

Title Discrimination of *Listeria monocytogenes* contaminated commercial Japanese meats  
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### **Abstract**

Discrimination was attempted on 14 *Listeria monocytogenes* strains isolated from commercially available Japanese pork and chicken. Examination of the isolates was performed by restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) analysis of the chromosomal DNA and amplified products and comparison of the nucleotide sequences of the amplified products. A polymorphism region containing the repeated sequences in the *iap* gene was amplified by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The genetic analyses could discriminate the 14 isolates in combination with traditional serotyping, and some strains isolated from different meats were confirmed to have a genetically close relationship. Genetic analyses used in the present study would be useful for the elucidation of the pathogen tracks from contaminated sources to humans and of the ecological niche in the food environment.