

This study investigated the presence of *bla*<sub>VIM</sub> in clinical isolates of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. During the period from April to August 2011, a total of 801 various clinical samples were collected from different hospitals in Hilla city. Of these, 117 isolates were diagnosed as *K.pneumoniae*. High prevalence of *K.pneumoniae* isolates were detected in stool samples 38 (27%) followed by sputum 19 (15%). All 117 *K.pneumoniae* isolates were primarily screened for  $\beta$ -lactams resistance, 91 (78%) showed positive results for beta lactams.  $\beta$ -lactam resistance isolates were underwent antimicrobial susceptibility to 26 antibiotics by Kirby-Bauer disk diffusion methods. High resistance rate was recorded for penicillins (carbenicillin and ampicillin) (99%) and (94.5%), respectively. Carbapenem resistance was reported in 17 (18.7%) of *K. pneumoniae* isolates. Phenotypic detection of metallo  $\beta$ -lactamase by imipenem-EDTA disk identified a proportion of 65% as metallo  $\beta$ -lactamase producers. The presence of *bla*<sub>VIM</sub> gene was checked by Polymerase Chain reaction (PCR) and confirmed in 14 (82.3%) of isolates.