally, we aimed to define the genetic characteristics of the recently isolated iNTS *S. Typhimurium*/*S. I:4,[5],12:i:–* in Vietnam, representing the first such investigation of a novel collection of iNTS organisms isolated outside sub-Saharan Africa.



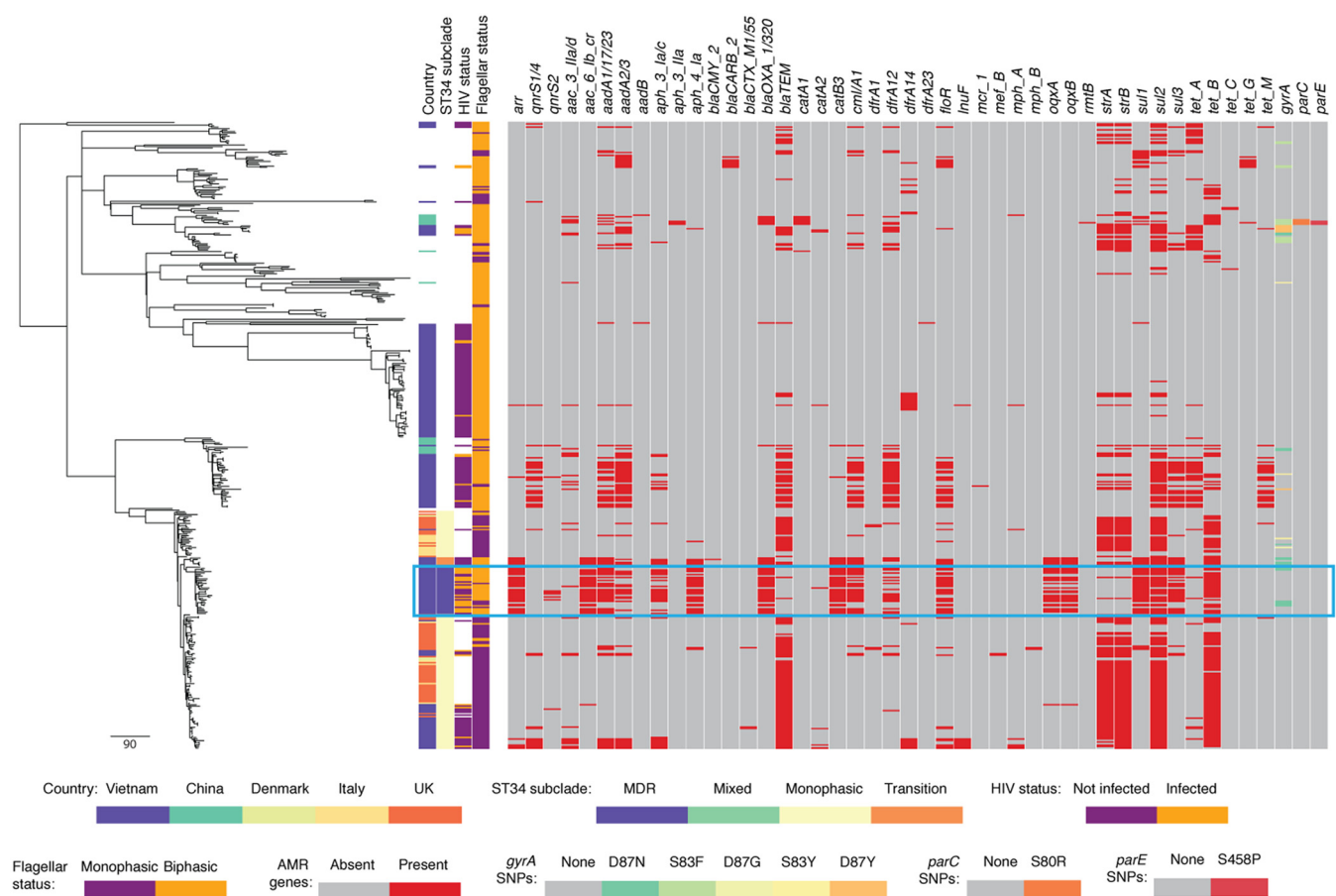
**FIG 1** Maximum-likelihood phylogeny of 198 *Salmonella* Typhimurium/S. l:4,[5],12:i:- isolates from Vietnam. Reads were mapped to reference *S. Typhimurium* SL1344, with host species, multilocus sequence type (ST), and BAPS cluster (in red) marked. The scale bar represents the number of nonrecombinogenic single nucleotide polymorphisms per branch.

## RESULTS

The genomes of 85 human *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:-* isolates collected between 2008 and 2013 (36 associated with enterocolitis, 41 associated with iNTS, and 8 from asymptomatic carriage) and 113 animal *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:-* isolates collected between 2011 and 2013 (chickens [ $n = 14$ ], ducks [ $n = 70$ ], and pigs [ $n = 29$ ]) (see Table S1 in the supplemental material) in southern Vietnam were sequenced using an Illumina HiSeq2000 sequencer. By mapping the genome sequence reads against the *S. Typhimurium* SL1344 reference sequence, we were able to reconstruct the phylogenetic relationship between these contemporary Vietnamese isolates from different sources (Fig. 1). Using hierBAPS (11), the isolates clustered into five distinct clades (Table S3). The most striking observation within this initial phylogeny was an apparent lack of mixing between animal and human isolates ( $P = 0.0005$ ). Notably, organisms in three of the five clades were predominantly associated with a single host species (clade 3, 80% [12/15] of the isolates from humans,  $D = 0.78$ ,  $P > 0.10$ ; clades 1 and 5, 95% [56/59] and 75% [12/16] of isolates from ducks,  $D = 0.73$ / $P > 0.10$  and  $D = 0.44$ / $P > 0.10$ , respectively). Clades 2 and 4 contained a more comparable number of human and animal *S. Typhimurium*/S. l:4,[5],12:i:- isolates than clades 1, 3, and 5 (Table S3). There was a significant phylogenetic association with the host species of origin (animal or human) in clades 2 and 4, indicating nonrandom clustering of isolates by host species (clade 2,  $D = 0.18$ ,  $P = 0$ ; clade 4,  $D = -0.06$ ,  $P = 0.002$ ).

Clade 2 was comprised of isolates belonging solely to multilocus sequence type 34 (ST34). This ST encompasses the European clone associated with the present *S. Typhimurium* variant pandemic, which is the monophasic *S. l:4,[5],12:i:-* (12). We expanded our data set with WGS of monophasic and biphasic *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:-* accessed from public databases, which included ST34 isolates from other countries (2, 12–14) (Table S2; Fig. S1) and two new sequences from organisms isolated in Scotland. By doing so, we could demonstrate that the ancestral subclone of the Vietnamese ST34 isolates was the European ST34 *S. l:4,[5],12:i:-* clone (Fig. 2) (12).

Further interrogation of the phylogenetic structure revealed that the Vietnamese



**FIG 2** Maximum-likelihood phylogeny of 418 *Salmonella* Typhimurium/S. l:4,[5],12:i:- isolates from Vietnam and other countries. Reads were mapped to reference monophasic *S. Typhimurium* variant S. l:4,[5],12:i:- SO4698-09, with country of origin, ST34 subgroup, HIV status, flagellar status, and presence or absence of antimicrobial resistance determinants mapped against the phylogeny. The blue box indicates the multidrug-resistant (MDR) ST34 subgroup. The scale bar represents the number of nonrecombinogenic single nucleotide polymorphisms per branch.

ST34 isolates could be further subdivided into three clear subgroups, which we named ancestral, transitional, and multidrug resistant (MDR), all of which had high bootstrap support values within the phylogenetic tree (Fig. S2). We observed that the majority of organisms within the ancestral ST34 subgroup, comprised of mostly European isolates, were genetically monophasic (Fig. 2). In contrast, there was a cluster of 31 Vietnamese isolates that were predominantly biphasic and further characterized by an extensive complement of AMR genes (MDR subgroup) (Tables S4 and S5). This complement of AMR genes was distinct from the classical AMR gene profile associated with resistance to ampicillin, streptomycin, sulfonamide, and tetracycline (ASSuT), which is typically observed in monophasic ST34 isolates.

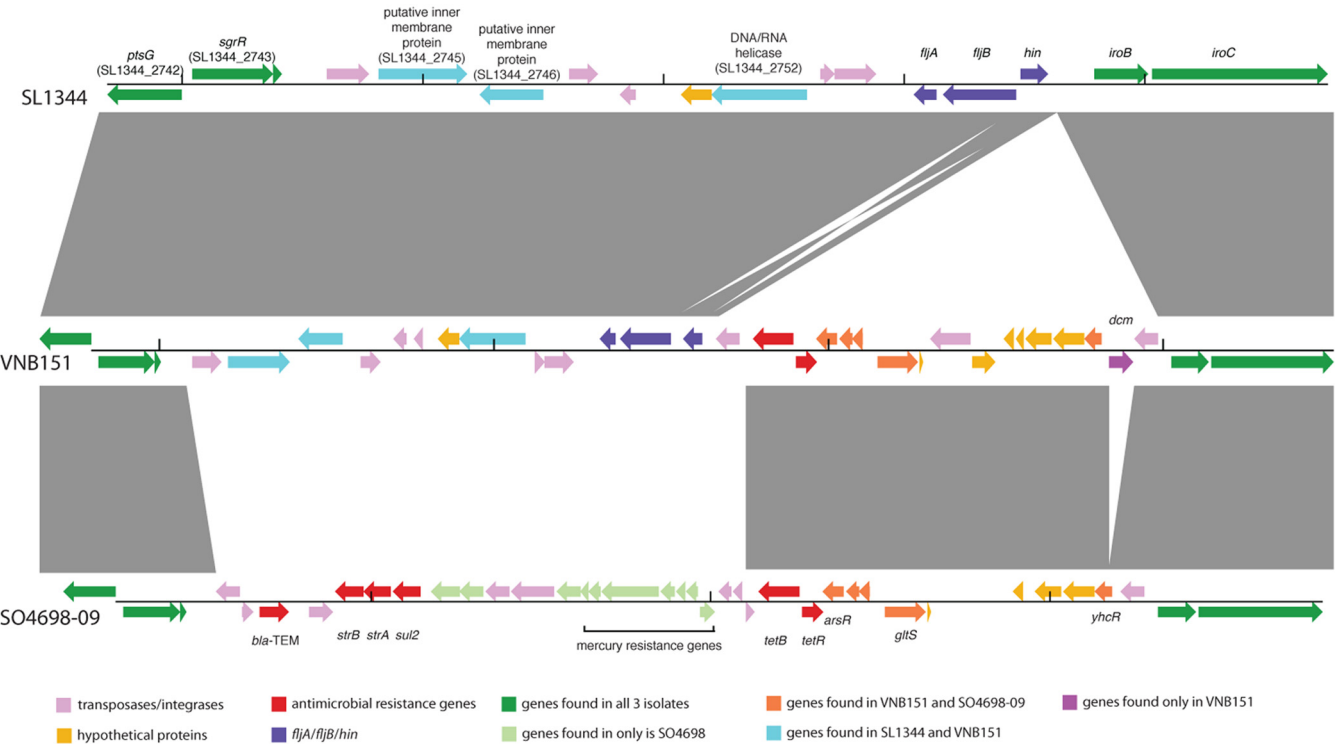
We investigated the genomic context of the additional AMR genes in the MDR ST34 subgroup using long-read sequencing data generated using a Pacific Biosciences sequencing system; they were found to be located on a large (~246-kb) IncHI2 plasmid. This plasmid was similar in gene content and structure to plasmid pHXY0908 (accession number [KM877269.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuclot/KM877269.1)), which has been previously described in an *S. Typhimurium* isolate from chicken feces in China in 2009 (15). The pHXY0908 IncHI2 plasmid carried *oqxAB*, *blmS*, *sul1*, *ΔaadA2*, *dfrA12*, *aph3*, *sul3*, *aadA1a*, *cmlA2*, *aadA2*, *floR*, *sul2*, *hph*, *aac(3′)-Iva*, *aac(6′)-Ib-cr*, *blaOXA-1*, *catB3*, and *arr3*. The predicted phenotype of these organisms was resistance to fluoroquinolones, bleomycin, sulfonamides, trimethoprim, kanamycin, streptomycin, chloramphenicol, spectinomycin, florfenicol, hygromycin B, apramycin, beta-lactams, and rifampin. The six transitional subgroup isolates lay between the ancestral ST34 subgroup and the MDR ST34 subgroup and exhibited some

**TABLE 1** Numbers of Vietnamese *S. Typhimurium*/S. I:4,[5],12:i:– isolates from human patients who are HIV infected or not HIV infected, excluding animal isolates

HIV infection status	No. (%) of isolates in clade:			
	Ancestral/monophasic ST34	MDR ST34	Transition ST34	Rest of tree
HIV infected	6 (40)	19 (73)	0 (0)	13 (32.5)
Not HIV infected	9 (60)	7 (27)	4 (100)	27 (67.5)
Total	15	26	4	40

characteristics of both of the other subgroups (Fig. 2). Of these six transitional isolates, five carried the same mercury resistance genes found in the archetypal ST34 monophasic clone, and three carried the *bla*<sub>TEM-1</sub>, *strAB*, *tetB*, and *sul2* genes, also typical of the monophasic European clone. In contrast, and comparable to the MDR ST34 subgroup, the transitional isolates were also genetically biphasic and carried the MDR IncHI2 plasmid (Table S6).

Two additional features distinguished the isolates in the ST34 MDR subgroup. First, these isolates were significantly associated with iNTS disease in HIV-infected Vietnamese individuals; 73% of human-derived isolates in this subgroup were from the blood of HIV-infected patients in comparison to 32% of the human-derived isolates from other clades ( $P = 0.001$ , Table 1). Second, while the MDR subgroup has arisen from monophasic ST34 isolates, the majority (26/31) of these isolates had an intact *fljBA* operon encoding a phase 2 flagellum and were phenotypically confirmed to be biphasic (Fig. 3). *S. Typhimurium* typically harbors two flagellin genes, *fliC* and *fljB*. These genes are regulated by the *hin* invertase so that only one flagellar antigen is expressed at any given time (16). In the pandemic ST34 monophasic S. I:4,[5],12:i:– ancestral clone, the *fljBA* operon has been deleted and replaced by a transposon (IS26-associated) carrying



**FIG 3** Multigenome comparison of the second flagellar region of *Salmonella* Typhimurium SL1344, isolate VNB151 from Vietnam, and monophasic *S. Typhimurium* variant S. I:4,[5],12:i:– SO4698-09. Arrows represent coding sequences for SL1344 and predicted coding sequences for VNB151 and SO4698-09; gray blocks indicate regions of genetic similarity between genomes. Minor differences in annotated coding sequences in regions with gray blocks reflect the predicted nature of the VNB151 and SO4698-09 annotation.



the AMR genes *bla*<sub>TEM-1</sub>, *strAB*, *sul2*, and *tetBR* and mercury resistance genes (12, 17). A fragment of this transposon remained in the majority of the ST34 MDR subgroup isolates, which included the *tetBR* genes, similarly inserted between *hin* and *iroB*, leaving *fljBA* intact (Fig. 3). While we could not reconstruct the precise sequence of events creating this reversion, the phylogenetic structure, bootstrap branch supports, and DNA sequence identity support that this second flagellar operon was reacquired by the MDR ST34 subgroup isolates from an alternative biphasic *S. Typhimurium* isolate (Fig. S2).

Last, hypothesizing that these novel iNTS-associated ST34 biphasic organisms were adapted to cause an iNTS disease phenotype in humans (as has been reported for *S. Typhimurium* associated with iNTS in sub-Saharan Africa), we investigated potential genomic degradation. In a systematic scan for putative pseudogenes, we observed almost no evidence of genomic degradation in the ST34 MDR subgroup (Table S7), unlike iNTS-associated *S. Typhimurium* in sub-Saharan Africa. The only exception found in all 31 isolates was a frameshift in *pduT*, which was not present in the remaining Vietnamese ST34 isolates. This gene encodes a hypothetical propanediol utilization protein, and the frameshift would theoretically render this gene inactive.

## DISCUSSION

Our study outlines some important observations for *Salmonella* epidemiology in a global health context. Vietnam is a rapidly industrializing LMIC where the separation between humans and livestock species is less demarcated than in more developed countries. In this context, we observed either that distinct clades of *S. Typhimurium* and/or *S. I:4,[5],12:i:–* were composed predominantly of isolates from a single host species or that isolates from different host species were nonrandomly distributed within the clade. This observation suggests restricted interspecies transmission but should be interpreted with caution due to the limited overlap between sampling periods (humans, 2008 to 2013, and animals, 2011 to 2013). However, we found no significant association between sampling date and phylogeny in a tree containing only human isolates ( $\lambda = 0.092$ ,  $P = 0.21$ ), indicating that isolates did not cluster by year of isolation. Therefore, the observed clustering of isolates by host population was not confounded by the year of isolation.

Previously, it was assumed that the majority of NTS infections in humans arise through the food chain and are ultimately derived from animals (1). However, an increasing number of studies have shown that this scenario is more nuanced. In an industrialized setting, WGS of *S. Typhimurium* definitive type 104 (DT104) revealed that the major source of human NTS DT104 infections and the AMR of those infections was unlikely to be the local animal population (8). Additionally, a study from Kenya that compared NTS isolates from patients and from animals found that the organisms associated with the environment or food from within or near the homes of the patients were not significantly related to human isolates (18). A further investigation found that NTS isolates from patients were more comparable to NTS organisms obtained from asymptomatic household members than from the environmental or animal samples from the homes of index cases (6). Our work provides insight into the previously limited understanding of the transmission of iNTS and enterocolitis-causing *S. Typhimurium* and *S. I:4,[5],12:i:–* in Southeast Asia and identifies trends similar to those observed in other parts of the world.

There have been successive pandemics of *S. Typhimurium*, including both DT204c and DT104, in recent decades. The current pandemic is caused by the European clone of the monophasic ST34 *S. Typhimurium* variant, *S. I:4,[5],12:i:–*. This clone rose to prominence as a major cause of NTS disease in humans in Europe in the 2000s; pigs were identified as the most likely reservoir (19, 20). Since then, this organism has spread globally. ST34 was the second most common ST found within our Vietnamese isolates and is the most common *S. Typhimurium* ST currently isolated from humans and animals in China (21, 22). The p<sub>PHXY0908</sub>-like plasmid found here within the MDR and transitional subgroups is also epidemic in China (15) and also associated with *S.*

Typhimurium ST34 (21, 22). pHX0908 additionally carries various metal tolerance genes conferring resistance to tellurite, and IncHI2 plasmids are facilitating the spread of *oqxAB* and *aac(6')-Ib-cr* plasmid-mediated quinolone resistance determinants in NTS organisms. Here, we infrequently found IncHI2 plasmids outside the MDR and transitional ST34 subgroups. The exceptions to this IncHI2 plasmid distribution were a duck isolate from clade 1, a human isolate from clade 4, two Chinese ST19 isolates, and several isolates in the monophasic ST34 subgroup: nine Vietnamese isolates (human bloodstream infections,  $n = 3$ ; pigs,  $n = 5$ ; ducks,  $n = 1$ ), five European isolates, and a Chinese ST34 isolate. However, in comparison to those in the ST34 MDR and the transitional subgroups, the plasmids identified in isolates in other clades carried fewer and/or a different complement of AMR genes (see Tables S5 and S6 in the supplemental material).

Our work describes a novel evolutionary pathway by which an emergent *Salmonella*, typically associated with noninvasive disease, has exploited an alternative human niche in HIV-infected individuals. This linkage of an enterocolitis-associated *Salmonella* in developed countries to one causing invasive disease in predominantly immunocompromised individuals in developing countries has been previously observed with *Salmonella enterica* serovar Enteritidis and non-ST34 *S. Typhimurium* subtypes (primarily ST313) in sub-Saharan Africa (2, 23). In the case of ST313, these biphasic organisms have undergone genome degradation comparable to that of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi, acquired AMR genes on a virulence plasmid, and spread systemically in susceptible individuals (24). Here, a monophasic ST34 *S. Typhimurium* variant, *S. l:4,[5],12:i:–*, with an international distribution has reacquired a secondary flagellin gene and become associated with invasive disease in HIV-infected individuals in an industrializing country in Southeast Asia. Notably, and unlike ST313 in sub-Saharan Africa, this Vietnamese ST34 variant does not exhibit extensive evidence of genome degradation. The additional flagellin gene may possibly confer a virulence advantage in immunocompromised individuals, but further work exploiting suitable experimental systems, as has been performed for ST313 (3, 4), is required to test this hypothesis robustly. It is likely that the acquisition and maintenance of a broad-range MDR plasmid confer an advantage, due to the sustained prescribing of broad-spectrum antimicrobials to HIV-infected individuals in Vietnam. This series of events combines an evolving *Salmonella* clone with a global distribution, a pervasive Asian MDR plasmid, and a primary burden of disease in HIV-infected individuals. Although we have identified this new sublineage in Vietnam, it is likely not restricted to Southeast Asia. Recently, two *S. Typhimurium* ST34 isolates with similar IncHI2 plasmids were identified from two patients in Portugal, with no travel history to Asia and no report of foodborne outbreaks or recent contact with animals (25).

Our data suggest that conditions in Vietnam likely influenced the emergence of a new sublineage of *S. Typhimurium*. We predict that these conditions may be replicated in comparable LMICs, which may facilitate the emergence of new variants of pathogenic bacteria into human populations. These results demonstrate the incredible genomic plasticity, global mobility, and virulence potential of *S. Typhimurium*. The international circulation of these organisms combined with their ability to acquire AMR genes and to cause invasive disease in HIV-infected humans highlights the need for improved surveillance of bacterial pathogens in a One Health context. Our study highlights the impact of the global AMR crisis and adds a unique insight into the international epidemiology and emergent variants within *Salmonella enterica*.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Ethics approval.** The scientific and ethics committees of the collaborating institutions and the Oxford Tropical Research Ethics Committee provided the ethical approvals for the studies that contributed organisms and data to this investigation.

**Vietnamese collection of *Salmonella Typhimurium*.** The data set for this study comprised 198 isolates of *Salmonella enterica* subsp. *enterica* serovar Typhimurium and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:–* isolated in Vietnam (see Table S1 in the supplemental material). These included 85 human-derived isolates: 36 from fecal samples taken from diarrheal patients, 41 from the blood of febrile patients, and eight from fecal samples taken from asymptomatic individuals. Additionally, 113 *Salmonella Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:–*

i:— isolates isolated from the fecal material of asymptomatic animals (14 from chickens, 70 from ducks, and 29 from pigs) collected in the southern part of Vietnam from 2011 to 2013 were included. Details of the origins of these isolates can be found in Text S1 in the supplemental material.

**MLST and genome sequencing.** *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* isolates were identified by multilocus sequence typing (MLST) prior to whole-genome sequencing (WGS). Genomic DNA was extracted using the Wizard genomic DNA purification kit (Promega, USA), and the *Salmonella* MLST alleles were PCR amplified and sequenced in both directions using BigDye Terminator v3 (Applied Biosystems, USA) followed by capillary sequencing on a 3130XL Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, USA). All sequences were manually trimmed to align to a reference sequence and were submitted to the *S. enterica* MLST database (<http://mlst.warwick.ac.uk/mlst/dbs/Senterica>) for allelic profile and molecular serotyping. For each confirmed *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* isolate, 2 µg of the extracted genomic DNA was subjected to WGS on an Illumina HiSeq2000 platform (San Diego, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's protocols to generate 100-bp paired-end reads.

**Antimicrobial susceptibility testing.** Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was performed on all confirmed *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* isolates on Mueller-Hinton agar using the disk diffusion method as recommended by Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guidelines (26); antimicrobial disks were purchased from Oxoid (Thermo Fisher Scientific, United Kingdom). Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was performed against ampicillin, amoxicillin-clavulanate, ceftazidime, ceftriaxone, chloramphenicol, ciprofloxacin, gentamicin, nalidixic acid, ofloxacin, and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole. Antimicrobial susceptibility was determined using the CLSI guidelines (26).

**Contextual collection of *Salmonella Typhimurium*/S. l:4,[5],12:i:— genome sequences.** To place the Vietnamese *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* isolates in context, we included an additional 220 *S. Typhimurium* and monophasic variant *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* genomes isolated from humans and animals in Europe and China; full details of these isolates, sources, and accession numbers are shown in Table S2. Assemblies only were available for the Chinese and Danish isolates; these assemblies were shredded to generate 125-bp paired-end reads for each isolate to allow further analysis.

**Genomic analysis and phylogenetics.** The short reads of the 198 *S. Typhimurium* and *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* genomes from Vietnam were mapped to the reference genome *S. Typhimurium* SL1344 (27, 28), composed of a chromosome and three plasmids (accession numbers [FQ312003](#), [HE654724](#), [HE654725](#), and [HE654726](#)) using SMALT v0.7.4 (29), and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were called using previously described methods (30). Variations in regions of mobile genetic elements and repeats, including prophages and plasmids, were removed. The genome sequence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis P125109 (chromosome accession number [AM933172](#)) was added as an outgroup and similarly mapped to SL1344. Putative recombination was removed from the alignment using Gubbins (31). Hierarchical clustering of the isolates using hierBAPS (11) was performed using the resultant nonrecombinogenic SNP alignment, generating five primary BAPS clusters. A phylogenetic tree was created from the nonrecombinogenic SNPs using RAxML (32) and rooted on *S. Enteritidis* P125109 in iTOL (33). Annotated assemblies of each genome were produced using the pipeline outlined in the work of Page et al. (34), which is described in Text S1 in the supplemental material.

A separate, larger tree was produced by mapping the short reads of all isolates (198 Vietnam isolates and the 220 context collection isolates) to the reference genome *S. l:4,[5],12:i:—* SO4698-09 (accession number [PRJEB10340](#)) (12). SNPs were called as previously described, and variation in prophage sequences, repeat regions, and the genomic island was removed. The tree was rooted on the outgroup *S. Enteritidis* P125109 and visualized, along with the country of origin, in iTOL.

**Assessment of mixing between animal and human isolates from Vietnam.** With 85 human-derived isolates, 113 animal-derived isolates, and five primary BAPS clusters, if the isolates were sampled from a common, well-mixed pool of salmonellae, the assumption would be that approximately 43% (85/198) of isolates in each of the five BAPS clusters would originate from humans. This null hypothesis was tested using Fisher's exact test in R (35), with the *P* value computed using Monte Carlo simulation.

Further assessment of potential mixing between animal and human populations was undertaken for each individual BAPS clade while accounting for phylogenetic structure. Each BAPS clade was extracted from the larger phylogenetic tree using the drop.tip function of the APE package in R (36). For each of the five clades separately, the *D* value, a measure of phylogenetic signal, was calculated for the binary host population (animal/human) trait using the caper package in R (37). The estimated *D* value was evaluated as to whether or not it was significantly different both from random association (*D* = 1) and from the clustering expected under a Brownian evolution threshold model (*D* = 0). Assessment of potential confounding by date of isolation was performed as described in Text S1.

**Identification of antimicrobial resistance determinants.** The ResFinder (38) reference database was used with ARIBA (39) to identify acquired resistance genes, and the results were visualized using Phandango (40). Resistance due to SNPs in the *gyrA*, *gyrB*, *parC*, and *parE* genes was investigated by creating a database of these genes from the reference sequence of *S. Typhimurium* SL1344 and using this with ARIBA to identify SNPs that have been previously associated with resistance. There was a subgroup within the ST34 isolates that had a high number of AMR determinants, called the ST34 MDR (multidrug-resistant) subgroup.

To assess whether or not the isolates from the two clades comprising mainly isolates from ducks (clades 1 and 5) had significantly fewer AMR determinants than the Vietnamese isolates in other clades, the mean number of AMR determinants in isolates from clade 1 (0.66/isolate) and clade 5 (0/isolate) separately was compared to the mean number of AMR determinants of combined isolates from clades 2, 3, and 4 (9.96/isolate) using Mann-Whitney U tests.



**Identification of putative plasmids.** ARIBA (39) was used to identify the plasmid replicon types, using the PlasmidFinder database (41), in each of the Vietnam and context collection isolates.

**Genomic identification of monophasic or biphasic *S. Typhimurium*.** Genomic identification of biphasic or monophasic *S. Typhimurium* was performed by examining the mapped sequence read coverage of the 198 Vietnam isolates against the reference *S. Typhimurium* SL1344 in the genomic region around the *fljBA* locus. Isolates were classified as monophasic (deletion or partial deletion of the *fljBA* locus or presence of the A46T *fljA* or R140L *hin* SNP described by Ido et al. [42]), biphasic (no deletion of the *fljBA* locus), or possibly biphasic (biphasic—: intact *fljBA* locus but possible deletion of the regions around *hin*, a DNA invertase allowing phase switching). Genomic classification of the flagellar status of the Vietnam ST34 isolates was confirmed by laboratory phase switching methods detailed below. Four of the five biphasic— (all ST34) were confirmed as biphasic, and the other was confirmed as monophasic; in the case of any disagreements between the genomic prediction and the laboratory phase switching results, the laboratory results were used.

Isolates in the context collection from the work of Petrovska et al. (12) were labeled as monophasic or biphasic according to the classifications in Technical Appendix 1 from that publication. The other isolates from the context collection, including any from the work of Petrovska et al. for which serotyping data were not available, were classified as genetically monophasic or biphasic based on genomic analysis as described for the Vietnam isolates.

**Phase switching.** To identify monophasic and biphasic *S. Typhimurium* Vietnam ST34 variants, cell suspensions were agglutinated with H:i (phase 1 flagellin) and H:1 (phase 2 flagellin) antisera according to the manufacturer's instructions (SSI Diagnostica, Hillerød, Denmark) (43). These results were further confirmed using phase-changing assays as described in Text S1 in the supplemental material.

**Long-read sequencing.** A biphasic ST34 isolate in the ST34 MDR subclade (VNB151) was additionally sequenced using the Pacific Biosciences platform (Menlo Park, CA, USA). Genomic DNA was phenol-chloroform extracted and was sequenced using 1 single-molecule, real-time (SMRT) cell and the P2-B6 chemistry. Sequence reads were assembled using the methods described in Text S1.

**Association of ST34 MDR subgroup with HIV infections.** To identify if there was an association of the ST34 MDR subclade with HIV-infected individuals, we assessed the numbers of isolates from HIV-infected patients in the ST34 MDR subclade versus the rest of the isolates in the tree, and compared these to the number of isolates not derived from HIV-infected patients using a chi-squared test, using only the human isolates from Vietnam.

**Identification of pseudogenes in ST34 isolates.** To determine whether or not the isolates in the ST34 MDR subclade demonstrated evidence of genome degradation as observed in other *Salmonella* isolates adapted to invasive disease (44), the presence of pseudogenes was investigated in the 71 Vietnamese ST34 isolates, as outlined in Text S1 in the supplemental material. Genes which were disrupted in the majority of ST34 MDR subgroup isolates but not found in other subgroup isolates were identified.

**Data availability.** Accession numbers for all genomes used in this study are available in Tables S1 and S2. The assembly for the biphasic ST34 isolate in the ST34 MDR subclade (VNB151) was submitted to the European Nucleotide Archive under accession number GCA\_900166885.

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Supplemental material for this article may be found at <https://doi.org/10.1128/mBio.01056-18>.

**TEXT S1**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

**FIG S1**, PDF file, 0.2 MB.

**FIG S2**, PDF file, 0.2 MB.

**TABLE S1**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

**TABLE S2**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

**TABLE S3**, PDF file, 0.03 MB.

**TABLE S4**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

**TABLE S5**, PDF file, 0.2 MB.

**TABLE S6**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

**TABLE S7**, PDF file, 0.1 MB.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by a Wellcome Trust Strategic award (WT/093724); a Sir Henry Dale Fellowship, jointly funded by the Wellcome Trust and the Royal Society (100087/Z/12/Z) to S.B.; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council Anniversary Future Leader fellowship BB/M014088/1 to A.E.M. at the University of Cambridge and the Quadram Institute Bioscience BBSRC-funded Strategic Programme: Microbes in the Food Chain (project number BB/R012504/1; current funding supporting A.E.M.); an OAK Foundation fellowship through the University of Oxford (OCAY-15-547) to D.P.T.; Wellcome Trust grant 098051 supporting S.C., S.M., D.A.G., J.P., N.R.T., and G.D.;

VA5IOBX-000372, NIH AI123640, and a Research Centre of Excellence Grant in Mechanobiology from the Singapore Ministry of Education to L.J.K.; and a Wellcome Trust Intermediate Clinical Fellowship (110085/Z/15/Z) to J.C.-M. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Author contributions were as follows: study design, A.E.M. and S.B.; data analysis, A.E.M., S.B., and L.J.K.; isolate acquisition and processing and clinical data collection: T.L.T.P., Y.G., S.C., S.M., D.A.G., N.T.D.H., H.T.T., N.P.H.L., C.N.T., N.H.T.T., J.C.-M., N.T.T., J.I.C., M.A.R., D.P.T., K.H., N.T.H., N.V.T., C.S., G.G.P., J.E.C., D.J.B., C.O., J.P., N.R.T., N.V.V.C., G.E.T., D.J.M., G.D., L.J.K., and S.B.; manuscript writing, A.E.M. and S.B. All authors contributed to manuscript editing.

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