



Biochemical Characterization of Isoniazid-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*: Can the Analysis of Clonal Strains Reveal Novel Targetable Pathways?*

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Tuberculosis (TB) continues to be an important public health threat worldwide, due in part to drug resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*Mtb*) strains. The United States recently reported a shortage of isoniazid (INH), which could drive higher INH resistance rates. Changes in the *Mtb* proteome before and after acquisition of INH resistance in a clean genetic background remain understudied and may elucidate alternate drug targets. Here, we focused on *Mtb* clonal strains to characterize the consequences of INH resistance on mycobacterial metabolism. Proteomic analysis was conducted by liquid-chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) of cellular and secreted fractions, followed by a normalized spectral counting (NSAF) analysis (data are available via ProteomeXchange with identifier PXD009549). Two different *Mtb* clonal pairs representing a specific genetic lineage (one clinical and one generated in the laboratory) but sharing a *katG* mutation associated with INH resistance, were used in our analysis. Overall, we found 26 *Mtb* proteins with altered abundances after acquisition of INH resistance across both *Mtb* genetic lineages studied. These proteins were involved in ATP synthesis, lipid metabolism, regulatory events, and virulence, detoxification, and adaptation processes. Proteomic findings were validated by Western blotting analyses whenever possible. Mycolic acid (MA) analysis through LC/MS in the clonal *Mtb* pairs did not reveal a common trend in the alteration of these fatty acids across both INHr strains but revealed a significant reduction in levels of the two more abundant α -MA features in the clinical INHr strain. Interestingly, the clinical clonal pair demonstrated more variation in the abundance of the proteins involved in the FAS II pathway. Together, the proteomic and lipidomic data highlight the identification of potential drug targets such as alternative lipid biosynthetic pathways that may be exploited to combat clinically relevant *Mtb* INHr strains. *Molecular & Cellular Proteomics* 17: 1685–1701, 2018. DOI: 10.1074/mcp.RA118.000821.

Despite global efforts to control tuberculosis (TB),¹ the emergence of drug-resistant cases has been detrimental for the successful control of this disease. Today, TB, a bacterial infection caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*Mtb*), remains a significant contributor to morbidity in many countries and is the leading cause of death due to an infectious agent worldwide (1). Isoniazid (INH), one of the first-line drugs used to treat TB patients, was thought to be the solution for the “white plague” in the last century. However, INH resistance emerged rapidly, and INH-resistant (INHr) *Mtb* strains continue to expand globally. The understanding of INH bactericidal activity and bacterial resistance strategies lagged behind the emergence of INH resistance and the spread of INHr *Mtb*, possibly because of the serendipity of its discovery. Once INH is activated by the bacterial enzyme KatG, INH inhibits the synthesis of mycolic acids (MA) (2, 3), which are hallmark molecules of the *Mtb* cell wall and are essential for bacterial survival (4). Additional mechanisms such as the inhibition of the electron transport, nucleic acid synthesis, and cell division are recognized as other bactericidal strategies of INH (2, 3). Despite the broad range of potential INH targets, *katG* mutations are the most common cause of INHr clinical isolates.

The study of bacterial drug resistance, particularly in the context of bacterial physiology, helps us to systematically understand the process and consequences of drug resistance and generates new insights into a very complex phenomenon of clinical relevance. The current approach consisted of comprehensive biochemical exploration of the *Mtb* phenotype after acquisition of INH resistance, specifically the global analysis of changes in protein and lipid abundances in INHr strains due to clinically relevant mutations. A previous descriptive proteomic comparison of INHr and INHs clonal strains of the *Mtb* Beijing lineage exhibited altered abundance of proteins involved in central carbon and lipid metabolism in the INHr

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strains (5). Here, we focused our efforts on describing the proteome and MA-related metabolome of two clonal pairs (INHs and INHr) representing two different *Mtb* genetic lineages (T and Euro-American) as well as different degrees of virulence in the mouse model (6). Using two distinct clonal pairs allowed us to study the INH resistance phenomenon without confounding factors given by the inherent variability of the different mycobacterial genetic lineages.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Bacterial Strains

One clinical and one laboratory clonal pair of *Mtb* with different genetic backgrounds were analyzed in this study. The clinical pair was previously identified as members of the T lineage by restriction fragment length polymorphism RFLP—*IS6110* (7) and spoligotyping (8) and was obtained from the same patient pre- and post-drug exposure (6). The institutional review board for the clinically isolated *Mtb* pair has been described previously (6, 9, 10). The laboratory pair consisted of the reference strain H37Rv and its *katG* mutant generated in the laboratory after exposure to INH in an infected mouse (11). The INH-susceptible and -resistant *Mtb* strains were denoted as INHs and INHr, respectively. INHr strains from both clinical and laboratory pairs have the *katG* mutation V1A, while the clinical INHr strain also bears a second *katG* mutation, E3V (6, 11, 12). A previous whole-genome sequencing study on the T lineage corroborated that only *katG* mutation was associated with drug resistance and the clonality of these pairs.

Proteomic Analysis

Culture Filtrate Proteins and Subcellular Fractions—For the proteomic analysis, all *Mtb* strains were cultured in triplicate in a final volume of 1 liter of glycerol alanine salts medium and incubated at 37 °C in constant agitation. Glycerol alanine salts medium was prepared in-house with the following composition per liter: 2 g of ammonium chloride (Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, MK338412, U.S.), 1 g of L-alanine (Sigma-Aldrich, A7627, U.S.), 0.3 g of Bacto Casitone (Fisher Scientific, 225930, U.S.), 4 g of dibasic potassium phosphate (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, 60353, U.S.), 2 g of citric acid (ALFA AESAR, Haverhill, MA, AA36664-36, U.S.), 50 mg of ammonium iron (III) citrate (Sigma-Aldrich, F5879, U.S.), 1.2 g of magnesium chloride hexahydrate (J.T. Baker, Center Valley, PA, JT40031, U.S.), 0.6 g of potassium sulfate (J.T. Baker, JT3278-1, U.S.), 1.8 ml of 10 M sodium hydroxide (Fisher Scientific, S318-500, U.S.), 10 ml of glycerol (Fisher Scientific, AC33203-0025, U.S.), and 0.05% Tween 80 (G-Biosciences, St. Louis, MO, 786-519, U.S.). This minimal medium was used for the proteomic analysis purposely guaranteeing the growth of the bacterium with minimal interference for the downstream analytical process (such as the excess of contaminant proteins from a more enriched medium or detergents such as polyethylene glycol). Moreover, we wanted to provide findings regarding the specific adaptive

responses of the bacterium after the acquisition of INH resistance to reduce potential confounding factors. Cells and culture filtrate were harvested after three weeks of culture as described elsewhere (14). Culture filtrate proteins (CFP) and subcellular fractions: membrane (MEM), cytosol (CYT) and cell wall (CW) were prepared as previously described by Lucas *et al.* (15). Each fraction was qualified for protein concentration, total protein content, and marker proteins (where applicable) per standard qualification criteria established by our laboratory and used to qualify and provide similar biological reagents to the mycobacteria research community through BEI resources (<https://www.beiresources.org/About/QualityControl.aspx>). Before the digestion of proteins, the CW fraction was delipidated as described elsewhere (14). All the resulting proteins were resuspended in 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate (Sigma-Aldrich, A6141, U.S.).

In-solution Protein Digestion—Total protein concentration of all subcellular fractions and CFPs was measured using the bicinchoninic acid method (Thermo Scientific™ Pierce™ BCA Protein Assay, U.S.). In-solution trypsin digestion of 30 μg of each protein sample was performed as described previously, using ProteaseMax surfactant (Fisher Scientific, PRV2071, U.S.) followed by a final desalting step using Pierce® C-18 spin columns (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 89870, U.S.) (14). Peptides were finally resuspended in solvent A (0.1% formic acid (Thermo Scientific™ Pierce™, PI28905, U.S.), 3% acetonitrile (Burdick & Jackson, Mexico City, Mexico, AH015-4PC, U.S.) in HPLC water (Fisher Scientific, P51140, U.S.)).

Liquid Chromatography Coupled with Tandem Mass Spectrometry Assay (LC-MS/MS)—One microliter (0.5 μg) of digested peptides from subcellular fractions and CFPs were randomly injected in duplicate using the Orbitrap Velos MS (Thermo Scientific, U.S.) coupled with the instrument EASY-nLC II nanoflow HPLC (Thermo Scientific, U.S.). Each sample was injected using the nano-HPLC instrument, and peptides were purified and concentrated using an on-line enrichment column EASY-Column, 100 μm inner diameter × 2 cm ReproSil-Pur C18 (Thermo Scientific, U.S.). Subsequent chromatographic separation was performed on a reverse phase nanospray column (EASY-Column, 3 μm, 75 μm inner diameter × 100 mm ReproSil-Pur C18) using a 90-min linear gradient from 5–45% solvent B (100% acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid) at a flow rate of 400 nl/min. Peptides were eluted directly into the mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific Orbitrap Velos). The instrument was operated in Orbitrap-LTQ mode where precursor measurements were acquired in the Orbitrap (60,000 resolution) with a *m/z* range of 400–2,000 and the automatic gain control target for MS1 full scan was 1×10^6 . Tandem MS/MS spectra (top 20) were acquired in the LTQ ion trap with a normalized collision energy of 35%. Other mass spectrometer parameters were: signal threshold for triggering MS/MS event of 5,000, charge state screening states accepted for MS2 were 2+ and 3+, rejecting all other charge states as well as the unknown charge state of precursors. Parameters for dynamic exclusion: exclusion after a repeat count of two within 30 s; exclusion size list: 500; exclusion duration: 90 s.

Database Searching—Tandem mass spectra raw data were converted to mzXML files using ProteoWizard (MSConvert version 3.0) (16). All MS/MS samples were analyzed using Sorcerer2™ integrated data analysis platform (Sage-N Research, Milpitas, CA, version 5.0.1) and Sequest (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA, U.S.; version v. 3.5). Sequest was set up to search the *Mtb strain* H37Rv Tuberculist database, version R25 completed in April 2012 (17) including all reverse entries as decoys (7,992 entries) with trypsin as the digestion enzyme and up to two missed cleavage sites. Sequest was searched with a fragment ion mass tolerance of 1.00 Da and a parent ion tolerance of 20 ppm. Oxidation of methionine and carbamidomethylation of cysteine were specified in Sequest as variable modifications. Fixed modifications were not included in the analysis.

¹ The abbreviations used are: TB, tuberculosis; *Mtb*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; INH, isoniazid; INHr, isoniazid resistant; INHs, isoniazid susceptible; CFP, culture filtrate proteins; CYT, cytosol; MEM, membrane; CW, cell wall; MS/MS, tandem mass spectrometry; TLC, thin-layer chromatography; MA, mycolic acids; PDIM, phthiocerol dimycocerosates; TMM, trehalose monomycolate; TDM, trehalose dimycolate; SAM, S-adenosyl-methionine; ACP, acyl carrier protein; RFLP, restriction fragment length polymorphism; LTQ, linear triple quadrupole; ESI, electro-spray ionization; NIAID, National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Criteria for Protein Identification and Statistical Analysis—Scaffold (version Scaffold_4.3.2, Proteome Software, Inc., Portland, OR) was used to validate MS/MS-based peptide and protein identifications. Peptide identifications were accepted if they could be established at greater than 95.0% probability by the Scaffold Local FDR algorithm. Protein identifications were accepted if they could be established at greater than 99.0% probability to achieve an FDR less than 1.0% and contained at least two identified peptides. Protein probabilities were assigned by the Protein Prophet algorithm (18). Proteins that contained similar peptides and could not be differentiated based on MS/MS analysis alone were grouped to satisfy the principles of parsimony.

Experimental Design and Statistical Rationale—Each experiment included three independent biological replicates (individual 1-liter cultures) for each evaluated condition (INHs and INHr, either clinically or laboratory isolated). Two independent technical replicates (injections) were acquired for each biological replicate. Biological replicates were accepted as part of the experiment data set if the cultures grew to uniform turbidity and the spectra for each technical sample consisted of the same distribution of qualified spectra. A qualified spectrum was determined by evaluation of the normalized spectra abundance factor (NSAF) using inferno (R-based statistical analysis platform), evaluating boxplots (for normalized distribution of spectra), and principal component analysis graphs (for sample set clustering). Three biological replicate sets were accepted for each condition under these quality control criteria, with the exception of the clinical INHr sample, from which two biological replicate sets met the qualification criteria following upscale to 1-liter cultures. Differences between protein abundances, expressed as NSAF values among the two different phenotypes (INHs versus INHr) in each pair (clinical or lab-derived strains) were tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. At each pair comparison, the INHs strain was used as the control for the analysis of the protein levels. *p* values less than or equal to 0.05 were considered significant.

The MS/MS proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium (<http://proteomecentral.proteomexchange.org>) via the PRIDE partner repository with the data set identifier PXD009549 and 10.6019/PXD009549 (19, 20).

Western Blotting (WB) Validation—To validate the levels of the proteins Ag85, HspX, and AcpM, 5 μ g of total cytosolic protein from two biological replicates for each strain were separated in a SDS-PAGE and then transferred onto a nitrocellulose membrane. For FabG1/MabA and InhA, 5 μ g of cell wall protein, and for UmaA, 5 μ g of membrane protein fraction, prepared as described previously, were used (15). Mouse monoclonal primary antibodies for Ag85 complex (Clone CS-90) and HspX (Clone CS-49) were obtained through BEI Resources, NIAID, and NIH (<https://www.beiresources.org>). Rabbit polyclonal anti-AcpM was produced as follows: rAcpM was produced in and purified from *Escherichia coli*. The gene fragment encoding AcpM was amplified by PCR using the primers 5'-CTTAAGG CATATG CCT GTC ACT CAG GAA GAA AT-3' (forward) and 5'-GCC GAATTC TCA CTT GGA CTC GGC CTC AAG-3' (reverse). The amplified gene product was ligated into the multiple cloning site for pET28a (EMD Biosciences, Gibbstown, NJ, U.S.) following digestion with NdeI and EcoRI and the recombinant plasmid was transformed, plated, induced, and purified using methods described previously (21). Purified recombinant protein was used to produce polyclonal antisera through contracted work to Lampire Biological Laboratories (Pipersville, PA) using their standard EXPRESS-LINE Basic 50 day protocol (http://www.lampire.com/products/poly_express.php?section=custom_poly&cat=poly_express), with the modification that only incomplete Freund's adjuvant was used for all injections. Mouse polyclonal antisera for InhA, MabA, and rabbit polyclonal antisera for UmaA were kindly provided by Dr. John Spencer and Dr. Angela Marques,

respectively, from Colorado State University. Secondary antibodies Goat anti-rabbit F(ab)₂ fragment (Thermo Scientific) and goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L) (Thermo Scientific)-HRP conjugated were used depending on the nature of the primary antibody. The proteins were detected with the chemiluminescent SuperSignal West Pico Stable peroxide solution detection system (Thermo Scientific Pierce).

Lipidomics

Total Lipid Extraction—Clonal pairs were cultured in 100 ml of glycerol alanine salts media and incubated under the same conditions as that for the proteomic analyses. After removing the media by centrifugation (at 3,500 \times g for 20 min at 4 °C), the bacterial cell pellets were washed with 1X PBS and incubated with 10 ml of chloroform/methanol/water 10:10:3 overnight at room temperature with constant agitation to inactivate the bacteria and extract the total lipids, as previously described (22). After drying the lipid solutions under the nitrogen bath, samples were diluted in chloroform/methanol 2:1.

One-dimensional Thin-layer Chromatography (TLC)—In order to compare lipids profiles from the different *Mtb* clonal pairs, 400 μ g of total lipid from each strain were added on aluminum-backed silica TLC plates (HPTLC Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, EMD Millipore, Burlington, MA). For phthiocerol dimycocerosates (PDIMs) comparison, TLC plates were run in petroleum ether: Ethyl acetate (98:2) and then the lipids were detected with 10% cupric sulfate (in 8% phosphoric acid solution). For the glycolipids comparison, TLC plates were run in 40:8:1 chloroform:methanol:water, and then the lipids were detected with α -naphthol (0.5% α -naphthol in 5% sulfuric acid in ethanol) followed by heat. Lipid standards: trehalose monomycolates (TMM), trehalose dimycolates (TDM), sulfolipids, phosphatidylinositol mannosides (PIM), and PDIMs were obtained from BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH (<https://www.beiresources.org>). Intensity of the lipid signal on the TLC plates was measured using the software ImageJ and the statistical comparison was performed in GraphPad Prism 6.

Mycolic Acids Extraction—*Mtb* cell pellets obtained from the previously described delipidation process were transferred to 13 \times 100 mm glass tubes, mixed with 2 ml of 1 M KOH (Sigma-Aldrich, 484016, U.S.) in methanol (Honeywell Research Chemicals, Center Valley, PA, LC230–2.5, U.S.) and incubated for 2 h at 80 °C. After setting the tubes at room temperature for 20 min, pH was adjusted to 5.0 with HCl, and 2 ml of diethyl ether (Sigma-Aldrich, 309966–1L, U.S.) were added to extract the saponified material. The diethyl ether extraction step was repeated, collecting the upper layer in both cases in the same tube. After this, 2 ml of HPLC water (Fisher Scientific, P51140, U.S.) were added, and the upper (organic) layer was carefully transferred to a preweighted glass tube. This resulting solution of MA was dried under nitrogen gas. The MA samples were diluted to 1 μ g/ μ l in solvent B (5 mM ammonium acetate in *n*-propanol-hexane-water (79:20:1; v/v/v)).

LC-MS Analysis—5 μ l of MA solution (1 μ g/ μ l, in solvent B) were used for the LC-Q-TOF-MS analysis, following the method described by Sartain *et al.* (22) with minor modifications. The autosampler was kept at 20 °C. A Water's XBridge (Ethylene-Bridged Hybrid, BEH, Waters Corporation, Millford, MA) C18 column (2.1 \times 150 mm, 3.5 μ m) was used for chromatographic separation of lipids at 45 °C, over 35 min with a flow rate of 0.32 ml/min. The system was equilibrated with 100% solvent A (5 mM ammonium acetate in methanol-water 99:1; v/v) and 20% solvent B (described above). Solvent A was maintained at 100% for 2 min, followed by a 30-min linear gradient to 100% solvent B. The conditions for the TOF analyzer were described previously (22); briefly, negative ion data were generated by operation of the mass spectrometer in a dual ESI mode with a capillary voltage of 4,000 V, nebulizer of 45 psig, drying gas of 8.0 liters/min, gas

TABLE I
Proteins with significant differential abundance ($p > 0.05$) in both clinical and lab strains after acquisition of INHr

| Accession number | Gene | | Log2 $\frac{NSAF\ INHs}{NSAF\ INHr}$ | | Variation in other fractions* |
|------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| | | | Clinical pair | Lab pair | |
| Identified proteins CFP (4) | | | | | |
| Rv0363c.1 | <i>fba</i> | Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase | 1.20 | -0.15 | |
| Rv1908c.1 | <i>katG</i> | Catalase-peroxidase-peroxynitritase T | 4.65 | 1.43 | All [#] |
| Rv2495 | <i>pdhC</i> | Dihydrolipoamide S-acetyltransferase E2 component | ^a | -1.32 | |
| Rv1910c.1 | <i>Rv1910c.1</i> | Hypothetical exported protein | -2.32 | -0.32 | |
| Identified proteins CW (7) | | | | | |
| Rv1731 | <i>gabD2</i> | Succinate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase NADPH-dependent | -0.32 | -0.51 | MEM |
| Rv1908c.1 | <i>katG</i> | Catalase-peroxidase-peroxynitritase T | 6.62 | 2.32 | All [#] |
| Rv2213 | <i>pepB</i> | Aminopeptidase | -0.51 | -0.51 | MEM |
| Rv2214 | <i>ephD</i> | Short-chain type dehydrogenase | -1.32 | -1.74 | |
| Rv2346 | <i>esxO</i> | Esat-6 like protein | 0.38 | 0.77 | |
| Rv2567 | <i>Rv2567</i> | Conserved alanine and leucine rich protein | -3.32 | 0.49 | |
| Rv2984 | <i>ppk</i> | Polyphosphate kinase | -2.32 | 4.10 | MEM [#] |
| Identified proteins CYT (7) | | | | | |
| Rv0757.1 | <i>phoP</i> | Two component system transcriptional regulator | -1.00 | -2.32 | CW and MEM |
| Rv1454 | <i>qor</i> | Quinone reductase | -0.32 | 0.85 | CW and CFP |
| Rv1821.1 | <i>secA2</i> | Preprotein translocase ATPase | 2.89 | -3.32 | MEM (lab pair only) [#] |
| Rv1908c.1 | <i>katG</i> | Catalase-peroxidase-peroxynitritase T | 2.17 | 1.63 | All [#] |
| Rv2428.1 | <i>ahpC</i> | Alkyl hydroperoxide reductase C | 1.32 | -0.32 | CW and MEM (clinical pair only) [#] |
| Rv2703.1 | <i>sigA</i> | RNA polymerase sigma factor | -1.00 | -1.00 | CW and MEM |
| Rv3801c.1 | <i>fadD32</i> | Fatty-acid-Coa ligase | 0.38 | -2.32 | MEM (lab pair only) [#] |
| Identified proteins MEM (27) | | | | | |
| Rv0134 | <i>ephF</i> | Epoxide hydrolase | -3.32 | -0.74 | CW |
| Rv0243.1 | <i>fadA2</i> | Acetyl-coA acyltransferase | -1.00 | 0.38 | CW and CYT |
| Rv0636.1 | <i>hadB</i> | (3R)-hydroxyacyl-ACP dehydratase catalytic subunit | 1.00 | -1.74 | CYT |
| Rv0710.1 | <i>rpsQ</i> | 30S ribosomal protein S17 | 0.68 | 0.58 | CYT and CFP |
| Rv0896.1 | <i>gltA2</i> | Citrate synthase I | -0.32 | 0.26 | CW |
| Rv1077 | <i>cbs</i> | Cystathionine beta-synthase | ^a | 0.68 | |
| Rv1206 | <i>fadD6</i> | fatty-acid-CoA ligase | -3.32 | -1.32 | CW (clinical pair [#]) |
| Rv1326c.1 | <i>glgB</i> | 1,4- α -glucan branching enzyme | 2.17 | 1.14 | All |
| Rv1392.1 | <i>metK</i> | S-adenosylmethionine synthetase | 0.49 | 0.49 | CYT (clinical pair only) [#] |
| Rv1647 | <i>Rv1647</i> | Adenylate cyclase (ATP pyrophosphate-lyase) | -2.32 | -3.32 | CW |
| Rv1872c.1 | <i>lldD2</i> | L-lactate dehydrogenase | -1.00 | -0.51 | CW (clinical pair only) [#] |
| Rv1908c.1 | <i>katG</i> | Catalase-peroxidase-peroxynitritase T | 2.41 | 2.30 | All [*] |
| Rv1978.1 | <i>Rv1978.1</i> | Conserved hypothetical protein | -3.32 | -1.00 | CW and CFP |
| Rv2037c.1 | <i>Rv2037c.1</i> | Conserved membrane protein | -3.32 | -1.74 | CW |
| Rv2198 | <i>mmpS3</i> | Membrane protein mmpS3 | ^a | ^b | |
| Rv2225 | <i>panB</i> | 3-methyl-2-oxobutanoate hydroxymethyltransferase | 3.20 | 0.77 | |
| Rv2338c | <i>moeW</i> | Molybdopterin biosynthesis protein | -3.32 | -4.06 | |
| Rv2357 | <i>glyS</i> | glycyl-tRNA synthetase | -1.32 | -0.74 | CW |
| Rv2429.1 | <i>ahpD</i> | Alkyl hydroperoxide reductase D protein | 2.98 | -0.74 | All but CYT and CFP of clinical pair [#] |
| Rv2564.1 | <i>glnQ</i> | Glutamine-transport ATP-binding protein ABC transporter | -1.00 | -0.74 | |
| Rv2574.1 | <i>Rv2574.1</i> | Conserved hypothetical protein | -3.32 | -0.74 | |
| Rv2773 | <i>dapB</i> | Dihydrodipicolinate reductase | -5.06 | -0.15 | CFP and CW |
| Rv2951c.1 | <i>Rv2951c.1</i> | Oxidoreductase | -1.32 | -0.74 | CW |
| Rv2971 | <i>Rv2971</i> | Oxidoreductase | 0.93 | -3.32 | CW |
| Rv2984 | <i>ppk</i> | Polyphosphate kinase | -1.74 | 0.68 | CW [#] |
| Rv3050c.1 | <i>Rv3050c.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, asnc-family | -3.32 | -1.32 | CW |
| Rv3137.1 | <i>Rv3137.1</i> | Monophosphatase | 3.17 | 0.68 | CW |

*Variation with the same tendency reported in the previous columns. [#]Statistically significant variation. ^aNSAF (normalized spectral abundance factor) values for the INHr strain were zero. ^bNSAF values for the INHs strain were zero. Negative values indicate proteins with significantly decreased levels while positive values indicate proteins with significantly increased levels in the INHs strain.

temperature of 300 °C, fragmentor of 125 V, skimmer of 65 V, and octapole radio frequency voltage of 750 V. Mass spectra were acquired at 2.0 spectra/s. Data were collected over a *m/z* of 250 to 2,500 Da with the Agilent MassHunter WorkStation Data Acquisition software, version B.05. MS/MS spectra of MAs were acquired in targeted mode with isolation of precursor ion width medium (~4 amu). Fragmentation of targeted molecules was achieved using

purified nitrogen as collision gas, applying collision energy of 65 voltage.

Lipidomic Data Analysis and Statistical Comparison—Since α -MA represent more than 70% of the total MA in *Mtb* (23), the levels of the most abundant α -MA: α -MA C78 and α -MA C80 (24, 25), as well as two other shorter chain and less abundant α -MA (C77 and C79) were compared between the clonal *Mtb* pairs. The *m/z* values correspond-

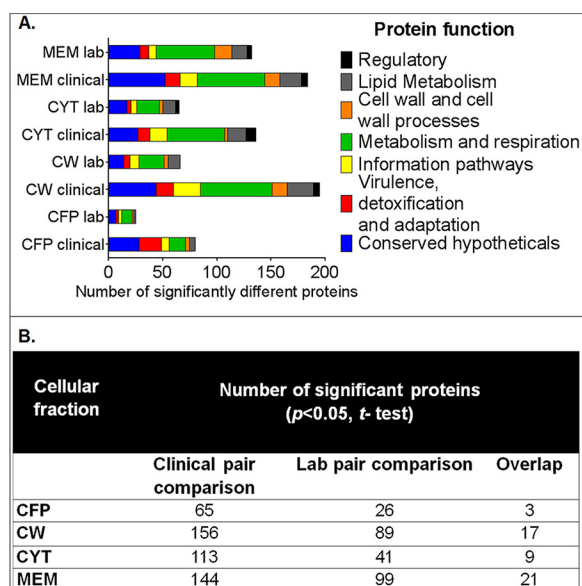


FIG. 1. (A) Number of proteins with significant differences in their abundance in the LC-MS/MS analysis between INHr and INHs pairs, grouped by functional category according to Tuberculist (<http://tuberculist.epfl.ch/>) ($p < 0.05$, t test). (B) Number of proteins with significant abundance differences among INH-susceptible and -resistant pairs for each cellular fraction. CFP: secreted proteins, CW: cell wall, CYT: cytosol, MEM: membrane.

ing to these features were obtained looking at the *Mtb* lipid database described by Sartain *et al.* (20). The comparison of the peak area for each extracted ion chromatogram was conducted by two-tailed t test using GraphPad Prism 6. The features were analyzed using Agilent MassHunter Qualitative Analysis B.06.00 and the chemical structures derived from this analysis were represented using Chemdraw Professional 15.1.

RESULTS

The analysis of proteins that presented altered abundances among INHr *versus* INHs in both clinical and laboratory clonal pairs with the same trend as well as individual results observed only in the clinical clonal pair are described in detail in the following sections. All the proteins identified at each cellular fraction for each strain are described in [supplemental Data 1](#). A total of 41 proteins with different abundances were shared between both clonal pairs; 26 of them had the same trend (Table I). Proteins such as KatG and PpK had statistically significant variation in at least two cellular fractions, with the same tendency for each pair comparison (Table I). Levels of the proteins SecA2, AhpC, AhpD, MetK, LldD2, FadD32, FadD6, and DapB varied significantly not only in both pair comparisons (clinical and laboratory pair comparison), but this variation was statistically significant also in at least another cellular fraction (Table I). The commonly affected proteins belong to different functional categories, where metabolism and respiration as well as lipid metabolism were the most represented categories (Fig. 1A). In addition, a higher number of proteins with significant differences in their abun-

dances (t test, $p < 0.05$) between INHr and INHs were observed in the clinical pair (Fig. 1).

Altered Proteins with the Same Trend Among the *Mtb* Clonal Pairs

KatG Levels Were Decreased in Both INHr Strains—As it was expected based on previous genomic and Western blotting analyses (6, 12), there was a statistically significant reduction of KatG levels in both clinical and laboratory INHr strains compared with their respective INHs progenitor strains (Table I, Fig. 2). KatG deficiency had been noted in a previous virulence study of these strains in the water-soluble fractions (CYT and CFP) by WB (6). Interestingly, the LC-MS/MS analysis revealed that this protein was truly decreased in all the cellular fractions tested for both INHr strains (Fig. 2). It is known that *katG* mutations distinctively alter the levels of the enzyme besides its catalytic domains (26, 27). Here, we show that the less frequent 5' end *katG* mutations also result in a significant reduction of the KatG enzyme levels (Fig. 2). In the same functional category of virulence detoxification and adaptation, we also found increased levels of two other oxidoreductases, Rv1751 and Rv2951c, in both INHr strains (Fig. 2).

***Mtb katG* Mutant Strains Had Altered Proteins Involved in Energy Metabolism**—In the category of energy metabolism and respiration, there was a common significant increase in the abundance of AtpG, an ATP synthase protein, and QcrC, a protein of the cytochrome bc_1 complex, in the membrane and cell wall fractions (Figs. 3A–3B). Although AtpH was also increased in both INHr strains, this difference was statistically significant only in the membrane and cell wall fractions of the laboratory pair (Fig. 3A). The dihydrolipoamide dehydrogenase LpdC, also involved in energy metabolism in *Mtb*, was decreased in both INHr strains (Fig. 3A). Additional proteins in this category were increased in either the laboratory or the clinical INHr strain. These include other members of the ATP synthase (AtpF and D), the cytochrome bc_1 complex (QcrA and B), as well as the cytochrome aa_3 -type oxidase (CtaC and D) (Figs. 3A–3B). All of these increased proteins in the INHr strains participate in the electron-transport chain (Fig. 3B) and suggest a highly reductive environment in the cell with the enzymatic capacity to produce high levels of ATP (28). Additionally, a common increased abundance of three enzymes of the central carbon metabolism, specifically of the tricarboxylic acid cycle, were observed for both INHr strains. These include the enzymes isocitrate dehydrogenase Icd2, succinate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase GabD2, and L-lactate dehydrogenase LldD2 (Fig. 3A).

Increased Abundance of Proteins in the Fatty Acid β -Oxidation in *katG* Mutants—Overall, there was a net increase in the abundance of enzymes involved in the β oxidation pathway in both INHr strains (Fig. 4). Particularly, FadD6, FadE24, and FadB were all more abundant in the INHr strains. FadD6

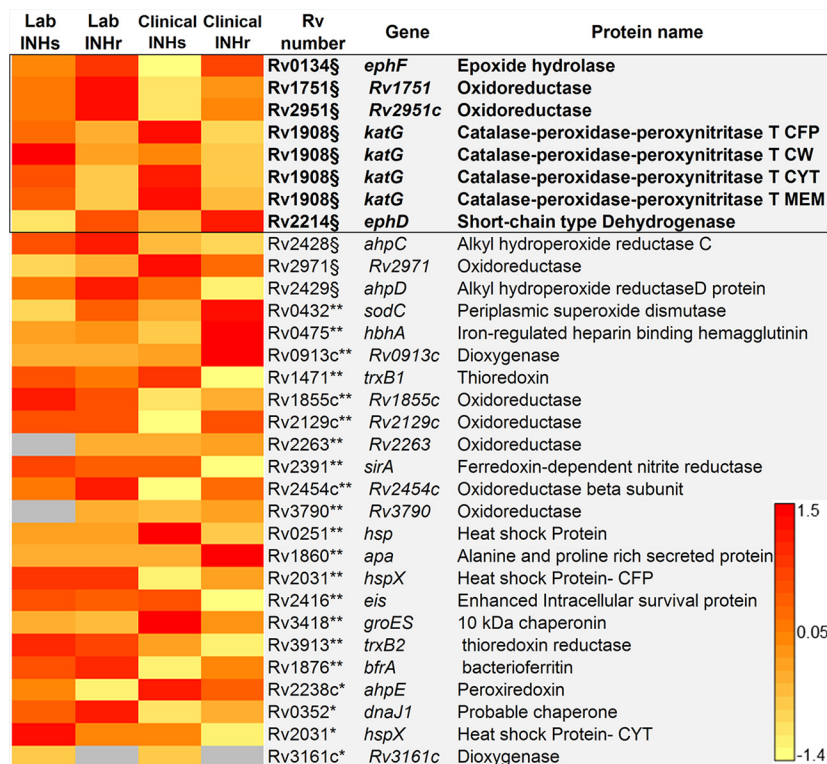


FIG. 2. Proteins in the virulence, detoxification, and adaptation category with significant abundance differences between clonal pairs of *Mtb* after INHr acquisition. * $p < 0.05$ (t test) in the laboratory strains comparison only, ** $p < 0.05$ (t test) in the clinical strains comparison only, § $p < 0.05$ (t test) in both (clinical and lab) comparisons. The black box indicates the proteins that were not only shared but had the same trend in both comparisons. The cellular fraction is only indicated for KatG to emphasize the strong decreased levels of this protein. CFP: culture filtrate; CW: cell wall; MEM: membrane; CYT: cytosol proteins.

and FadE24 catalyze the first and second β -oxidation reaction, respectively. FadB forms a canonical β -oxidation complex with FadA (29), which is increased in the clinical INHr strain only (Fig. 4). In the same way, lipolytic enzymes such as lipases/esterases, phospholipases, and enzymes involved in cholesterol oxidation were mostly increased in the INHr strains (supplemental Fig. S1). Among the lipases, higher levels of LipD and LipW were observed in the clinical INHr strain while only higher levels of LipN were detected in the laboratory INHr strain (supplemental Fig. S1).

Short-chain Dehydrogenase EPHD and the Epoxide Hydrolase EPHF—Increased levels of these two enzymes were observed in both INHr strains. EphF and EphD are grouped in the virulence and detoxification category and are involved in detoxification reactions following the degradation of lipids, which is in relation with the increased levels of enzymes participating in the β -oxidation pathway.

Decreased Levels of Proteins Involved in the MA Synthesis—Three enzymes of the fatty acid synthase pathway II (FAS II), UmaA, FbpA, and InhA had significantly lower levels in both INHr strains (Fig. 5). UmaA is a probable methyl transferase whose function in *Mtb* remains unknown. As a methyl transferase, UmaA can participate in the modification of mycolates since it has a cyclopropane synthase domain (30). The next enzyme, FbpA is part of the Antigen 85 complex and

participates in the transfer of MA to TMMs and arabinogalactan to form cell-wall mycolyl-arabinogalactan-peptidoglycan complex (31–33). Finally, InhA is an NADH-dependent meromycolic acid reductase that participates in the mycolate biosynthesis and is the most accepted target of INH. Inhibition of InhA by INH potentially affects the last elongation steps for the formation of the meromycolate chain, with the possible accumulation of the *cis*-unsaturated short chain precursors (23). In addition to these three enzymes, other proteins related to MA metabolism specific to each of the clonal pairs were also observed and are presented in supplemental Figs. S2 and S3.

Decreased Abundance of Proteins Involved in the S-Adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM) Metabolism—In line with altered levels of methyl transferases (Fig. 5 and supplemental Fig. S2), significantly reduced levels of MetK and SahH were observed in both INHr strains (supplemental Fig. S4). These two proteins are involved in the SAM metabolism. MetK participates in the final conversion of methionine to SAM while SahH is a thioester hydrolase expected to convert S-adenosyl-L-homocysteine into adenosine and L-homocysteine. These differences were observed at different cellular fractions for each pair comparison (supplemental Fig. S4).

Higher Levels of Transcriptional Regulatory Proteins in Both INHr Strains—The regulatory proteins PhoP and Rv3050c.1 were significantly increased in both INHr strains (Table II).

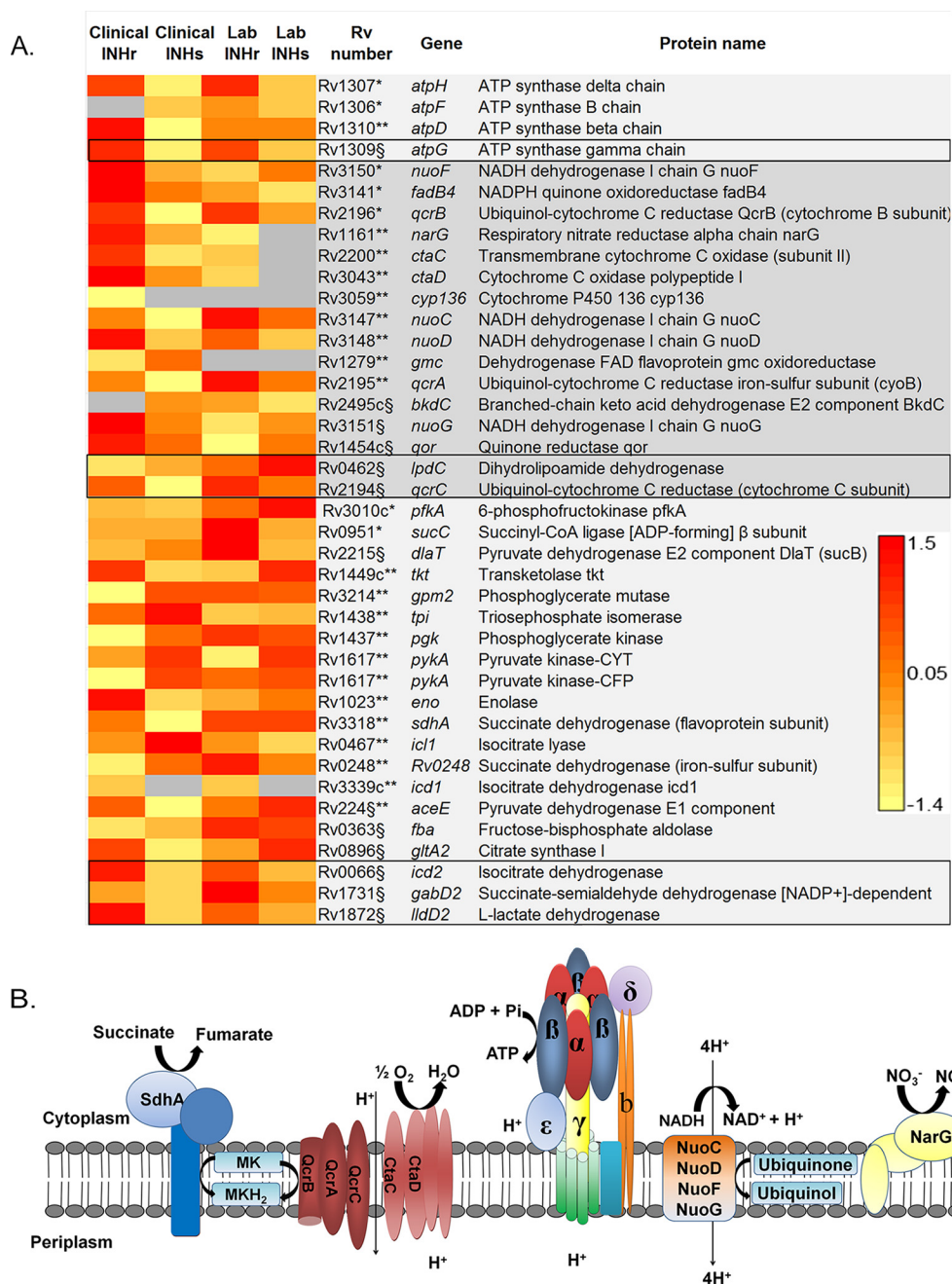


FIG. 3. (A) Proteins in the energetic metabolism and respiration category significantly different between clonal pairs of *Mtb* after INHr acquisition. $p < 0.05$ (t test) *in the laboratory strains comparison only, **in the clinical strains comparison only, §in both (clinical and lab) comparisons. The black box indicates the proteins that were not only shared but had the same trend in both comparisons. (B) Components of the electron-transport chain and ATP synthase proteins altered in the INHr strains. MK: menaquinone; MKH₂: menaquinol.

PhoP is a transcriptional regulatory protein that works together with PhoQ to positively regulate some genes implied in the growth of fully virulent *Mtb* strains in the mouse model (34). Increased expression of PhoP has also been shown in transcriptomic studies in response to hypoxia and nutrient starvation (35, 36). Little is known about Rv3050c.1 that is part of the AsnC-family which groups regulators specifically triggered by asparagine binding. Among the possible events

regulated by this protein are amino acid metabolism, DNA repair, central carbon metabolism, and persistence (37). Lastly, the regulatory protein Rv3676 was found with increased abundance in our study for our clinical isolate and was also shown to be an important regulatory protein via transcriptomic studies in response to hypoxia and/or nutrient starvation that include discordant results similar to ours, which may be explained by differences between strains (36, 38, 39).

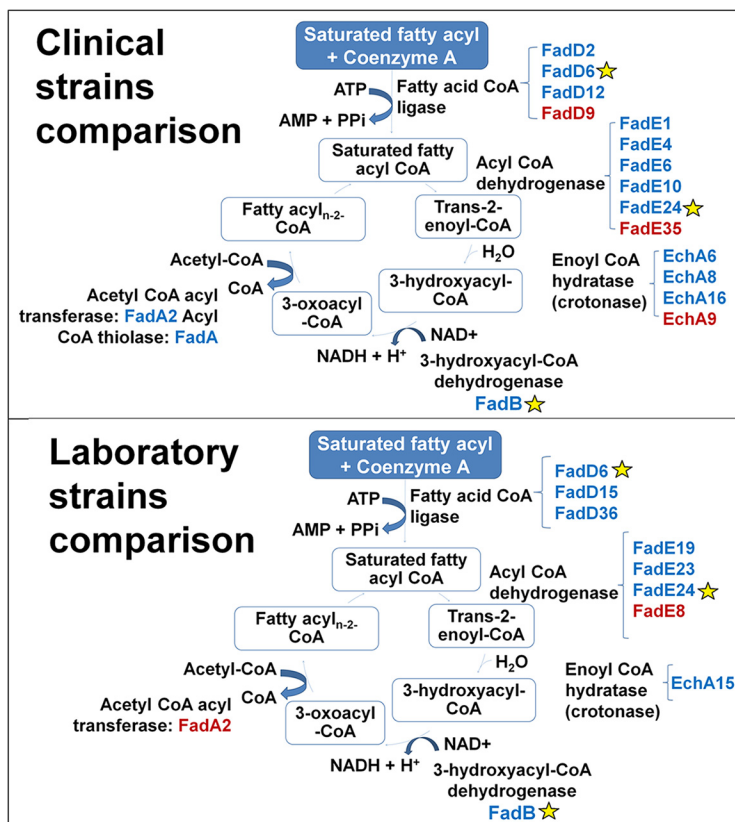


FIG. 4. **Enzymes involved in the β -oxidation of fatty acids with altered levels in the *Mtb* INHr strains.** For each reaction, the name of the enzyme is described in black; close to them are the different isozyms that were found in the LC-MS/MS analysis significantly higher (blue) or lower (red) in the INHr strain for each comparison. Yellow stars indicate the common proteins in both clinical and laboratory strains comparison.

Increased Levels of the Lipoproteins in the INHr Strains—There were no commonly altered lipoproteins in either the clinical and laboratory comparisons; however, there was a common trend of increased lipoprotein abundance. Six lipoproteins were significantly increased in the laboratory INHr strain, while three lipoproteins were significantly increased in the clinical INHr strain. The lipoprotein LppX was the exception in this group, as it was significantly decreased in the clinical INHr strain only (Fig. 6). LppX is a lipoprotein involved in the translocation of PDIMs across the plasma membrane of *Mtb* (40).

Protein Differences Showing Opposite Trends Between Clinical and Laboratory Strains

Levels of the Antioxidant Complex AhpD/AhpC Are Not Common Events in All *katG* Mutants—In the analysis of proteins that may compensate the reduced levels of KatG, the alkyl peroxidases AhpC and AhpD were evaluated in both INHr strains. These proteins form a complex that is part of the antioxidant response in *Mtb*, with peroxidase and peroxynitrite-reductase functions (41, 42). Both AhpC and D were lower in the clinical INHr but higher in the laboratory INHr strain compared with their susceptible pairs, respectively (Table I, Fig. 2). The distinct AhpC trend was previously observed in these INHr strains by Western blotting

in a virulence study, where lower levels of AhpC protein were simultaneously observed in the INHr strain along with reduced fitness and virulent profile in the mouse model. On the contrary, higher levels of AhpC were concomitant with a nonsignificantly altered virulent bacterial phenotype (6). Previous studies have also evidenced the importance of AhpD in the *in vivo* stress response in INHr *Mtb* strains (42, 43).

NADH Dehydrogenase Complex I—Although showing a different trend in the INHr strains compared with their INHs parental strains, proteins of the proton pumping I NADH dehydrogenase complex (NDH-I) were altered in both INHr strains. The proteins NuoF and NuoG were significantly decreased in the laboratory INHr while the proteins NuoC, D, and G were significantly increased in the clinical INHr strain (Fig. 3A). These four proteins are encoded by the *nuo* operon and are involved in respiration with the oxido-reduction of menaquinone (Fig. 3B). This suggests that NDH-1 complex alteration could be a common result of the INHr phenotype, but the trend to which it could be affected may depend on additional factors such as its genetic background or type of drug exposure, for instance, one single drug (as in the case of the laboratory INHr strain) or a combined therapy (as in the case of the clinical INHr strain).

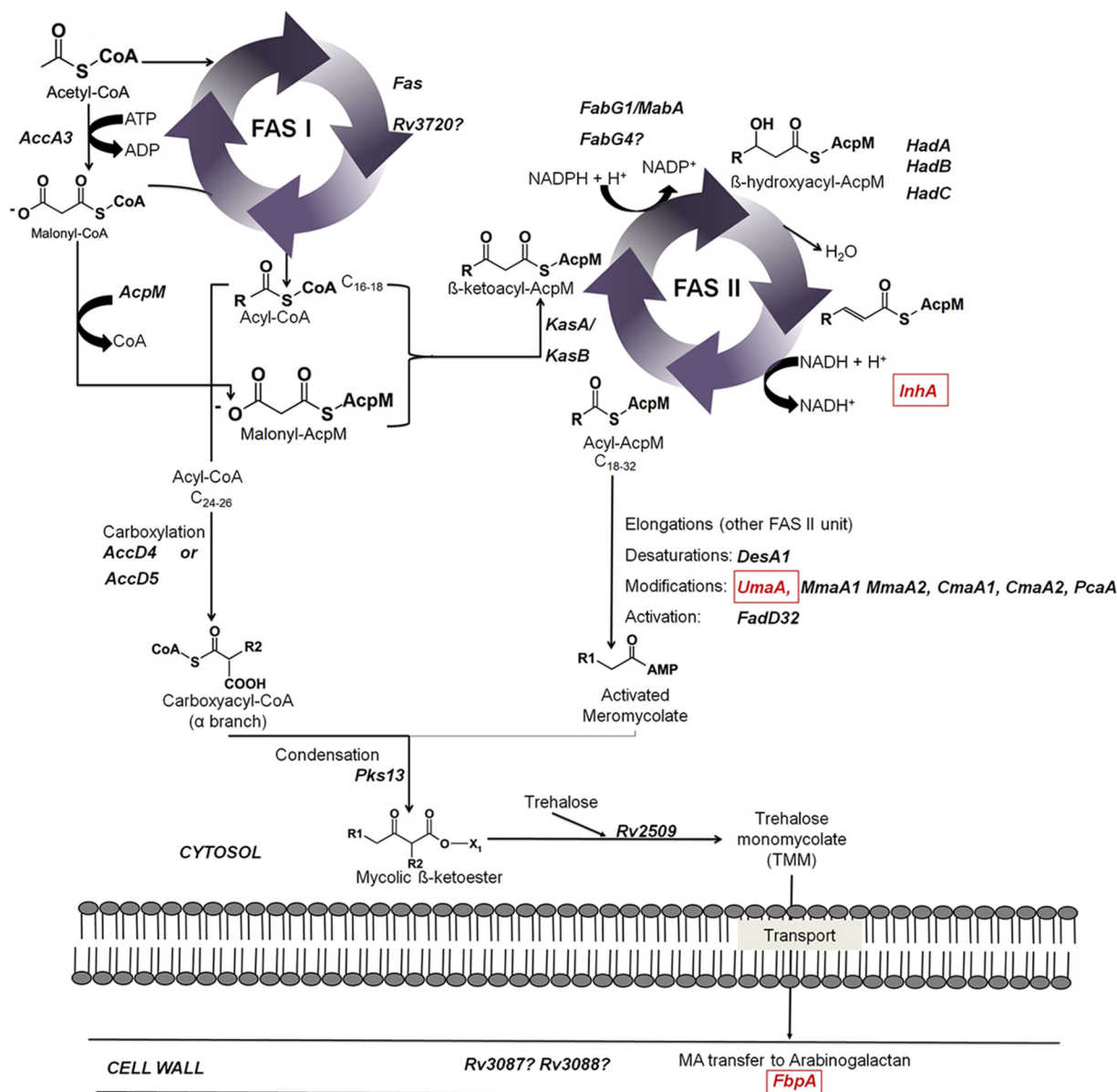


FIG. 5. Altered enzymes in the fatty acid synthesis pathway of *M. tuberculosis* ($p < 0.05$) that were shared between laboratory and clinical pair comparisons. Red squares represent lower levels of enzymes in the INHr strains. Alternative enzymes (*Rv3720* and *FabG4*) depicted with quotation marks (?) are added; see main text in the clinical pair comparison only to find more details. Reprinted with some adaptations from Marrakchi *et al.* (4) with permission from Elsevier.

Protein Differences Specific to the Clinical INHr Strain

Decreased Levels of Additional FAS II Enzymes—Members of the core reactions of FAS II route: *AcpM*, *KasB* and the *HadABC* complex, together with *FadD32* and *AccD5* showed decreased levels in the clinical INHr strain. Parallel to the diminished levels of enzymes in this vital metabolic pathway, increased levels of the enzymes *FabG4*, *HtdX*, *FadD13*, and other members of proteins grouped in the *mymA* operon (*Rv3087* and *Rv3088*) were observed in the INHr strain.

Increased Level of Lipases—A significant increase of the enzyme cutinase 2 (*Cut2* or *Cfp25*) in the clinical INHr

strain was observed (supplemental Fig. S1). *Mtb* has seven putative cutinases that are esterases with the ability to hydrolyze phospholipids and Tween 80 as was discussed by Parker *et al.* (45). Cutinases have been experimentally associated with phospholipases (45), which were also increased in the clinical INHr strain (*PlcC* and *PlcB*, supplemental Fig. S1). In this category, enzymes involved in lipid degradation and cholesterol catabolism in *Mtb*, such as *FadA5*, *Rv1106*, and *ChoD*, were higher in the clinical INHr strain in the cell wall and membrane fractions (supplemental Fig. S1).

TABLE II
Regulatory proteins of *Mtb* that were found altered in both clinical pair comparisons after acquisition of INH resistance

| Accession number | Gene | Identified proteins (19) | Log ₂ ^{NSAF INHs*} / _{NSAF INHr} | |
|------------------|------------------|---|---|----------|
| | | | Clinical pair | Lab pair |
| Rv0757.1 | <i>phoP</i> | Two component system transcriptional regulator phoP | -1.00 | -2.32 |
| Rv3050c.1 | <i>Rv3050c.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, asnC-family | -3.32 | -1.32 |
| Rv0042c.1 | <i>Rv0042c.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, marR-family | -2.32 | NS |
| Rv0043c.1 | <i>Rv0043c.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, gntR-family | ^a | NS |
| Rv0474.1 | <i>Rv0474.0</i> | Transcriptional regulator | ^b | NS |
| Rv0844c.1 | <i>narL</i> | Nitrate/nitrite response transcriptional regulator narL | ^b | NS |
| Rv1423.1 | <i>whiA</i> | Transcriptional regulator whiA | -1.00 | NS |
| Rv1479.1 | <i>moxR1</i> | Transcriptional regulator moxR1 | -1.74 | NS |
| Rv1626.1 | <i>Rv1626.1</i> | Two-component system transcriptional regulator | -0.32 | NS |
| Rv2919c.1 | <i>glnB</i> | Nitrogen regulatory protein P-II glnB | -1.74 | NS |
| Rv3143.1 | <i>Rv3143.1</i> | Response regulator | -2.32 | NS |
| Rv3291c.1 | <i>Rv3291c.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, asnC-family | -0.51 | NS |
| Rv3295.1 | <i>Rv3295.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, tetR-family | -0.51 | NS |
| Rv3676.1 | <i>Rv3676.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator, crp/fnr-family | -1.00 | NS |
| Rv3692.1 | <i>moxR2</i> | Methanol dehydrogenase transcriptional regulator moxR2 | ^b | NS |
| Rv0576.1 | <i>Rv0576</i> | Transcriptional regulator, arsR-family | NS | -1.32 |
| Rv1267c.1 | <i>embR</i> | Transcriptional regulator embR | NS | -2.32 |
| Rv1379.1 | <i>pyrR</i> | Pyrimidine operon regulatory protein pyrR | NS | -2.32 |
| Rv1719.1 | <i>Rv1719.1</i> | Transcriptional regulator | NS | -3.32 |

*Log₂ fold change values provided only for significant differences, *t*-test, *p* ≤ 0.05). ^aNSAF (normalized spectral abundance factor) values in the INHr strain were zero, ^bNSAF values in the INHs strain were zero. NS: not statistically significant. Negative values indicate proteins significantly decreased levels while positive values indicate proteins with significantly increased levels in the INHs strain.

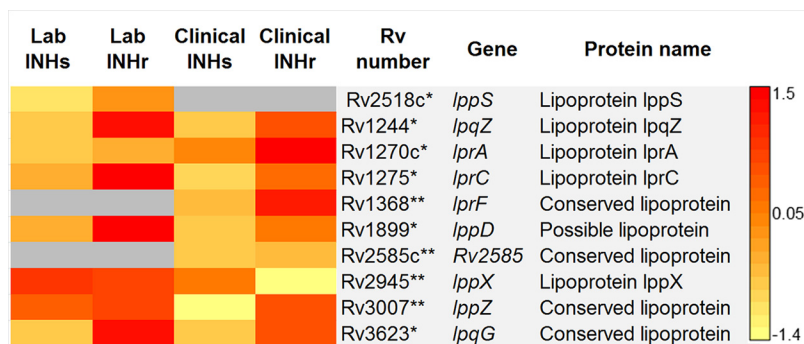


FIG. 6. Lipoproteins with significant differences between clonal pairs of *Mtb* after INHr acquisition. *p* < 0.05 (*t* test) *in the laboratory strains comparison only, **in the clinical strains comparison only.

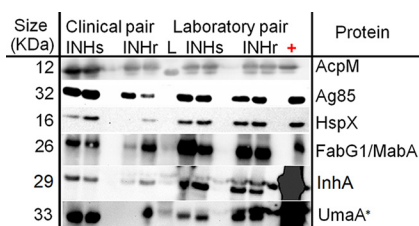


FIG. 7. Western blotting (WB) validation of selected proteins with significantly different levels in both clinical and laboratory INHr strains versus their respective INHs pairs. Blots were developed by chemiluminescent reaction. Two biological replicates were used for almost all WB, except for the WB performed for UmaA (*), where only one replicate was used for the clinical INHr sample due to scarcity of the sample. Five μg of the cytosolic fraction of H3Rv were used as positive control for the analysis of Ag85 and HspX and 5 μg of culture filtrate (CFP) of H3Rv for AcpM. For the proteins FabG1/MabA, InhA, and UmaA, 5 μg of recombinant protein for each case were used as positive control. LC-MS/MS levels of HspX were described in Fig. 2.

Lipidomics

Total Lipid Analysis— Given the numerous differences at the protein level of lipid metabolic enzymes in both the clinical and laboratory INHr versus INHs strains, we proceeded to analyze the lipid content of these strains. The clinical INHr strain showed significantly lower levels of PDIM and TMM when compared with its INHs pair (*p* value < 0.05) as evidenced by TLC analysis (Fig. 8A). Regarding phosphatidylinositol mannosides, both the clinical and laboratory INHr strains had significantly lower levels of this glycolipid compared with their INHs progenitors (Fig. 8B).

MA Comparison— Here, we present the extracted ion chromatogram and spectra of the features evaluated for the clinical pair comparison only because there were no significant differences in α-MA levels in the laboratory clonal pair comparison. There were significantly higher levels of α-MA C78 and C80 in the clinical INHs compared with its INHr pair (Fig.

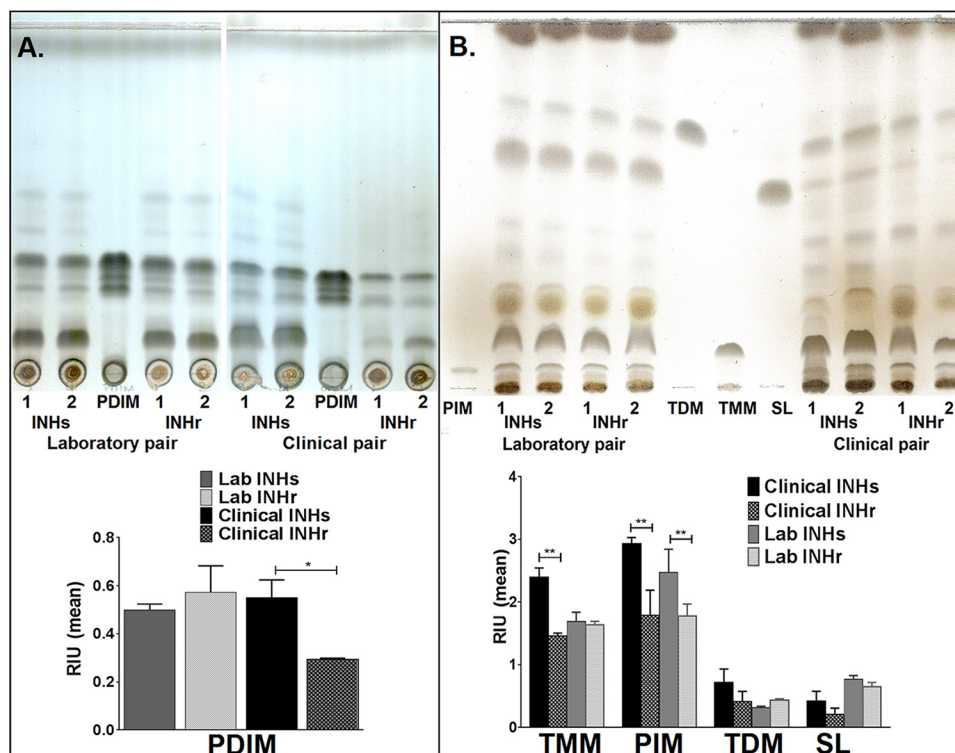


FIG. 8. **TLC analysis.** Levels of (A) PDIM and (B) glycolipids: TMM (Trehalose monomycolates), TDM (Trehalose dimycolates), and SL (sulfolipids) among two biological replicates of each clinical and laboratory *Mtb* strains. INHr: isoniazid resistant; INHs: isoniazid susceptible. Ten μg of each H37Rv purified standard was included in the analysis for each evaluated lipid.

9). After the LC/MS analysis, four precursor ions belonging to α -MA C77, C78, C79, and C80 with the m/z values: 1,122.1571, 1,136.1746, 1,150.1886, and 1,164.2062, were selected for LC-MS/MS analysis. This analysis revealed diagnostic fatty-acid-derived ions, such as the alpha (alkyl or R_1) and meromycolate (beta-hydroxy or R_2) chains in the MAs. According to the masses, two cyclopropane rings in the meromycolic acid chain were predicted for all α -MA variants studied (Fig. 10). The alpha chain (R_1) lengths varied among the different α -MA species detected, for instance, as the α -MA increases in carbon number; they became a purer class of molecules containing $C_{24}H_{49}$ in their R_1 group (Fig. 10B). This observation was previously described in the analysis of MA of *M. bovis* Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG) (46). Additionally, we detected other R_1 groups in the α -MA with m/z values of 381.376 and 367.36 that correspond to the [M-H]-adduct of fatty acids $C_{23}H_{47}$ and $C_{22}H_{45}$ respectively (Fig. 10). The $R_1 = C_{23}H_{47}$ was only observed for the odd number α -MA C77 and C79 among the analyzed species (Fig. 10).

DISCUSSION

This study presents a snapshot of genetically related *Mtb* strains under the same *in vitro* conditions to detect specific changes related to the INHr phenotype. It is important to emphasize two points that should be considered in the analysis of the findings presented here; first, with the exception of KatG levels, none of the other protein changes described in

this study have associated mutations in their respective genes, as previously revealed by whole genomics sequencing of these strains (12). Second, this shotgun proteomics approach presents several limitations in that changes in protein abundance may be attributed to decreased expression, differences in protein half-lives, and losses in protein abundance due to aggregation and post-translational modifications with concomitant changes in protein function. Rather, this study is a first description of brute protein variation in *Mtb* strains (using two different genotypes as reference: one clinical and one laboratory derived) after acquisition of INH resistance. While this study was also limited in scope in resolving functional protein analyses, the analysis of lipid variation provided additional evidence of the effect of protein level variation in enzymes associated with the lipid biosynthetic pathway similar to that which occurred for protein variation in KatG.

At least two initial known common events occurred in the INHr *Mtb* strains analyzed here; first both acquired INH resistance after exposure to the drug *in vivo*, and both contained mutations in the 5' end of the *katG* gene (11, 12). These mutations generated an important reduction in KatG levels, which in addition to halting INH activation, also impaired the bacteria's ability to handle oxidative stress, as KatG is an important catalase, peroxidase, and peroxy-nitritease (47, 48). The reduction of the anti-oxidative stress capacity was particularly notorious for the clinical INHr strain that lacked com-

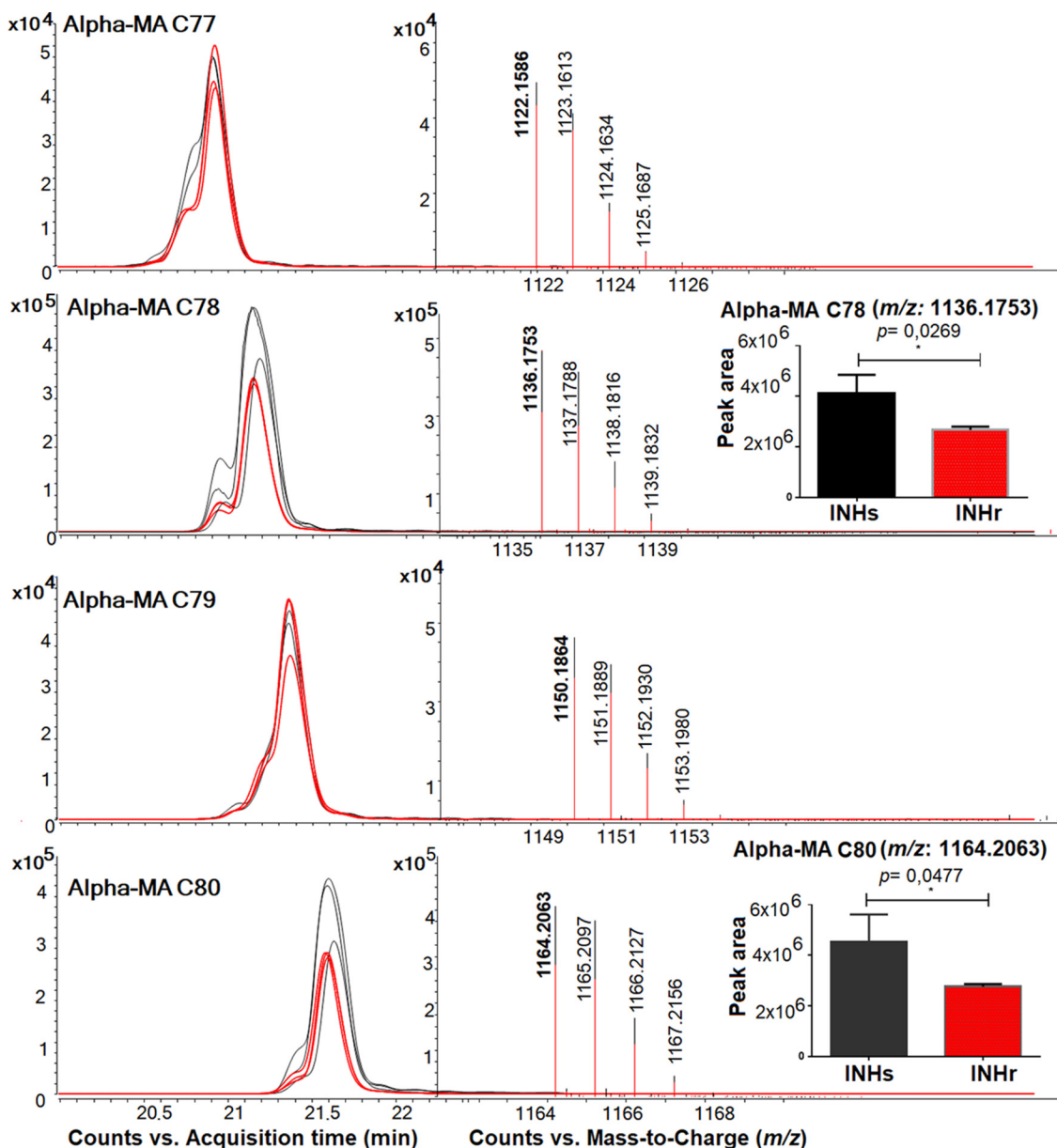


FIG. 9. MA analysis of the clinical *Mtb* pair through LC-MS in the negative mode. Extracted ion chromatogram and spectra showing the different features compatible with α -MA according to their m/z value. Only two specific α -MA showed peak areas with statistically significant difference ($p < 0.05$, paired t test): α -MA C78 and C80. Three replicates were used for these study, black lines represent the results the clinical INHs strain while the red represents the clinical INHr strain. All the features were detected at least with the hydrogen adduct.

pensatory production of AhpC and had slower growth *in vitro* as well as an impaired growth in the mouse model of infection when compared with its INHs pair (6). The findings presented here provide a substantial biochemical description of clinically relevant clonal *Mtb* strains with the cleanest genetic background possible, using minimal media so as not to artificially bolster those strains with reduced fitness (in particular the clinical INHr strain) in order to help generate data-driven hypothesis to enhance the understanding of INH resistance phenotype in *Mtb*.

The observed alterations in enzymes involved in NAD^+ / NADH metabolism are very relevant in this analysis since this is the cofactor required for the synthesis of the active form of INH. NADH is an important nucleotide used in many relevant and essential metabolic reactions, including central carbon, energy, and lipid metabolism, most of which had proteins with a net increased level in the INHr strains. It is possible that the increased or decreased protein levels also depends on the affinity of the different enzymes for the two different cofactors, NADH and NADPH . Many of the altered enzymes

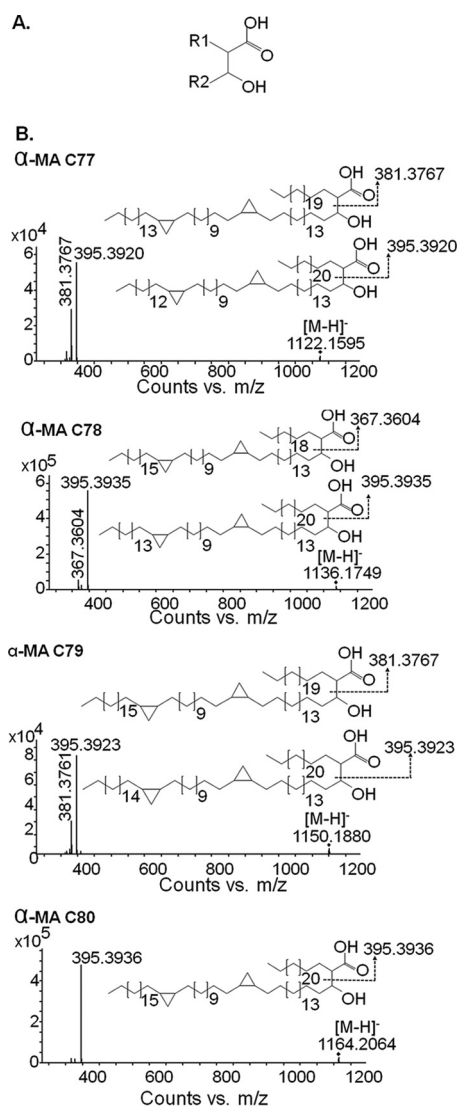


FIG. 10. LC-MS/MS analysis of different α -mycolic acids (MA) among INHr and INHs *Mtb* clinical pair. (A) R1 represents the alpha, alkyl, or fatty acid, while R2 represents the meromycolic acid (or beta-hydroxy) chains, which compose the MA. (B) MS/MS spectral interpretation, including the most significant different MA (α -MA C78 and C80) in clinical *Mtb* strains.

found in this study, such as SahH, Rv0753c, Rv2723, FadB2, InhA, Rv2971, and Rv2766c, have a high affinity for the INH-NAD(P) adduct as previously demonstrated by one computational and one experimental study (49, 50).

It is important to highlight that besides SahH, this study found other altered proteins associated with SAM metabolism. SAM is a common substrate in the methylation of different biomolecules (51). For instance, SAM is the substrate for the introduction of *trans* methyl branches and cyclopropane rings in the meromycolic acid chain of MAs (33). Methionine and SAM metabolism are expected to be a promising drug target in *Mtb*, as *metA* mutants are unable to grow *in vitro* and are rapidly cleared *in vivo* either in immunocompetent or

immunocompromised mice (52). Although we did not find significant differences in the levels of MetA, we did find significantly reduced abundances of MetK, in addition to SahH, both of which are involved in these metabolic pathways (supplemental Fig. S4). In particular, the clinical INHr strain also had increased levels of MetB, which is involved in methionine synthesis, using cystathionine as an intermediate molecule (supplemental Fig. S4). According to these findings, we can hypothesize that INH resistance leads to proteomic changes that can be associated to altered levels of methionine as well as cysteine in *Mtb*. Previous work by Vilcheze *et al.* demonstrated that cysteine prevents the formation of INH-resistant and INH-tolerant *Mtb* strains *in vitro*, inducing higher oxygen uptake and rendering the cells more sensitive to oxidative stress (53, 54). Therefore, the cysteine/methionine metabolism may be important in the survival of INHr strains *in vivo* and should be explored as a potential drug target in these strains.

Among the other significantly increased proteins in the INHr strains were those associated with energy metabolism, ATP synthesis (Figs. 3A–3B) and some detoxifying enzymes that are particularly important after the β -oxidation of fatty acids (Table I, Figs. 1–6). The net increase of the fatty acid oxidation enzymes suggests that lipids are an important source of energy for the INHr strains, with the generation of substantial quantities of NADPH (55). The higher β -oxidation activity in *Mtb* is also related to an altered energetic metabolism, with a possible higher production of ATP molecules. For instance, the β -oxidation of palmitate generates 106 ATP molecules, while the oxidation of glucose yields only 38 ATP molecules (55). The increased fatty acid oxidation pathway is concomitant with the increase of some proteins in the ATP synthase machinery and the adenylate cyclase enzyme (Rv1647) in both INHr strains (Table I, Fig. 3A), which also suggests a higher ATP production and hydrolysis. The increase of β -oxidation is also associated with the reduced levels of the pyruvate kinase (PykA) in the INHr strains (although only statistically significant for the clinical INHr, Fig. 3A) that is related with the use of nonglycolytic carbon sources such as lipids (56). It is important to emphasize that β oxidation of fatty acids in *Mtb* is a metabolic route with great redundancy (29). Multiple enzymes have been identified with the ability to participate in one single reaction of the β oxidation of fatty acids pathway (Fig. 4). Due to this high redundancy, the β oxidation of fatty acids is not considered an attractive drug target against *Mtb*. This is also confirmed by our proteomics findings, where the decrease of one isozyme was highly compensated by the increase of others (Fig. 4).

On the other hand, the most common drug targets known for *Mtb* are proteins in the FAS-II pathway. Regarding lipid biosynthesis, low levels of FbpA (Ag85-a), InhA, and UmaA were observed in both INHr strains (Fig. 5). Here, concurrently with the reduced FbpA levels, we found reduced abundance of both TMM and TDM in the clinical INHr strain

only, albeit only statistically significant for TMM evaluated through TLC (Fig. 8B). Those findings are supported by a previous study that demonstrated that low levels of FbpA have been associated with a lower production of TDM (59). In the same line, both INHr strains had reduced levels of InhA, which shares up to 26% of identity with other short chain dehydrogenases (23). Additionally, the epoxide hydroxylase EphF shares 18.7% identity with InhA according to the Multiple Sequence Alignment platform MUSCLE. In our study, the short chain dehydrogenase EphD, as well as EphF were increased in both INHr strains. It is possible that EphD and EphF could compensate for the reduced abundance of InhA in these INHr strains. Further functional analysis would confirm if the increased levels of these proteins play a role in the synthesis of fatty acids in the INHr phenotype as well as if they can be used as potential drug targets for INHr *Mtb* strains. Additionally, the reduced levels of UmaA, which is believed to use SAM as substrate, were concomitant with the alteration of proteins in the SAM metabolism pathway (supplemental Fig. S4).

The reduced levels of several FAS II enzymes in the clinical INHr strain only (*i.e.* KasB, AcpM, HadABC, and FadD32) seem to be partially compensated by the increase of alternative enzymes that catalyze similar reactions (supplemental Fig. S3B). An alternative fatty acid biosynthetic pathway, called the “fatty acid elongation system II,” was first observed in *M. smegmatis* in 1983 (60). The proposed alternative enzymes that participate in this alternative pathway, FabG4, HtdX, FadD13, and other members of the *mymA* operon, were increased in the INHr strain only (supplemental Figs. S2 and S3B). These enzymes can perform the same reactions but have a different affinity for the NADH and NADPH cofactors and substrates. The significant lower levels of AcpM in the clinical INHr strain suggests a slow entrance of the acyl-carrier protein (ACP) derivatives into the FAS II pathway. The decreased production of AcpM derivatives may induce the increased levels of FabG4. FabG4 has affinity for both NADH and NADPH cofactors and also for both coenzyme A and ACP fatty acid derivatives. FabG1 in turn, has a higher affinity for NADPH and almost exclusively ACP derivatives (61, 62). In addition to this, reduced levels of ACP derivatives (due to the reduced levels of AcpM) as well as the reduced levels of the HadABC complex enables the catalytic role of HtdX in this alternative FAS II route. Specifically the role of the HtdX has been proposed in the dehydration step of the hydroxyacyl-ester to an enoyl intermediate regularly catalyzed by the HadABC complex (Fig. 5) (63). HtdX is strictly specific for coenzyme A substrates rather than ACP derivatives, which gives more support to our hypothesis (64). Finally, the fatty-acid-AMP ligase FadD13 was significantly increased in the clinical INHr strain (supplemental Figs. S2 and S3B). FadD13 is proposed to participate in the biosynthetic pathway of MAs through activation of fatty acids (similarly to the role of FadD32, which levels are decreased in the INHr clinical strain).

FadD13 is part of the *mymA* operon, which is up-regulated under acidic growth conditions simultaneous to a down-regulation of the FAS II pathway (65). The acyl transferases Rv3087 and Rv3088 that are significantly increased in the clinical INHr strain (supplemental Fig. S3B) are also part of the *mymA* operon. These last two enzymes are proposed to transfer FadD13 activated fatty acids to an acceptor in the mycobacterial cell wall (66). Again, this suggests that an alternative biosynthetic route for MAs is up-regulated when the levels of canonical FAS II enzymes are diminished in the INHr strains due to an unbalanced redox environment.

According to the LC-MS/MS analysis of the α -MA, only two features compatible with α -MA C78 and C80 were significantly decreased in the clinical INHr strain only (Figs. 8 and 9). This trend was not observed for the α -MA C77 and C79 nor for any of the MA features studied in the laboratory *Mtb* pair. This finding could be partially explained by the level of alteration of the FAS II pathway observed in the clinical INHr strain only (supplemental Fig. S3B). The proteomics and lipidomics data together suggest that although there is an increase in enzymes of the alternative MA biosynthetic pathway, this alternative route is not as efficient as the canonical FAS II pathway in producing α -MA. Proteins of this alternative pathway were also found to be increased in two previous proteomics studies, one involving clinical isogenic strains of Beijing genotype (one of them INHr) and other evaluating clinic clonal pairs of the Central-Asian 1-Delhi lineage that transition from drug susceptible to multidrug-resistant (INHr plus rifampicin resistant) *Mtb* strains. The clinical Beijing INHr strain also exhibited increased levels of FabG4 and HtdX (5), while the multidrug-resistant strain of Central-Asian 1 lineage had increased levels of FabG4 (67). Taken together, the alternative lipid biosynthetic pathway should be further explored in a clinical context to evaluate if the previous exposure to the combined therapy (that only occurred in the clinical INHr strain of this study) is able to induce this alternative lipid biosynthetic route in INHr strains as well as its implications in the survival of those drug resistant strains.

Additionally, the lower levels of LppX in the clinical INHr strain is in line with decreased levels of phenolphthiocerol synthesis type-I polyketide synthase, as well as the significantly lower levels of PDIM observed only for this strain in the TLC analysis (Figs. 6 and 8A and supplemental Fig. S1). These *-omics* results, together with the role of PDIM in *Mtb* virulence, suggest that the overall reduction of PDIM levels may be another reason for the reduced virulence previously reported for the clinical INHr strain of this study (6). From the biochemical standpoint, this reduced virulence can be explained as a cumulative effect of reduced levels of KatG (the responsible for the INHr phenotype), FbpA, and LppX, among other proteins included in the virulence, detoxification, and adaptation category (such as AhpC, Fig. 2) (40, 42, 68).

In summary, after acquisition of INHr due to *katG* N terminus mutations, *Mtb* strains have a proteomic rearrangement that includes common changes in the β -oxidation of fatty acids and energy metabolism, as well as individual changes that appear to be dependent on the genetic background of the bacterium and/or the previous exposure to a combined anti-TB therapy. Taken together, the proteomic and lipidomic changes may be exploited in the search for potential drug targets to combat INH resistant *Mtb* strains.

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DATA AVAILABILITY

Raw mass spectrometry data deposited at data at <http://proteomecentral.proteomexchange.org/cgi/GetDataset>, using the project identifier PXD009549.

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