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Antimicrobial Activity of Bacteriocins Extracted from Some Gram Negative Bacteria on *Candida albicans*

A thesis submitted to the College of Medicine,
Department of Microbiology, University of Diyala in Partial fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Microbiology

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿ وَفَوْقَ كُلِّ ذِي عِلْمٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴾

صدق الله العظيم

سورة يوسف آية ٧٦

CERTIFICATION

We certify this thesis entitled (**Antimicrobial Activity of Bacteriocins Extracted from Some Gram Negative Bacteria on *Candida albicans***) prepared by (**Nayarah Samer Hussain**) has been conducted under my supervision at College of Medicine/ University of Diyala, as a partial requirement for Master Degree of Science in Medical Microbiology.

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Dedication

I dedicate my thesis to;

My precious parents and my dearest brothers who supported
me.

And to my friends.

Nayarah Samer Hussain

Acknowledgment

I'm grateful to Allah, for inspiring and giving me the strength, patience and willingness to perform this work.

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Nayarah Samer Hussain

Summary

Urine specimens (250 specimens) were collected from urinary tract infection (UTI) out patients clinic in Baqubah teaching hospital and Al-Batool teaching hospital. UTI is more prevalent among women than men. In the case of women, the most infected ages between twenty-one to forty while men; UTI was most prevalent in the age category 1-10 years.

Sixty-six urine specimens had positive culture for gram-negative bacterial growth. Microscopic examination, culturing on MacConkey and EMB, and biochemical tests were dependent for identification of bacterial isolates and confirmed by Vitek-2 compact system as well as culturing on CHROMagar. *Escherichia coli* was more predominant than other isolates 41 (62.12%), while *Enterobacter aerogenes* was less prevalent at the value of 2 (3.22%). The prevalence of *Klebsiella pneumonia* was 13 (20.96%), *Proteus mirabilis* 7 (11.29%), and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* was 3 (4.83%).

Oral swabs were used to isolate *Candida albicans* from patients with renal impairment. *C. albicans* were detected by using the germ tube technique and Vitek-2 compact system. From thirteen (43.33%) positive growth culture of oral swabs, eight (61.53%) isolates were identified being *C. albicans*.

Detection the ability of bacterial isolates to produce bacteriocins, a cup assay was used and the produced bacteria were detected by visualizing inhibition zone around the suspected bacteriocin producer's discs. Less than half of the bacterial isolates 31(46.96%) were bacteriocin producers. Twenty isolates out of 41 isolate of *E. coli* were colicin producers while all the isolates of *P. aeruginosa* and *E. aerogenes* were bacteriocin producers. The most efficient bacteriocin producers were chosen by determining the larger inhibition zone. After extraction of bacteriocins, protein concentrations of these bacteriocins were estimated by using the Lowery method and the



activity of bacteriocins was determined by using well method. The titer was determined by the detection of inhibition zone at the lowest concentration. Colicin 23 protein concentration was 2950 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, activity was 40U/ml and inhibition zone was 15mm. Meanwhile, protein concentrations of klebicin 13 and pyocin 26 were (3050 and 2620) $\mu\text{g/ml}$, their activity were (80 and 320)U/ml and inhibition zones were (16 and 25)mm respectively.

The antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins on *C. albicans* was detected by using well method. This method didn't give inhibition of *C. albicans* growth, on another hand; there was an interesting inhibition of *C. albicans* growth by using cup assay. *P. aeruginosa* 26 (P26) was the most efficient isolate that inhibits most *C. albicans* isolates from other efficient bacteriocins producer bacterial isolates. P26 showed the highest inhibition zone (40mm) against isolate 3 of *C. albicans*. *C. albicans* isolate 2 was the most sensitive to all bacteriocins producers bacterial isolates.

Resazurin salt dye was used to detect the effect of bacteriocins. The effect of bacteriocins against *C. albicans* was considerable even at the lowest concentration used in this study. Isolate 1 was significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) less affected to bacteriocins when compared with other isolates. Whilst isolate 7 were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) more affected by klebicin and pyocin with inhibitory rate 100% and 99% inhibited by colicin at a high concentration of 2500 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, while isolate 1 was significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) less affected isolate to bacteriocins with inhibitory rate (86, 94, and 85)% for colicin, klebicin and pyocin respectively .

The ability of bacteriocins to inhibit biofilm formation of *C. albicans* to form biofilm was studied. Colicin showed significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) an inhibition of biofilm formation even at low concentrations when compared to klebicin and pyocin, in which both of them had a significant ($P \leq 0.05$) activation of



biofilm at low concentration. Pyocin was the most used bacteriocin that causes activation of biofilm even at high concentration (1250 µg/ml) of isolate 4 with a value of 107%. At high concentration (2500 µg/ml), *C. albicans* isolate 5 was mostly sensitive to colicin with a value of 46%, while isolate 8 was sensitive to klebicin 31% and isolate 6 with value 49% to pyocin.



Contents

Contents	Page No.
Dedication	
Acknowledgment	
Summary	I
Table of Contents	IV
List of Tables	IX
Table of Figures	X
Table of Abbreviation	XII

Chapter one: introduction		Page No.
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Aims of the study	2

Chapter Two: literature review		Page No.
2.1	Urinary tract infection	3
2.2	Enterobacteriaceae	4
2.2.1	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	5
2.2.1.1	Diarrheagenic <i>E. coli</i> (DEC)	6
2.2.1.2	Enteropathogenic <i>E. coli</i> (EPEC)	6
2.2.1.3	Enterohemoregic <i>E. coli</i> (EHEC)	7
2.2.1.4	Enterotoxigenic <i>E. coli</i> (ETEC)	8
2.2.1.5	Extraintestinal <i>E. coli</i> (ExPEC)	8
2.2.2	<i>Klebsiella pneumonia</i>	9

2.2.3	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>	10
2.2.4	<i>Enterobacter earogenes</i>	11
2.3	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	12
2.4	Bacteriocins	14
2.4.1	Mode of action of bacteriocins	16
2.4.2	Types of bacteriocins	18
2.4.2.1	Bacteriocins of Gram-positive bacteria	18
2.4.2.2	Bacteriocins of Gram-negative bacteria	19
2.4.3	Bacteriocin applications	23
2.4.3.1	Bacteriocin applications in food preservation	23
2.4.3.2	Bacteriocins application as promising pharmaceutical products	24
2.5	Candida	26
2.5.1	<i>Candida albicans</i>	26
2.5.2	The effect of bacteriocins on Candida	28
2.6	Biofilm	29

Chapter three: Materials and Methods

3.1	Materials	32
3.1.1	Laboratory equipments and apparatus	32
3.1.2	Biological and chemical materials	33
3.1.3	Culture media	34
3.1.4	Kits	34
3.2	Methods	35
3.2.1	Preparations	35
3.2.1.1	Media preparation	35
3.2.2	Preparation of solutions, reagents and stains	36
3.2.2.1	Oxidase reagent	36

3.2.2.2	Methyl red indicator	36
3.2.2.3	Vogas-proskauer reagent	36
3.2.2.4	McFarland standard solution for bacterial isolates	36
3.2.2.5	McFarland standard solution for <i>C. albicans</i>	36
3.2.2.6	70% Ethanol	37
3.2.2.7	Bovine serum albumin(BSA)	37
3.2.2.8	Mitomycin –C solution	37
3.2.2.9	Resazurin salt solution	37
3.2.2.10	20% KOH	37
3.2.2.11	Crystal violet stain solution	37
3.2.2.12	Urea solution	38
3.2.3	Isolation and identification of bacterial isolates	38
3.2.3.1	Specimens collection	38
3.2.3.2	Isolation	38
3.2.3.3	Identification	38
3.2.3.3.1	Microscopic examination	38
3.2.3.3.2	Cultural characteristics	39
3.2.3.3.3	Biochemical tests	39
3.2.3.3.4	Identification of bacteria by vitek-2 system	41
3.2.3.3.5	CHROMagar test	41
3.2.4	Isolation and identification of <i>C. albicans</i>	42
3.2.4.1	Specimens collection	42
3.2.4.2	Isolation of <i>C. albicans</i>	42
3.2.4.3	Identification of <i>C. albicans</i>	42
3.2.5	Preservation of bacterial and <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	43
3.2.5.1	Short-term storage	43
3.2.5.2	Long-term storage	43
3.2.6	Detection of bacteriocins producing bacteria	43

3.2.6.1	Sensitive isolate	43
3.2.6.2	Cup assay	43
3.2.6.3	Extraction of crude bacteriocins	44
3.2.6.4	Sterilization of bacteriocins	44
3.2.6.5	Estimation of bacteriocin's protein	44
3.2.6.6	Bacteriocins activity determination	45
3.2.6.7	Bacteriocins concentration	45
3.2.7	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i>	46
3.2.7.1	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins by well method	46
3.2.7.2	Antimicrobial activity by cup assay	46
3.2.7.3	Antimicrobial activity by resazurin dye reduction	46
3.2.8	Inhibition of biofilm formation of <i>C. albicans</i> by bacteriocins	48
3.2.8.1	Detection of biofilm formation of <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	48
3.2.8.2	Antibiofilm activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	49
3.2.9	Statistical Analysis	50

Chapter four: Results		
4.1	Diagnosis of gram negative bacteria from UTI patients	51
4.1.1	Specimen's collection	51
4.1.2	Isolation and identification of bacterial isolates	51
4.1.3	Bacterial isolates	53
4.2	Isolation and identification of <i>C. albicans</i>	56
4.3	Detection of bacteriocin producing bacteria	56
4.4	Bacteriocins extraction from efficient isolates	60
4.4.1	Determination of protein concentration of bacteriocins	60
4.4.2	Determination of bacteriocins activity	60
4.4.3	Concentration of bacteriocins	61

4.5	Antimicrobial activity of Bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i>	61
4.5.1	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins by well method	61
4.5.2	Antimicrobial activity by using cup assay	62
4.5.3	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins by reduction resazurin dye	64
4.5.3.1	Effect of colicin on <i>C. albicans</i> viability	65
4.5.3.2	Effect of klebicin on <i>C. albicans</i> viability.	66
4.5.3.3	Effect of pyocin on <i>C. albicans</i> viability	67
4.5.4	Comparison of the toxic effect of bacteriocins on <i>C albicans</i>	68
4.6	The inhibition of biofilm formation of <i>C. albicans</i> by bacteriocins	76
4.6.1	Detection <i>C. albicans</i> biofilm formation	76
4.6.2	Antibiofilm activity of bacteriocins on <i>C albicans</i> isolates	76
4.6.2.1	Effect of colicin on biofilm formation	77
4.6.2.2	Effect of klebicin on biofilm formation	78
4.6.2.3	Effect of pyocin on biofilm formation	79
4.6.3	Comparison of antibiofilm activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i>	80

Chapter five: Discussion		
5.1	5.1 Diagnosis of gram negative bacteria from UTI patients	88
5.1.1	Isolation and identification of bacterial isolates	88
5.1.2	Bacterial isolates	90
5.2	Diagnosis <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	92
5.3	Detection of bacteriocin producing bacteria	93
5.4	Extraction of bacteriocins from efficient isolates	95
5.5	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i>	96

5.5.1	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins by well method and cup assay	96
5.5.2	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins by resazurin salt dye reduction	97
5.6	The inhibition of biofilm formation of <i>C. albicans</i> by bacteriocins	99
5.6.1	Detection <i>C. albicans</i> biofilm formation	99
5.6.2	Antibiofilm activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	100
5.7	Comparison of antimicrobial and antibiofilm activity of bacteriocins on <i>C. albicans</i>	102

Chapter Six: Conclusion and Recommendation

Conclusion	103
Recommendation	103

References	104
Appendix	
Summary in Arabic	
Title in Arabic	

List of Tables

List of Tables		
Table	Title	Page No.
3-1	Equipment's and apparatus	32
3-2	Biological and chemical materials	33
3-3	Culture media	34
3-4	Kits used for viteck-2 system	34
3-5	Optical density for biofilm formation activity	48

4-1	Results of diagnosis tests for gram negative bacteria isolates from UTI	52
4-2	Determination of bacteriocins producer isolates isolated from UTI patients	58
4-3	The inhibition zone diameter of bacteriocin producing isolates	59
4-4	Protein concentration and activity of crude bacteriocins	61
4-5	Inhibition zone of efficient bacteriocins producer isolates against <i>C. albicans</i> by cup assay	63
4-6	Percentage of <i>C. albicans</i> viable cell treated by colicin extracted from <i>E. coli</i>	65
4-7	Percentage of <i>C. albicans</i> viable cell treated by klebicin extracted from <i>K. pneumonia</i>	66
4-8	Percentage of <i>C. albicans</i> viable cell treated by pyocin extracted from <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	67
4-9	Detection of biofilm formation of <i>C. albicans</i> isolates	76
4-10	Inhibition of biofilm formation by colicin extracted from <i>E. coli</i>	77
4-11	Inhibition or activation of biofilm formation by klebicin extracted from <i>K. pneumonia</i>	78
4-12	Inhibition or activation of biofilm formation by pyocin extracted from <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	79

List of Figures

List of Figures		
Figure	Title	Page No.
2-1	Stages of biofilm formation	31
3-1	Standard curve for estimation of protein concentration by BSA	45
4-1	The percentage of bacterial isolates from UTI patients	53
4-2	Incidence of urinary tract infection	53
4-3	The frequency of infection for male and female based on age group	54

4-4	Bacterial isolate on CHROMagar: a: <i>E. coli</i> , b: <i>E. aerogenes</i> , c: <i>P. mirabilis</i> , d: <i>P. aeruginosa</i> , e: <i>K. pneumonia</i>	55
4-5	Germ tube formation of candida isolates under microscope	56
4-6	Percentage of bacteria isolates producing bacteriocins isolated from UTI patients	57
4-7	Cup assay observed the inhibition zone of bacteriocins producing isolates	57
4-8	Activity of bacteriocins by well method	60
4-9	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins producer isolates against <i>C. albicans</i> by cup assay	62
4-10	Detection the viability of cell by using resazurin salt dye	64
4-11	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 1 treated by bacteriocins	68
4-12	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 2 treated by bacteriocins	69
4-13	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 3 treated by bacteriocins	70
4-14	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 4 treated by bacteriocins	71
4-15	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 5 treated by bacteriocins	72
4-16	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 6 treated by bacteriocins	73
4-17	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 7 treated by bacteriocins	74
4-18	Inhibitory rate of <i>C. albicans</i> isolate 8 treated by bacteriocins	75
4-29	Percentage of biofilm inhibition or activation of isolate 1 treated by bacteriocins	80
4-20	Percentage of isolate 2 biofilm inhibition or activation treated by bacteriocins	81
4-21	Percentage of biofilm inhibition or activation of isolate 3 treated by bacteriocins	82
4-22	Percentage of isolate 4 biofilm inhibition or activation of	83

	treated by bacteriocins	
4-23	Inhibition of isolate 5 biofilm formation treated by bacteriocins	84
4-24	Percentage of isolate 6 biofilm inhibition or activation treated by bacteriocins	85
4-25	Percentage of biofilm inhibition or activation of isolate 7 treated by bacteriocins	86
4-26	Percentage of biofilm inhibition of isolate 8 treated by bacteriocins	87

Table of Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Meaning
ADPRT	ADPribosyltransferase
A/E	Attaching and Effacing Lesions
ALS	Agglutinin Like Sequence proteins
BFP	Bundle-Forming Pili
BRP	Bacteriocin Release Protein
BSA	Bovine Serum Albumin
BSI	Bloodstream Infection
CD	Crohn's Disease
CFA/I	Fimbrial Colonization Factor
cKP	Classic <i>K. pneumoniae</i>
CS	Coli Surface
DC	Dendritic Cells
ECs	Endothelial Stem Cells
EF2	Elongation Factor 2
EPS	Extracellular Polymeric Substances
GTPase	Nucleotide Guanosine Triphosphate
HNSCC	Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma
hvKP	Hypervirulent <i>K. pneumoniae</i>
IBD	Inflammatory Bowel Disease
IM	Inner Membrane
<i>Las</i>	Quorum sensing systems of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>
LifA	Lymphocyte Inhibitory factors

LT	Heat-labile enterotoxin
Man-PTS	Mannose phosphotransferase
MERSA	Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
OM	Outer Membrane
OmpF	Major outer membrane proteins of <i>Escherichia coli</i>
PAI	Pathogenicity islands
PEAF	Possess adherence factor plasmid
PLA	Pyogenic Liver Abscess
Pta	Proteus toxin agglutinin
QS	Quorum Sensing
<i>Rhl</i>	Quorum sensing systems of <i>P. aeruginosa</i>
ROS	Reactive Oxygen Species
SOS	Save Our Souls
SPATE	Serine Protease Autotransporters of Enterobacteriaceae
T3SS	Type III Secretion System
ST	Heat-stable enterotoxin
Stx	Shiga toxins
VRE	Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci

Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Introduction.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are a serious public health problem that caused by many pathogens, but mostly by *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Proteus mirabilis*, *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* and *Enterococcus faecalis* (Flores-Mireles *et al*, 2015). These pathogens are transmitted from person-to-person contact by food or water, as well as, they might be obtained from hospitals. Uropathogenic bacteria has a specialized feature, for example, toxins, siderophores, and adhesins that used to colonize and invade the urinary tract (Foxman. 2010).

The family Enterobacteriaceae is prevalent in various ecological sources such as soil, water, vegetation and animals (Brenner, 2006). This family caused two types of infections: intestinal and extraintestinal diseases. The extraintestinal infections include: neurologic infections for example neonatal meningitis that caused by *E. coli*, pyogenic liver abscess caused by *K. pneumoniae*, and most of its members cause bacteremia and urinary tract infection (Jenkins, 2017). *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* cause urinary tract infection as a complication due to the presence of foreign bodies like stones, catheter or stent. Also, obstruction in the genitourinary system or frequent use of antibiotics can cause urinary infection by *P. aeruginosa* (Pier, 2012).

Due to the appearance of antibiotics resistance pathogens (Cooper and Shlaes, 2011), the commensal microbiota can be damaged by using antibiotics with abroad-spectrum activity, as well as, increasing in the incidence of allergy and autoimmune diseases with broad-spectrum antibiotics administration (Blaser, 2011). There will be necessary to develop a usable antimicrobial agents such as bacteriophages, probiotics, plant derived compounds, and antimicrobial peptides like bacteriocins (Nishie *et al.*, 2012). Bacteriocins are ribosomally synthesized antimicrobial peptides produced by gram positive and gram negative bacteria and archaea with inhibitory activity against a wide range of microorganisms. As well as, it has an anti-viral (Chikindas *et al.*,

2018) and anti-cancer activity (Kaur and Kaur, 2015). Moreover, bacteriocins can be used as food preservatives since they are easily digested by the human gastrointestinal tract (Mills *et al.*, 2011). Bacteriocins from gram-negative bacteria used nutrient uptake pathways to transport into the cell (Atanaskovic and Kleanthous, 2019). Genes of most bacteriocins are located either on plasmids or on chromosomes (Maan and Garcha, 2018).

Candida albicans is opportunistic yeast, which resides in the oral cavity, intestinal tract, and vagina (Nobile and Johnson, 2015) and has the ability to cause superficial infections as well as, life-threatening systemic infections (Tsui *et al.*, 2016). Virulence factors of *C. albicans* help to evolve disease more than other species of candida. Germ tubes formation and presence of glycoproteins in the cell wall facilitate the adherence of yeast to the cell membrane. Some components (for example polysaccharides) of fungal wall prompt suppressor of T-lymphocytes. Besides, mannan can intervene in antigen presentation (Coronado-Castellote and Jiménez-Soriano, 2013). Moreover, one of the major virulence is biofilm formation; densely packed cells that attached to the solid surface and living tissue. Biofilm gives a resistant to antifungal therapies, the host immune system, and other factors (Gulati, M. and Nobile, C.J., 2016).

1.2 Aims of study.

Investigation antimicrobial effect of gram-negative bacteriocins on *C. albicans* by:

- 1- Isolation of gram negative bacteria from UTI patients.
- 2- Isolation of *C. albicans* from patients with renal impairment.
- 3- Detection of bacteriocins producing bacteria.
- 4- Extraction of bacteriocins from efficient isolates.
- 5- Study antimicrobial activity of bacteriocins on planktonic cells and biofilm formation of *C. albicans*.