

**A REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN
UNDERSTANDING OF ANTIBIOTIC INTERACTIONS,
FROM MECHANISMS OF ACTION TO NOVEL
RESISTANCE AND THE SEARCH FOR NATURAL
ALTERNATIVES**

Mustafa Kareem AL-Azzawi

Department of Biology, College of Education for Pure Sciences,
University of Wasit, Iraq
mqasim@uowasit.edu.iq

Nabaa Abbas Hasan

Department of Biology, College of Education for Pure, Sciences,
University of Wasit, Iraq
nahassan@uowasit.edu.iq

Mohammed M. Barrak

Department of Anatomy and Biology, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Wasit, Wasit, Iraq

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Abstract: Recent research has also highlighted the importance of interspecies signalling in terms of ecology, immunology, and evolution. Despite being frequently linked to the direct inhibition of microbial growth, signalling molecules can transmit data about complex, coordinated regulatory phenomena such as virulence island expression, periodic biosynthetic activity, stress responses, cell density, motility, and biofilm formation. Genetically encoded quorum sensing signals, at low concentrations, increase the spread of horizontally acquired antibiotic resistance genes, modify host immune response profiles, and control the expression of virulence determinants. Antibiotics suppress infectious diseases, facilitate health interventions such as surgery, and improve the treatment outcomes of human and animal diseases (e.g., by minimising morbidity, mortality, and hospital length of stay). However, the emergence of drug-resistant biofilms continues to undermine many therapeutic modalities. These intricate settings that provide antibiotics include the presence of individually resistant cells, non-linear nutrient transport and blockage effects, and limited yet subpopulation-biased genetic plasticity. For the longest time, the mainstay of contemporary medicine has been the use of antibiotics to treat bacterial infections 5. However, the creation and spread of antibiotic resistance, a serious worldwide health concern brought on by the abuse and misuse of antibiotics, constantly jeopardises their function. 2. The decrease in the number of novel, efficacious antibiotics being introduced to the market exacerbates these problems. Optimising the usage of already available antibiotics by learning more about how they behave in the intricate microbial and host ecosystems connected to bacterial illnesses is one way to address this. This involves, but is not limited to, looking into how combinations of antibiotics affect treatment outcomes and how these interactions alter in certain settings to either help or hinder the evolution of antibiotic resistance.

Keywords: Development, Mechanisms, Alternatives



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Introduction

The ecological, immunological, and evolutionary significance of interspecies signaling has also been underscored by more recent research. While often associated with the direct inhibition of microbial growth, signaling molecules can convey information related to periodic biosynthetic activity, stress responses, cell density, motility and biofilm formation, virulence island expression, and other complex, coordinated regulatory phenomena. At small concentrations, genetically encoded quorum sensing signals modulate the expression of virulence determinants, promote the dissemination of horizontally acquired antibiotic resistance genes, and alter host immune response profiles 1. Even though antibiotics improve human and animal disease treatment outcomes (e.g., by minimizing morbidity, mortality and hospital length of stay), suppress infectious diseases, and facilitate health interventions including surgical procedures, many therapeutic modalities remain undermined by the emergence of drug-resistant biofilms. Such complex antibiotic-presenting environments encompass individually resistant cells, non-linear nutrient diffusion and obstruction effects, as well as hosting limited but subpopulation-biased genetic plasticity 2.

The ubiquity of antibiotics hinges upon their specific utility in treating infections caused by microorganisms. However, bacteria have been selectively favored for the development of defense mechanisms against antibacterial agents, thereby resulting in antibiotic resistance 3. As a precarious corollary of their capacity for survival, bacteria—in comparison to higher forms of life—are estimated to generate billions of different metabolites via primary and secondary carbon metabolism. These metabolites represent natural inhibitors of their growth, with the overriding consequence letting bacteria interact in complex ways with at least some structurally dissimilar and even unrelated antibiotics originating from non-bacterial life forms such as certain fungi and plants.

2. Mechanisms of Action

Many bacteria can develop resistance against several antibiotics simultaneously. Combinations of drugs with totally different mechanisms of action and spectrum of activity slow down the emergence of resistance. The antibiotics with different mechanism of action in combination generally undergo additive type of interaction, may exhibit either synergistic effect (greater antibacterial activity) or additive antibacterial activity which provides an overall conclusion that combined therapy is more efficacious 1. In some cases some inhibitors of bacterial enzymes in combination with antibiotics can effectively restore the bactericidal action of antibiotics against resistant strains but caution is required in clinical combinations due to their limited usefulness in patients with severe infections, high toxicity or antagonistic effect.

The actual mechanisms of action of antibiotics are generally classified into seven categories: inhibition of cell wall synthesis, inhibition of protein synthesis, inhibition of cytoplasmic membrane function, inhibition of nucleic acid synthesis, action as antimetabolites, inhibition of cell envelope function and effect on microbial growth. Bacteria can acquire resistance to antibiotics by multiple mechanisms, such as by the production of enzymes that can destroy antibiotics, by modification in the antibiotic target or provide alternative targets to replace the normal targets, by preventing penetration of antibiotics into the cell, and even by using efflux pumps to remove the antibiotics from the cell 2. Understanding the mechanisms of action of antibiotics has a direct impact on the effective

usage of antibiotics. However, their misuse and abuse leads to multiple drug resistance, which is more difficult to deal with.

The development of antibiotics remains one of the most important advances of medical science [1]. They have effectively controlled bacterial infectious diseases and have saved innumerate lives [2]. However, antimicrobial resistance has become a critical issue and has developed into a severe global crisis [3] 3. The increasing resistance of bacteria to antibiotics poses a potential danger to human health, since the treatment of infectious diseases has become uncertain [4].

3. Antibiotic Resistance

The forecasts about the extent of rising antibiotic resistance stress the need for fresh strategies 4. Relenting on the development of next-generation antibiotics to curb the growth of anti-resistant bacteria is unsustainable. Advantages and strategies other than antimicrobial chemotherapies for controlling drug-resistant bacteria should be recognized and engaged.

In a classical drug development framework, these co-transformers (some fraction of the pharmaceutical mixture that arises from the parent microbial compound via environmental chemistry) might be evaluated by first measuring their pharmacological activity. Indeed, upon emerging evidence of co-transformation, regulators are likely to explore amending rules globally, ultimately requiring data minimums for safety testing for every impurity and transformation product detected in the pharmaceutical manufacturing of antibiotic drugs. Setting and meeting public standards for resistance treatment efficacy, (as is done now in the setting of environmental dosing guidelines for rare stable pharmaceuticals like NSAIDS or birth control) has hardly been explored 5. It is striking given the ubiquity, mobility, and variety of environmental drug-like compounds to assuming that transfer and persistence are so rare. The movement of drug-like compounds or their reaction products between compartmental environments that contain resistance genes into human, animal, and environment has been demonstrated myriad times for all types of antibiotics. Antibiotic (resistant and sensitive) resistance genes and antibiotic-like drugs are ubiquitous, prompting consideration of them as environmental pollutants.

Antibiotic resistance is a significant hurdle to human health. How does it arise? One of the main drivers is thought to be the ability of bacteria to transfer antibiotic resistance genes 6. Resistant genes can become incorporated into the DNA and be copied to other bacterial cells. Many modern pharmaceuticals are not single stable compounds, but mixtures of compounds that may undergo chemical reactions with and transformations by the environment. As they undergo these changes, some derivatives in the pharmaceutical mix can randomly confer the resistant phenotype to wildlife.

4. Novel Resistance Mechanisms

Interest in the combination of antibiotics grew as resistance became common and certain pairs of bacteria were strategically synergistic or simply not antagonistic. Specifically, early use of antibiotics in tuberculosis (e.g., isoniazid and streptomycin) and leprosy (e.g., rifampin and Dapsone) combines with multiple antibiotics in the tuberculosis regimen widely used in the 21st century to ensure minimal antimicrobials resistance. Many antimicrobial combinations under active investigation to identify therapies for Gram-negative infections and rapid diagnostic testing that could considerably guide selection was anticipated and major hospital chains proceed to evaluate above-regimen.

For combination treatments, both antagonistically and synergistically interactions between antibiotics had been observed and used to achieve the desired therapeutic effects since the early 20th century. What is better, synergistically or antagonistically? Theoretically, one less antibiotic is needed for treating synergistic. Antagonistic is helpful for strictly narrowing the anti-serial spectrum of some

antibiotics (e.g., gentamicin and vancomycin). Nowadays, with the knowledge of new resistant mechanisms being reported in the above paragraphs 7, one developing antibiotic's resistance should be fully observant. The resistant-bacteria resulted from the practice of adding antibiotic into an antibiotic combination. The resistant-bacteria, though developed to a second antibiotic, could still be eliminated by the backup antibiotic (non-developing resistant). So, for reducing the total resistant-bacteria, developing and non-developing in a treatment (called: "intermediate zone") three-party groups try to rescue: it is highly preferred to use an antibiotic from each class. If the synergy of combining a protein synthesis inhibitor and a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor is high enough, for instant treating intracellular infection, such a rule could be relaxed. If the resistant to the backup antibiotic rapidly develops or if the patient presents with intracellular infections, an alternative combination should replace the original combination, maybe just in the early course of admission. The importance of understanding antibiotic interactions can be illustrated by an example of the combination of a protein synthesis inhibitor and a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor 8. The inhibition of protein synthesis can lead to the arrest of cellular metabolism, making a cell impassable when under those treatments that specifically target at the cell wall. The combination of inhibitors that impact on multiple essential cellular processes or the macromolecules that are common to them may lack of drug-specific stress responses, like drug-efflux pumps. When bacteria are treated with two antibiotics from different classes or with the same class e.g., two inhibit on protein synthesis, they are not subjected to a new selective pressure. Therefore, bacteria will not easily develop resistance to the multi-drug combination via lipopolysaccharide modification 9.

. Antibiotic Resistance

Another study that reduces the need of antibiotics is phytochemicals. Collectively, 73 in vitro studies and randomised controlled trials related to antimicrobial activity of phytochemicals in combinations with or without antibiotics. As results shown, antibiotics attack biosynthesis at a bottom-up level (protein and cell-wall biosynthesis, cell membranes, DNA replication and repair, and metabolic pathways) and this could possibly explain their strong antimicrobial activities. Bacterial preceded resistance mechanisms could be by either: 1) efflux of antibiotics; 2) hydrolysis of antibiotics by hydrolytic enzymes (β -lactamases); 3) structural modification of antibiotics by enzymes (acetylases, phosphotransferases and nucleotidyltransferases); and, 4) alteration of targeted structures. Consequently, combining phytochemicals with standard antibiotics could potentially address all resistance mechanisms, including preventing their efflux, reducing enzymatic activity, making the antibiotic more lipophilic and less hydrophilic, and decreasing resistance in the care of the target structures¹⁶.

The antibiotic-discovery pipeline has been described as stagnate for the last three decades. The younger agents are designed via structure-based engineering to target multiple-obligate-usages. While this holds promise of increased clinical efficacy and extended use, experience shows that multiple agents can become resistant simultaneously¹⁷. This followed by an ESKAPE impotency loss would cause the catastrophic situation of a society that could no longer execute invasive surgeries, care for implanted medical devices, and be compromised in all forms of inflammatory injury.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing concern as there are limited treatments options and more-resistant strains are being discovered¹⁸. The current crisis is partially contributed to from years of over prescription of broad-spectrum antibiotics. The common use of antibiotics has provided resistance strains with a selective advantage. To combat AMR, novel strategies are being tested including: modifying antibiotics, using adjuvants, commensal bacteria, probiotics, pharmacokinetic

enhancements, a combination therapy, and enhancing the immune system deployment. Many of these strategies rely on an inherent resistance to one agent in anticipation that the resistance will not be shared among novel agents.

3.1. Genetic Mutations

Horizontal gene transfer historically has been implicated as the major genetic force underlying the recent acquisition and rapid dissemination of many resistance determinants. Numerous resistance determinants can transfer via HGT. Formation of HGT-mediated resistance often utilizes a low-frequency event, necessitating antibacterial use to create a suitable selective environment for the relevant bacterial populations. Gene acquisition through HGT doesn't require a genome also carrying a resistance gene. All it needs is another genome that carries a gene for DNA mobilization, and experimentally transferable antibiotic resistance has been shown to occur using such suicidal (unreplicable) vectors in conjunction with an additional bacterial resident of the inoculum potentially providing the necessary DNA for transfer.

Mutational resistance is essentially a two-step process. First, a genome mutates and second, the altered genetic information alters the course of cellular processes such that the bacterium grows in culture, albeit at a reduced rate, in the presence of a normally effective concentration of the drug. Spontaneous mutations occur in actively growing bacterial cultures at a low frequency, typically one in 10⁹ cells⁴. A low-complete-factor resistance mutation rate is a common risk factor in clinical treatment, which is aggravated by the use of broad-spectrum agents because antimicrobials with a wider range experience selective pressure on a larger number of targets.

There are multiple genetic mechanisms through which bacteria can develop resistance to antibiotics, including spontaneous mutations and acquisition of genes encoding resistance through horizontal gene transfer¹⁹. Antibiotic resistance can occur through selection or by direct induction of adaptive responses in bacteria. Genomic changes are induced through exposure to antibiotics and selection for a subpopulation of cells by antibiotic treatment may lead to enrichment of preexisting mutants that are partially or fully resistant to the drug²⁰. Alternatively, prolonged antibiotic exposure can increase the likelihood that a spontaneous mutation in the genome will occur in one or multiple genes involved in regulation of gene expression, transport, modification, or enzymatic degradation of a particular antibiotic or related antibiotics, ultimately leading to antimicrobial agent resistance if the mutation confers a growth advantage under these conditions.

3.2. Horizontal Gene Transfer

Drug resistance can be spread by additional modes of HGT, such as transformation and transduction as well²¹. Transformation is the uptake of naked double-stranded DNA from the environment, whereas transduction occurs via viral (bacteriophage) transfer. Release of genetic material that can then be taken up by another prokaryotic cell by gene transfer agents (GTAs), which mediate a third, vesicle-mediated method of HGT has been found in some species. Mobile genetic elements, such as plasmids, chromosomally located transposable elements (such as composite transposons and integrons), and episomes (elements that may exist either as plasmids or integrated in a chromosome) are involved in HGT, moving from one cell to another. Especially when under increased selection pressure such as antibiotic drugs, horizontal transferable genetic components, such as plasmids that comprise resistance genes, facilitate the acquisition of resistance features in passing bacteria. Conjugation, also phrased as "bacterial sex", is a unidirectional mechanism of plasmid-driven transfer. It was initially discovered and described/ in *Escherichia coli*. A donor (cell containing plasmid) involves the sex pilus formed by the plasmid-driven encode genes of the donor pilus to identify and connect with a recipient (plasmid-lacking) bacteria, which also has a peptidoglycan

membrane and a Type IVB secretion system/coreset complex at the recipient membrane, forming a connecting nanotube.

Antibiotics are one of the marquee scientific discoveries of the 20th century that have saved countless lives, but essentially suffer from the untreatable aspirating possibility of resistance evolution. The primary mechanism of the development of antibiotic resistance, modified target or drug metabolism, is usually a consequence of natural selection. However, horizontally-acquired resistance contributes significantly to the rapidity of the resistance evolution. The exchange of genetic materials among organisms is horizontal gene transfer (HGT)²². In fact, HGT is an important source of genetic material for bacteria and archaea in general. For certain conjugative plasmids, which are circular extra-chromosomal self-replicating DNA closed loops of between 1 kb and 400 kb, beneficial traits is transferred to an antibiotic-susceptible organism, no selection or pressure required ²³.

3.3. Efflux Pumps

Research work indicates inhibition of efflux pumps as a good strategy for restoring the antibacterial efficacy of the described antibiotics; current investigations concentrate on screening of chemicals affecting efflux and their development into effective adjuncts. We are probably cognizant of obtaining a high probability of efficient efflux inhibition chemicals that are discovered or formulated with respect to the abundance and poly-factorial nature of efflux chemical inhibitory activity. Furthermore, the investigation of efflux-versus-relief inhibitors may also be crucial to counteract the fast temporal and environment-dependent bacterial changes that are possible sources of resistance to the therapy complementary approaches. However, the implementation of the adjunctive approaches has not been a priority for clinicians and researchers²⁴. For future efflux pump inhibitor research and development, powerful computational analysis and biotechnological approaches for the screening of selected bacterial targets for characterization of the efflux pump panel are activatable as a complementary strategy to traditional methodologies. Concentrating on essential biological and ecological approaches would allow further understanding of the bacterial treatment strategies that are implemented at an adjuvant level by efflux inhibitors¹⁵.

Efflux pumps are part of the drug resistance mechanism in Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria; they are protein complexes that allow bacteria to extrude a wide range of substrates from the cytoplasm to the outside cell as a form of defense mechanisms that provide drug tolerance and even multidrug-resistant capability. In addition, efflux pumps are considered a prevalent threat determining the development of drug resistance, biofilm formation, and persistence of chronic infections in bacterial photobionts of the biofouling community, sessile as well as planktonic bacterial populations. Furthermore, as a result of their critical role in bacterial cornerstone survival strategies, achieving the desired antibiotics' efficacy is a very complicated issue for treating most infections caused by Gram-positive and Gram-negative species²⁵.

4. Novel Resistance Mechanisms

The last two decades have seen several novel resistance mechanisms (NRMs) that deviate from the known classical resistance mechanisms including overexpression of chromosomal genes or harboring acquired resistance genes, with the most recent advances in the structural genomics of antibiotic targets and studies highlighting how the binding of the effector directly to the intracellular "indicator" of the membrane-bound sensor (intracellular ROS for OmpR) could reduce the fluctuations of the underlying signal, due to the unpredictable fitness consequences that a significant modulation (strong off/on phenotype) of a given TCS would lead to, making it a likely evolutionary dead end ²⁶.

Since the discovery of antibiotics, numerous resistance mechanisms have emerged. The WHO

has classified multidrug-resistant bacteria as one of the biggest threats to global public health, partly due to the rapid spread of antibiotic resistance encoded on mobile genetic elements and the failure to discover novel antibiotics. Currently used antimicrobial agents target specific dull metabolic processes (e.g., transcription, translation, or cell wall synthesis), binding to the drug targets reversibly or irreversibly. Consequently, upon evolution, bacteria can rapidly develop resistance by target modification, ensuring bidirectional promiscuity. Additionally, bacteria can escape from antimicrobial killing if the drug fails to reach its target. Thus, the main mechanisms decimating the bactericidal activity of antimicrobials, including the innate resistance to disinfectants and antibiotics, the latter representing –a natural consequence of antibiotic production in microbial ecosystems– are by sequestering an antibiotic inside the inner cell membrane, preventing access to the cell target, and extruding it to the culture medium, decreasing its effective concentration in the bacterial cytoplasm and reaching its target for resistant phenotypes that can reduce their outer membrane diffusion or overexpress specific proteins involved in the outward movement of xenobiotics that act as efflux pumps. Such defense mechanisms are useless against antimicrobials if the drug's target also has a key role in the bacterial survival while active efflux or poor access of the drug to its target is the last possibility to fail it, due to the resistance to erythromycin and methicillin in Gram-negatives.

4.1. Biofilm Formation

The host immune response is also manipulated, since the immune system is not able to penetrate the biofilm. Additionally to drugs, genetically distinct strains within a biofilm communicate with each other and also have regulatory processes controlling biofilm growth. Quorum sensing plays an important role in biofilm establishment, maturation and in the biofilm climax stage, where the process of detachment occurs and bacteria are dispersed. Many biofilm-forming bacteria are capable of forming a veil spore community that provides a starting point for the establishment of a new biofilm. Dipicolinic acid also protects spores from UV damage, desiccation, reactive oxygen species, and antimicrobial compounds. The different poly-amines prolong viability of the spores; they also protect them from damage caused by various acids. A structure composed of bacterial cells and extracellular polymeric matrix surrounding the cells is known as biofilm formation. Biofilm-forming bacteria are 10 to 1000 times more resistant to most antimicrobial agents than their planktonic forms. Biofilm can result in various human bacterial infections.

Biofilms naturally occur under environmental conditions and are associated with living organisms 27. In case of pathogenic biofilms, the accumulation of cells and the ECM compounds such as proteins, nucleic acids, and exopolysaccharides is an important mechanism of the drug resistance. Additionally the resistant ability is mobility switching from plankton to microbial cells. Due to factors including the signaling molecules among the cells, gene exchange, and quorum sensing during biofilm formation, they are more resistant to the drugs and dynamics of the host defence mechanisms 28. Biofilms are tough to penetrate due to their dense structure, so drug delivery is inefficient. Macromolecules inside the biofilms diffuse slowly because they interact with biopolymers and create diffusion barriers to the drugs. Additionally, the anionic biopolymers in the biofilm matrix hold the cations and protons for the enhancement of the protection due to the neutral charges arising due to them. Sub lethal doses of antibiotics encourage biofilm formation in an ommonly observed counterproductive impact. Biofilms associated with the medical devices can disrupt flow, heat transfer, and ultimately air and fluid systems obstruct diverse applications. The high resistance to multiple environmental stress factors such as antibiotics, antimicrobials, and extreme temperatures is indigenous to biofilm cells. Multi-layered biofilm structure hinders the penetration of antibiotics into the inner layers and in turn reduces drug efficacy 29.

4.2. Persister Cells

Blaise et al. confirmed recently that CCCP and arsenateoxonium are solely active in aerobic conditions, Fort et al. described for both the inhibitor of ATP synthesis and inhibitor of electron transport chain that culture age, pH and oxygen availability are of least importance. While bacteria grows as biofilm or in vitro, a diverse environment such as competition for food and hostility from protozoa selects for the viability and persistence. The most important factors that define the pharmacokinetics of the compounds is their ability to enter the cells as well as their stability and resistance to host enzymes and immune response 30.

Various small molecules, enzymes, and antibiotics are discovered in the last two decades which have been reported to exhibit varying degree of activities against persisters. Among numerous compounds found to have potential anti-persister activities, only few have been studied in depth. However, for some of the anti-persister agents, mode of action has been defined. They target diverse physiological activities, including ATP synthesis, (p)ppGpp synthesis, cyclic nucleotide signaling, unique cellular machinery present in persister network, energy transduction, electron transport chain, and central metabolism 31.

Most of the currently available antibiotics target actively growing cells. Hence, they are unable to eradicate dormant persister cells which enter a state of dormant when, exposed to stress. The presence of persister cells makes recurrent drug tolerance that severely reduces the chance of curing infection with conventional antibiotics 3. Drug tolerance of persisters results from high mutation rate in persister cells leading to the development of genetic resistance. An alternative approach is to focus on compounds that effectively kill both the slowdividing or dormant persister as well as the rapidly dividing bacteria or those that are active against non-replicative bacteria.

4.3. Antibiotic Tolerance

Several attempts have been made to classify antibiotic tolerance based on its mechanism such as physical state of macromolecules, influx of antibiotics and efflux of drugs, intracellular antibiotic neutralization, altered drug targets, and the induction of stress responses 32. Tolerance is not necessarily always detrimental from the ecological point of view as it allows a fraction of the bacterial population to survive sudden antibiotic-mediated killing. Pre-existence of a sub-population of tolerant bacteria could provide valuable ecologic functions like ecological engineering for populating diverse bacterial ecosystem, and therefore is not always detrimental. Tolerance is however associated with biofilms, chronic conditions, and relapses and if the persister bacteria are disease-causing, it causes serious challenge in pathogenic clinical infections.

Antibiotic resistance is often confounded with or used interchangeably with antibiotic tolerance. However, these two phenomena are distinct from each other, with resistance defined by genotypic changes that make bacteria less susceptible to an antibiotic, while tolerance is the ability of bacteria to survive antibiotic mediated killing in the absence of new genotypic changes 33. Tolerance is not detected through traditional antibiotic susceptibility profiles, but can be phenotypically screened and determined via minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) assays and survival parameters. Along the same lines resistance is detected as a change in traditional antibiotic susceptibility testing (i.e., the loss of antibiotic susceptibility or increase in MIC) 34. Tolerance, on the other hand, is defined by the range of time dependent antibiotic tolerance-related parameters such as minimal duration of exposure required to achieve killing, rate, or magnitude of killing. The strengths of these time dependent tolerance related parameters best correlate with tolerance activity.

5. Natural Alternatives to Antibiotics

Bacteriophages (phages) are the natural predators of bacteria, totally harmless to the human

health and environment. By using the phages instead, one can avoid the problems of antibiotic residues in meat or egg products 35. The continuous and often inappropriate use of antibiotics has led to reduced efficacy and emergence of microbial resistance to antibiotics which requires constant exploration of novel alternative antimicrobial agents. These antimicrobial substances have attracted the scientific community due to their widespread safety, efficacy, accessibility, prompt uptake, ready biodegradation and design for synthesis are environmentally friendly, and most importantly they are not prone to microbial resistance. Such wild edible plants provide good sources of natural active ingredients and phytochemical compounds that are useful in making natural antibiotic compounds to various ailments. Such plants which are chemical components of antimicrobial potential can be used for the controlling the disease in both plant and animals to control bacterial and fungal diseases of the plants, by applying same extract as herbal medicine over the plants and herbal formulation.

In the meantime, a considerable body of scientific literature is available on the identification of natural treatments, such as plant material exhibiting antimicrobial properties, and containing biologically active substance, conducive to counteracting or altering physiological functions of pathogenic microorganisms. Among promising natural remedies, antimicrobial copper nanoparticle is exhibiting enormous potential. Toxic effects of antibiotics and emergence of resistance have led to investigation of plants for new drugs 36. Keeping in mind the problem of presently available antibiotics, the quest for new microbistatic or microbicidal substances has led to the exploitation of certain plant materials as potential sources of new medicinal compounds. These potential sources, widely distributed throughout the globe and easily accessible for local people, include plant extracts, leaves, seeds, oils, and other complex mixtures containing several biologically active substances. This, it seems probable that plants would not elicit resistance genes in the genomes of bacteria, viruses, and even parasites as quickly as the bacteria, parasites, and viruses would acquire resistance to chemical antibiotics.

5.1. Plant-Derived Compounds

These alternative approaches will not yield immediate answers but may provide future solutions in the treatment of many infectious diseases. These traditional treatments offer an array of organic chemicals and traditional methods that are valuable resources for the development of new classes of antibiotics that will overcome resistance mechanisms⁵. In this regard, the phytochemistry, pharmacological effects, and some plant products of African Combretum and Pteleopsis species are reported and highlight the importance of further investigation on this aspect. All traditional medicines, including those derived from Africa, are an important resource that must be conserved, researched, and developed. African Combretum and Pteleopsis species deserve such investigation. Some of these plants are already at risk due to the destruction of their natural habitat in different African countries. However, the genetic and metabolomic diversity of these plants needs to be explored to predict plant properties that will be useful in the future. Direct application of these extracts is not a viable option as it is often difficult to isolate and standardize the bioactive compounds from whole extracts.

Plant-derived compounds, including essential oils, have been attracting substantial attention for their antibacterial properties³⁷. Their ability to act against antibiotic-resistant bacteria, such as the well-known hospital acquired methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), further enhances their attractiveness and value. According to data, it is estimated that around 80% of the population in developing countries rely on traditional medicine (phytotherapeutics) for their health needs³⁸.

5.2. Antimicrobial Peptides

Bacterial cell membranes, which are required for viability, are overwhelmingly hydrophobic, making them an appealing target for proteinaceous pharmaceuticals, most of which are relatively

hydrophilic, because the second are compatible with and soluble in aqueous environments. These inhibitors insert into and perturb the chemical composition and biophysical properties of microbial membranes, leading to cell death and also tend to attack locally biofilm-producing bacterial cells 37. AMPs have also been the inspiration for the development of some interesting AMP-mimetic instead of direct uptake or physical damage, AMPs can inhibit the ability of bacteria to export virulence factors. AMPs are cheap to obtain from recombinant bacterial, yeast or plants and, when formulated for long-time protection, can be repeatedly applied or deposited without antigenic or toxic effects. Natural AMPs contribute the insights to the structural and functional parameters which are optimally balanced to impart spanned activity, including selective targeting of microbial membranes, minimal host cell toxicity, enzymatic protection against mammalian proteases and long-term potentiated activity. Refund is just how effective AMPs are: an exhaustive review of the field revealed that . 47% of evaluated melanin-antibiotics were toxic to mammalian cells, while most microbial-antibiotics (94%) were.

As the antibiotic resistance crisis deepens, alternative therapeutic strategies are urgently needed. We have no choice but to turn our attention to anti-infective peptides and monoclonal antibodies. One interesting villain in this apocalypse is the antimicrobial peptide (AMP) 39. As microscopic factories of competition, ants harbor a vast diversity of elevating selling natural products endowed a fantastic variety of structures and functions which have inspired drug discovery for the past 30 years. Plant metabolic products, especially terpenes, alkaloids and phenolic compounds have been attended in essences.

5.3. Phage Therapy

In the realm of antibiotic resistant organisms, another potential alternative is phage derivatives. Phages have the power to repurpose them in addition to the fact that they release genetically modified deleterious proteins. This approach might be utilized in the future to deliver multiple tools in a single dose. Rather than killing the bacterium outright, it would be possible to cause an unreasonable duplication of its genetic material. The bacterium has been fatally “outbred” because it was not built to handle several straightened out chromosomal lengths. Additionally, such futuristic healing methods would incur minimal damage to the patient’s beneficial microbiome and potential side effects. The use of phage derivivers can greatly increase the range and effectiveness of therapy in this instance.

Against this backdrop, bacteriophage therapy is being seen as a potential solution. Aside from their destructive impact on biofilms that covers bacteria, phages can improve their capability to disperse. Bacteriophages can get to sensitive microbes regardless of their places in a semi-porous matrix. Furthermore, bacteriophages have been found to lessen sinusitis, dental caries, viral infections, and other conditions unrelated to bacterial infections. Phage resistance is less probable to evolve no matter how quickly it may evolve once it begins to evolve, while cross-resistance to antibiotics is less likely to occur. Bacteriophages contribute to ecological stability in the long run and facilitate the population growth of other phage-susceptible bacteria. This capacity of phages will help therapy providers in preventing the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Antibiotic resistance is one of the major reasons the world suffers from infection recurrence and the limited impact of traditional antibiotic treatment 40. While the capacity of bacteria to develop resistance is due to the natural process of bacterial adaptation, antibiotic use has considerably enhanced the pace of resistance development 41. The discovery of antibiotics was a major milestone in human history and had a significant impact on public health, but it has subsequently led to antibiotic-resistant strains. The use of antibiotics in agriculture, medicine, and the food processing

industry further aggravated this situation 42.

6. Combination Therapy

Trying to solve the complex problem of bacterial resistance to antibiotics has driven the research in several different directions, including development of screening assays, genomics-based drug discovery, and undoubtedly also into combination therapy. Combination therapy is indeed newly appreciated potential approach to tackle the increasing complexity of bacterial infections, and can offer a range of different treatment modality behaviors that are difficult to match through other antimicrobial strategies. The use of antibiotic drugs with different targets might lower the probability for emergence of resistance, simultaneously increasing the bacterial killing rate. If combination antibiotic therapy is to be successful, the particular mechanism of the antibiotic interaction is of major relevance and it can be described as: additive, synergistic, or antagonistic. Other types of drug combinations include antibiotic–non-antibiotic small molecules. The non-antibiotic small molecules included in this category might possess their antibacterial activity with bacterial targets that are distinct from those bacterial cellular process typically targeted by conventional antibiotics, including: targeting resistance determinants, cell membrane disruption, signal pathway inhibition, and/or acting as immune- stimulants. Although the efficacy of antibiotic–non-antibiotic combination therapy often appears low, these strategies can lower antibiotic resistance or/and reduce the frequency of nascent resistance.

Terminally, some researchers have observed that both the synergistic and potentiate antibiotic combinations favoring the rapid development of resistance, unless the combinatorial drug design is placed under drug-drug resistance barrier which means synergetic- or potentiative-designing combinations preventing the bacterial pairwise drug resistance. Conversely, antagonistic interactions prevent any significant probability of emergent drug resistance, if reads the literature correctly. Therefore, it is no wonder that combinatorial drug strategies of antagonistic interactions amongst antibiotics can provide stronger drug resistance. The antibiotic heteroresistance can be detected early and potentially stopped by using combination therapy, which saves time and reduce costs for therapy. Similarly, interactive combination of antibiotics is not futile *in vivo*. The main intention of drug-drug interaction (cooperative or non-cooperative) used for therapeutic infection is to control bacterial population and decrease the risk potential of transmitting plasmid-mediated resistance.

In the approach of global action to combat bacterial infections and limit the evolution and spread of antibiotic resistance, combination therapies are considered as strategies, which can have profound significance 43. Based on molecular mechanics and signaling pathways, antibiotics display a diversity of functionalities. In addition, some antibiotics possess several functional groups which endow with multifunctional properties. As is known to all, one of the major driving forces for rapid development of antibiotic resistance is the horizontal conjugative transfer which is under the control of bacterial quorum sensing (QS) systems. First, if combination therapy with two antibiotics shows antagonist interactions, then it is more likely to increase the risk of antibiotic resistance. It is not an advantageous way to fight with pathogenic bacterial infections by using drug resistance acceleratory combinatorial therapies 17. Such kind of combination therapies not only give preference to diversified gene mutations of pathogenic bacteria, which can contribute to favorable resistance, flourishing bacterial pathogenicity and deteriorating prognosis of the infected individuals, but also leads to rapid antibiotic resistance determinants transformation of bacteria (HGT) and numerous horizontal gene pool expanding 38.

6.1. Synergistic Interactions

Plant-derived natural products, such as xanthorrhizol, can act as futile purine-pyrimidine

antimetabolites of the nucleic acid precursor pathways, which makes them interesting adjuvant agents. On the contrary, critical metabolic pathways shared between bacteria and the eukaryote host, such as lipid biosynthesis, may represent intriguing targets for adjuvant interventions. Auxotroph mutants, able to grow in the presence of aminoacids/sugars bypassing the critical step, seem thus likely more sensitive to classical antibiotics. Because the eukaryotic host is easily provided with all necessary precursors, auxotroph mutants may behave as selective attenuated target bacteria. Synergistic drug combinations appear to slow down selection of antibiotic-resistant mutants 44. Indeed, bactericidal drug combinations prolong the extinction of sensitive strains, whereas bacteriostatic combinations spoil an intensive selection for resistance in stationary phase cultures.

6. Synergistic Antibiotic Interactions Synergistic antibiotic interactions have been largely exploited in the clinical setting. This successful phenomenon is the outcome of both thorough investigations on model organisms and ad hoc studies conducted during the surveillance of antibiotic-resistant strains. The correct choice of two or more drugs is key to the effectiveness of this combined therapy (e.g. ampicillin and clavulanic acid). A possible explanation to synergism is that multiple target points are attacked by the antibiotics within the pathways of a single bacterium 26. Therefore, the destruction of different cell organelles results in a cumulative decline of the cell functions. Synergism by antibiotic combinations can be also boosted thanks to the potential ability of a drug to enhance biological activities of another antibiotic.

Abstract Antibiotics are chemical agents capable of curing bacterial infections. Considering the ever-expanding list of bacteria with multidrug-resistant phenotypes, the search for new antibiotics needs to be drastically improved. A conceivable countermeasure to this crisis is alternative therapies based on a rational use of the drugs already available. In this regard, drug combinations can be assessed and implemented. Each potential combination may result in either synergistic, additive, or antagonistic effects.

6.2. Overcoming Resistance

The combination of antibiotics in an AR context has been a less popular approach compared to the treatment of cancer or viral infection. The concept of synergistically mixing antibiotics can be limiting when applied to lethal doses combines two high-dose antibiotics, dosed individually at sub-lethal concentrations, the basis of this argument is that sub-lethal concentration increases the mutation rate and hence the chance of mutation in a host environment comprising a resistant bacterium is higher.

The ultimate aim of an MDR-bacterial treatment regimen is to associate two or more drugs to contain the potential risk of resistance 35. These drug combinations that can preferentially kill sensitive cells and should also block the growth of resistant mutants are identified as 'evolutionproof therapy'. This assumes that more rational deployment as short-term, high-dose combination therapies are thought to preclude the spread of resistant mutants as it would induce a strong selective difference between resistance cost and antibiotic efficacy.

The discovery and use of antibiotics in the past century has significantly improved human life expectancy and healthcare 45. However, the overuse and misuse have driven an alarming rise in the number of multidrug-resistant (MDR) bacteria, capable of withstanding almost all modern antibiotic treatments. Plunging antibiotic discovery rates exacerbate these issues, creating a looming public health crisis. Alternative therapeutic approaches are therefore crucial to manage the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) crisis. Among them are novel antibiotics, drug recycling, and repurposing 17. Combating AMR is a global priority. We review the various sources providing insights and ideas that are changing the approaches and mindsets towards treatment and public healthcare.

7. Antibiotic Stewardship

Mostly, microorganisms within the human gut, on the human skin and in other parts of the body are included in the total bacterial population. People take in antibiotics in micro-doses via food, contact with animals and the environment. In reaching the resistance genes of bacteria to antibacterial substances, their character and intensity had to be estimated to evaluate the possible risk. Using the results of the antibiotic resistance test (ABL), a distressingly large part of the loads was crowded after the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) 1 mg/ml – 48% tetracycline was subinhibitory – 12% followed by 4% ampicillin and 2% streptomycin. These low concentrations allow persistors to survive, making it is conceivable to evolve new mutations in bacteria during treatments.

Scaling back antibiotic use, or antibiotic stewardship, comes scientific evidence on the development of drug-resistant bacteria and gene transfer from nonpathogenic to pathogenic bacteria⁴⁶. Decision makers undertake further measures to improve the appropriateness of antibiotic prescription, to which the World Health Organization also attaches great importance. However, these easy-to-use and effective interventions have not been carried out⁴⁷. In many cases, patients ask for immediate treatment, taking antibiotics as a placebo. This feeds the inappropriate antibiotic prescription practices. The mechanisms and consequences of the different antibiotic resistance genes have been used to identify some of the possible resistance genes in the genomes of bacteria that are not related to the pathogenic strain, suggesting the frequent exchange of resistance genes¹⁷.

7.1. Rational Use of Antibiotics

Currently, the use of broad-spectrum antibiotics is significantly higher in comparison to narrow-spectrum antibiotics due to various reasons, e.g., overuse or misuse of broad-spectrum; greater effectiveness in treatment of infections due to multiple pathogens. The use of broad-spectrum is also common in the empirical treatment of patients due to difficulties in accurate identification and diagnosis of infecting pathogens⁴⁶. But this surely encourages more resistance towards bacteria and indirectly enhances infection associated risks due to the development of *C.difficile* associated diarrhea. In looking at the risk factors, the history of recent hospitalization and antibiotic use, particularly agent's active against anaerobic flora, is a significant risk factor. Broad-spectrum antibiotics may be more convenient to use, but multiple studies consistently have shown that use is a risk factor for the onset of *C difficile* infection.

Antibiotics revolutionized the medical world by adding survival days to the lives of many individuals¹⁵. There are different types of antibiotics which target various components and mechanisms of bacterial cells based on their structure and properties. They are grouped into either narrow-spectrum or broad-spectrum antibiotics. Narrow-spectrum antibiotics are effective against fewer types of bacteria or a single bacterial species, and broad-spectrum antibiotics are effective against a wide variety of bacteria⁴⁸. Therefore, an important clinical decision to use narrow or broad-spectrum antibiotics should be made considering the differential in therapeutic advantage over the potential harm it may cause. The therapeutic advantage may differ by infecting pathogen, site of infection, and clinical status of the patient, and the potential harm may be an increase in antibiotic resistance, *C.difficile* associated diarrhea, development of mild to severe hypersensitivity or allergies, etc.

7.2. Limiting Antibiotic Overuse

Confusion with other techniques in the literature is understandable because some studies refer to antibiotic cycling when actually describing a rotation plan. Rotating antibiotics means choosing one for use and using only it for a pre-specified period for empiric or definitive therapy.⁷ These distinct cycles repeat—daily or yearly. The rotation plan was described to give each 8-week period a

specific antibiotic for any indication, as opposed to cycling plans where the selection was for empiric piperacillin-tazobactam versus ertapenem for any indication.

Antibiotic cycling refers to episodic use of different types of antibiotics in the same community health-care setting. The hypothesis is that resistance to any one of these antibiotics will diminish while the alternatives are being used, thereby preserving their usefulness in the future. A body of research questions whether this approach is helpful. However, in a study evaluating regional mandatory cycling of parenteral aminoglycosides that interchanged between gentamicin, netilmicin, and tobramycin weekly, clear evidence of a short-term decrease in resistance was observed 17.

Controlling the use of antibiotics can single handedly slow the rate at which antibiotic resistance develops and spreads in bacterial population 46. An important and widely accepted measure to reduce the demand for antibiotics is through improved hygiene 49. Fewer people get sick and people are less likely to demand antibiotics if they are better at controlling infection. Hand hygiene in healthcare facilities is particularly important, as are sanitation and access to clean water in communities. In the livestock sector, better biosecurity, such as better segregation between animals and fewer animals per square foot, has potential to improve the need for antibiotic use.

8. Future Directions

In conclusion, natural antibiotic resistance has saved and introduced a way to combat the question mark. Over the next decade, as several non-antibiotic resources are utilized to combat the infection rate A, the equivalent of BA, AB antibiotics, and their disappearance is likely.²¹ However, the most responsible may be the continuation of resistance to antibiotics by the bacterial population. Because there is no fix, it is important that the response of wanting to reduce the resistance of harmful bacteria should remain one of the best means of defense.

1. Repurposing existing drugs to reverse existing antibiotic resistance has a potential of dramatic impact within localized settings in combination antibiotics (e.g., aztreonam-avibactam 50). 2. The search for selective approaches to restore antibiotic activity has opened on unexplored avenues, such as the blocking of active secretion of resistance enzymes rendered by T9/10E neuraminidases. Expanding the panel of approaches for “old” antibiotics may alleviate the administrative issues with AMR modulator tunneling and specialty. Increasing trends in the resistance of human complexes to antibiotics has received a great deal of attention from the global scientific community. Today, with the help of bacteria resistance, we are talking about the long hidden immune and parasitic diseases and the various populations of microscopic cells that live freely in the ecosystem. By focusing on the relationships of these bacteria, it is possible to develop the most efficient methods to fight bacterial infections through a combination of natural therapeutic agents, low-impact nanoparticles, antibiotic resistance, adjustment of the gene, genetically modified (tailored) phages, antimicrobial resistance treatment, and viral lysis. 1. However, while it is considered one of the most promising approaches for eliminating bacterial resistance biases, the wide implementation of ZAP has not been achieved.

8.1. Targeting Virulence Factors

One promising approach explained is to inhibit the resistance acquisition genes or elements. This prospect had been predominantly characterized by the in vitro use of naturally derived inhibitory agents, such as synthetic molecules, antimicrobial peptides, or phages. More particularly, BdQ, a quorum sensing inhibitor, is a limited-spectrum virulence agent. It could restrain the invasion and the gut colonization by *V. cholerae*. This is an example of a preexisting therapeutics potentially enhanced by the administration of companion analogs with a complementary spectrum. It is known that combining antibiotics could intensify their efficacy. This fosters strategies that aim to avoid resistance development by reducing the antibiotic dosage or treatment duration and bypass the evolutionary

escape route. In an alternative approach, certain antibiotic ions, such as kombucha and Cap-Combi have exhibited antimicrobial activity and quorum sensing inhibitory activity, enhancing their antimicrobial symptomatology.

Many bacteria used antivirulence strategies, especially by producing antimicrobial molecules. Recently, multispecies bacterial communities have been found to be colonized by prophages that boost community immune function against pathogens. These findings could open new fields for the development of alternative strategies targeting bacteriophages. Antibiotics are often overutilized leading to the rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. These microorganisms consequently became a major threat to human and animal health. Because the spread of antibiotic resistance phenomena correlated with horizontal gene transfer via mobile genetic elements, they constituted an evolutionary crux for the development of antimicrobials.

Targeting virulence factors, anti-virulence therapy, constitutes a promising approach for developing alternative drugs to conventional antibiotics 51. This strategy aims at increasing the host defense or resistance to pathogens and minimizing the evolution toward resistance by reducing the selection pressure for such a route, as unlike conventional antibiotics, antivirulence drugs do not kill or inhibit the growth of the pathogen. One of the precedents for antivirulence therapy is the use of human commensal bacteria strains, such as *Escherichia coli* Nissle 1917 or *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*, that produce numerous anti-pathogenic molecules and thus are used as probiotics for intestinal disorders 1. The present chapter reviews the strategies to neutralize the virulence of pathogenic bacteria.

8.2. Precision Medicine Approaches

That antibiotic-additive combinations can treat bacterial infections much more effectively than the best current antibiotic suggests this is a promising, evolution-proof intervention for reducing the ability of evolving bacteria to resist antibiotic treatment. Additive combinations of antibiotics can only be uncovered experimentally, as their discovery requires testing each of the choose-two combinations from among at least the top 10 most potent, and that the vast majority of choose-two combinations are not antibiotic-additive. However, chemical similarity between the two antibiotics tested in a combination has been identified as the most predictive feature of antibiotic-additive combinations. Such combinations also appear more likely to be antibiotic-additive, and range of promising strategies for reducing resistance including co-administration of antibiotics with effective non-antibiotic mixtures and near-simultaneous treatment with two antibiotics that are effectively in each other's chemical class.

Developed world countries, and increasingly, developing world countries, confront major public health threat from infections caused by multidrug-resistant bacteria that have evolved resistance to many widely-used antibiotics 52. With few new antibiotics developed over the past several decades, evolution-proof interventions that work in the narrow race to treatment with current antibiotics are urgently needed to reduce the threat of infections caused by resistant bacteria 53. One promising precision medicine approach is to exploit antibiotic-additive interactions—where the two drugs exhibited more-than-additive killing activity—by co-administering a non-antibiotic secondary drug in combination therapies to increase the potency of existing, and new, antibiotics without the need to increase their dose 3.

8.3. Synthetic Biology

Recent synthetic biology implementation in antibiotic development and treatments includes the construction of a widely used CRMs for the production of the powerful antitubercular drug, pyrazinamide, which has been approved by the FDA, and Rx Bioscience is another widely used,

collective CRMs company that has been used in synthetic abiotics' estate and are broad against *Staphylococcus aureus*. In a fascinating study in 2020, Kyung et al. aimed to showcase the unity of synthetic biologies approach involving the repurposing of protein-shaping enzymes from natural product poyphemous gene clusters, in order to produce derivatives which decrease emergence of resistant strains in the presence of teh antibiotic. Syntactic biology can also be employed to directly limit resistant mutants through the reduction prior. In a recent study, Wang et al. employed CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing tools to silence resistant mutant alleles deep sea-derived. Despite the benefits of synthetic biology for antibiotic development, a major limitation-running parallel to those encountered in efforts to alter antibiotic biosynthesis in natural producing organisms and communities - is to ultimately integrate them into product commercialization and medical treatment and as anti-infective and resistance-reducing agents. Nevertheless, consistently with the heuristic potential of molecular synthetic biology, genetic modulation of enzyme targets is a versatile and scalable strategy to both extend the longevity of existing antibiotics and identify next-generation compounds by pathway evolution⁵⁴.

In the era of synthetic biology, we are now pressing the possibility of constructing de novo living organisms to serve human needs⁵⁵. This field has already been incorporated into the development of antibiotic tolerance systems and even, in the long-term, living antibiotic systems. There are several different examples of synthetic biology in relation to antibiotic resistance. These include the use of systems of bacteriophage in order to deliver genome recoding and, subsequently, synthetic organisms placing restrictive landscape ternary elements in order to reduce the scope of genetic transfer and, thus, recombination.

5. The Search for Natural Alternatives

Vegetal derived natural products have strong potentials to treat microorganisms in the form of bioactive compounds, which can annihilate pathogens or worse and inhibit the generation of biofilms. Plant natural products are resourceful in development than antibiotics. Due to the great extent of genetic variation, many hundreds of potential therapeutic agents might exist in species not yet even familiar. Recently the role of medicinal plants and human health resurrection draw a great attention by the variety of ways including use of environment friendly methodology as alternative to chemotherapy for treating other diseases such as diabetes, ulcer, sickle cell, and many other diseases. It has been difficult to discover new antibacterial compounds and most drugs are modified versions of existing ones.

In addition to their widespread uses in the pharmaceutical industry, plants and natural products have continuously been utilized in the past to prevent and treat diverse infections. As natural products have been introduced for the development of novel antibiotics, they have been investigated in detail to identify the active components, to evaluate their antibacterial activities, and to access their potential antibacterial mechanisms. They are being explored in febrile ailments, for stomachic, astringent, or flavoring purposes, as a gargling solution for the inflammatory process, and externally for the inject, muscular, and endocrinal action. There are different types of plant chemicals that can be beneficial for our medication and health from different parts of a plant which includes from roots to the leaves. Different drugs like muscle relaxants, antibiotics, anxiety and depression, anticancer, analgesics, and anti-inflammatory drugs are being extracted from plants and trees on our planet.

Antibiotics, best known for their exclusive properties against pathogenic bacteria, are used to treat countless bacterial infections preventing various diseases ¹⁰. Disadvantages of antibiotics mainly include narrow spectrum, resistance against particular bacteria, and adverse effects ¹¹. Consequently, many approaches have been made to develop antibacterial agents that are more

effective and safer. In the meantime, the search for natural alternatives has attracted the most attention of the researchers, which targets rational wound dressing and topical application for the treatment of infectious damaging tendency and hazardous diseases 12.

6. Natural Alternatives in Medicine

Essential oils are present in various plants and they have strong antibacterial properties, often widely used in traditional Indian medicine, Ayurveda. These have multi-targeting action, several mechanisms of action such as damage to the outer membrane integrity, effect on efflux pump, degradation of intracellular content, targeting cell wall, disturb protein membranes, and possess antioxidant activity that prevents the production of free-radicals. It is often observed that some constituents simultaneously control two or more targets in microbial cells and genetically alter the resistant mechanisms, leading to a rare drug-resistant mechanism. The constituents of essential oils are monoterpenes, phenolic compound, terpenoids, ketonic compound, and aldehyde that have antioxidant and antimicrobial properties. Their excellent antimicrobial potential rivals synthetic chemotherapeutic agents like quinolone-resistant strains by carvacrol in treating *Shigella* resistant strains, vancomycin-resistant strains by carvacrol, and oxidizing microorganisms with oregano oil 8. Lysozyme is a well-conserved protein of 13000 daltons. It is active on a wide variety of bacteria, especially on Gram-positive bacteria due to crucial structural differences⁵. In comparison to the effectiveness on Gram-positive bacteria, the experiments have shown that it is less active on Gram-negative bacteria because of the presence of porin in the cell wall that act as a barrier. The fluid mosaic model depicts the structure of the cell membrane, with proteins arranged like icebergs floating in a sea of lipids⁶ 13.

There are few alternative strategies in the pipeline to address the problem of infections related to MDR bacterial pathogens. Use of phage therapy with the limited knowledge about the effect of phage cocktails on patient to patient variation and their stability in host environment makes the safety and efficacy point of view unpredictable¹. Other biotherapeutics such as antibodies and vaccines are in the developmental pipeline. Although biotherapeutics are safer than antibacterial chemotherapeutics, their selection is also restricted ie by the resistance mechanisms of MDR bacterial pathogens². In nature, for the competitive edge in GNB, few virulence factors play key roles such as type antigen capsule³. Although the use of capsule-based vaccines is widespread and successful for a number of bacterial pathogens. But many capsules are made up of hyaluronic acid molecules, that are comprised of galacturonic acid and N-acetyl glucosamine units⁴ 14.

7. Natural Alternatives in Agriculture

Though instead of hundreds of researches available for natural alternatives in broilers, a limited number of fall on replacements role of the antibiotics in layer birds. Oregano EO (OEO) can be used as an alternative to replacement AGPs in the layer bird, as it decreases microbial loads and water content in feed and positively affects the egg traits. OEO as a replacement to inorganic Zn supplement in the feed showed higher percentage of laying birds and also higher albumen height, diameter, egg shape index, and lower Haugh unit. Additionally, known to be the anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties of the *Origanum* EO, and these might be further reasons to improved egg quality. Echinacea in contained diet reduced the egg interior quality deteriorated and degradation was slow. Its supplementation in the diet also improved feed efficiency which was optimum at 0.05%. Conclusively, supplementation of herbal alternatives could reduce the zoonotic bacteria both in cecum and on carcasses than control, thus could play a positive role by reducing the use of antibiotics.

Herbal feed additives are attractive and are the natural, reliable, eco-safest option for feed and food preservation also an alternative for antibiotics. Herbal medicines have been traditionally used

for treating various human and animal diseases. Medicinal herbs and their active ingredients have antimicrobial and antioxidant properties and are effective for improving growth, feed efficiency, and productive performance of livestock. Efforts to replace antibiotic growth promoters (AGPs) with herbal feed additive have led to the focus on essential oils (EOs) which are mainly extracted from various medicinal plants 15. Antimicrobial effect, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, enrichment in aroma and flavor are properties of EOs which could be relevant for the improvement of meat quality-rich broiler feed. Essential oils have been used to improve digestion, metabolic function, and improve gut health. In meat and layer birds, EOs improved the feed efficiency, average daily gain, and decreased gut pathogens. There are also reports where EOs were effective in the prevention of coccidiosis in broilers. Other herbal additives are prebiotics, probiotics, yeast, and natural enzymes. Long supplementation of garlic powder didn't cause any significant change in feed intake and FCR, suggesting that garlic-derived products can be utilized without adverse effects in chicken nutrition. Herbal essential oils such as from thyme improved feed moisture, decreased water activity and pH, increased microbial shelf life, and decreased total bacteria. According to Avila-Ramos et al. the antioxidative properties of rosemary essential oil contributed to the protection of meat against oxidation. Enzymes are fed in combination with the antibiotic and showed higher results in growth and FCR: an enzyme supplement mix (lipase, amylase, cellulase, and protease) in broilers resulted in ZnO and/or AGP-free feed made a significant impact in terms of feed efficiency.

The overuse of antibiotics has led to the development of antibiotic resistance in the commonly targeted pathogens 16. Not only in human medicine, but this has also found to be prevalent in food animals, causing a considerable public health hazard 17. The judicious use of antibiotics has been a major concern. Nowadays, people are more actively looking for a way to use antibiotics prudently. Especially in the food production industry, antibiotics are being replaced by natural alternatives which are more sustainable and environmentally friendly. Most importantly, they do not leave antibiotics residue and do not promote antimicrobial resistance.

8. Natural Alternatives in Food Preservation

Tyrocidines are chiral peptides from non-ribosomal synthesis and are made up of around 90% amino acids-these are bacterial metabolites. Out of these, tyrocidine, a surfactant acts to enhance the activity and environmental robustness of nisin. Tyrocidine can, for example, dual block, very rapidly, interella depletion insertion into E. coli envelope, the primary target of AMPs 18. In other words, tyrocidine acts on the gram negative bacteria's detergent link to facilitate nisin's permeation also. The antimicrobial effect of nisin is also considerably improved in the presence of tyrocidines, attributed to a type of 'synergy'; all common Gram-positive food spoiling bacteria so far tested have been inhibited at well below their cellular phospholipid concentrations. The food preservative propionate is hydrogenated by E. faecium to its antimicrobial derivative a natural fermentative container where both the hydrogenator and the double anti-coenzyme A-dependent reductase acting out of the propionate accumulated by competing Ros. Revenue in bifido yapping neutralizes negligible amounts of propionate that revert back to occur and therefore interroughly reduce bisgram negative enterobacteria and other preservatives are not reduced in an in vitro batch fermentation example; in addition, the fusidic acid combination esp. a xanthine, allows to coat and control sporolysinous clostridia, which are usually unencapsulated on the Mifs mixture and varieties, but which swell up as the cloccidrung is linked from occurring into even moderately tilting matching algae, without any effect on xanthine receiving angstrom and at least 1867-1917 overcrystalisation which reaches up by this carboneria.

Antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) are present in a large variety of life forms, including almost

all bacteria, nearly all fungi and free-living macrophages of animals 19. They are synthesised as cationic agents with moderate hydrophobic properties, which would facilitate their targeting to the anionic microbial membrane, causing electrical and physical disintegration, leading to loss of membrane integrity, and ionic gradients and hence cytoplasmic and metabolic arrest of pathogens. The beneficial effects of AMPs as food preservatives include broad and generally advantageous activities against a variety of pathogenic and food spoilage organisms including certain enveloped and non-enveloped viruses, gram-negative bacteria, and gram-positive bacteria. This antimicrobial activity can lead to deleterious effects on food quality, unless evidence is provided to the contrary. The lack of very high activity enables these peptides to target the membranes of bacteria and moulds, but to be safe to human cells.

9. Potential Benefits of Natural Alternatives

The role of natural compounds extracted from fungi can be possible through the positive impact of these bioactive components on human health (e.g. antimicrobial, antitumor behavior). The association of antibiotics with significant adverse effects and prolong use of antibiotics has led to an improvement in the incidence of antibiotic avoidance. Alternative therapies for infectious diseases incorporate real-life natural antioxidant agents, such as vitamins, minerals, and other antioxidant nutrients. Similarly, natural and artificially derived antimicrobials with antioxidant efficacy, including antibiotics, benzoyl peroxide, paracetamol, and probiotics, the prescription and non-prescription medications play an especially significant role. Antibiotics are capable of destroying, delaying the emergence, and multiplication of various microorganisms (bacteria, protozoa, or fungi). Given the known impact of natural preservatives on the biosecurity of such foods, researchers are able to identify fresh, sustainable replaces 19.

Knowledge opens the door for better understanding and proper use. The knowledge and consciousness of the patients and their families' is important for the usage of antibiotics and nonspecific symptomatic treatment alternatives. Baby-teethers with chamomile hydroglycolic extracts do not contain preservatives or sweeteners, and are prepared with all-natural components. All-natural components and sweetener make arginine, blueberries and hyaluronic acid more preferable for children to use the oral care product. Decreasing plain water consumption can predispose infants to fatty acids due to the reduction of the secretion of saliva and swallowing frequencies 20.

The alarming increase in bacterial resistance to antibiotics due to their overuse is a serious concern. Different antibiotics are responsible for disrupting the intestinal microbiota. The main characteristics of some symptomatic treatment alternatives compared to antibiotics are explained. Antibiotics are not preferred for the treatment of uncomplicated upper respiratory and non-severe gastroenteritis infections which are among the common health problems of infants, children and adolescents. However, antibiotics are often prescribed in these situations. Symptomatic treatment alternatives with comparable therapeutic effects and better safety profiles may also fulfill the expectations of the doctors, patients and their families. They should also be an answer to patient demands and financial concerns 21.

10. Challenges in Developing Natural Alternatives

In this space, the estimated quantity of such telling aspect increases relative to the sunset of the resource and reaching even then a climax of their spectacular performance! Perhaps some of our best descriptions transubstantiate into a faded pixelated echo of them, older still than bestial solitudes hidden by a large white tulip bulb, disguised by the paradox and absurdities that the real magic hide. Not even time blunted has elicited from me, so eloquently and for so long, a mischaracterized structure

of the ephemeral. From the heavens come domineering stirrings, casting shadows across an otherwise immaculate tree-lined lake shore. Reduced to a feeble echo in the coldly sparkling water that mirrors the siesta-dimmed sky, the deep rumble of the vaults messengers could only have conveyed a valid instinct to seek warmth, to embrace the void of exhaustion that inextricably empowered forgetfulness. We approach the lethal traps, coaxed out of the sun-drenched silence that presaged the blood-rimmed icy void by the emboldening dreams of the indefatigable adventurers immortalized in death (ArticleId: dd468be6-c6a0-4ea6-a00e-6f9da4bcbbea).

The complete mystery of the origin story of an(ArticleId: 288639c5-693d-4fab-b33e-5fab4dd9994e) tibiotic resistance seems to have inspired every writer of murder mysteries ever to push the boundaries of their imaginations (and everyone else's attention span). Every notebook, napkin and post-it contains some cryptic diagram or vividly sketched-out a recollection of some account chilling enough to have a drug of some sort named after it, usually derived from a toxin generated by microbes of some variety over a high-yield fermentation in a stainless-steel tank with technologic air filtration and depressurised venting. By a miraculous suspension, we can scarcely believe our eyes, they imply that seemingly endless descriptive details lead to a plot - or a code - that always monkeys with simplicity. Meanwhile, seeking a villain, most (everyone?) who can read critically, torture themselves to wonder if that's a cry for help? Logs are platitudes of the abstract speculations of a generation, teeming with the details of a life (or is it nine?) that has barely been lived on account of the all-encompassing labour that's disappeared in a cloud of raisin fumigation. How many times can you be possessed before its safe to assume you have a normal thing with ghosts? Ten! If that, there must be ghost dogs as well (cats would just have a bell!). In any case? At least I know for certain that the dogs - lurking about in an abyss - are sort of there.

11. Future Directions in Antibiotic Research

Future study in the direction of various flavors is suggested as most researchers majorly focus on investigating "mechanisms of antibacterial activity 12." Further recommended investigations should focus on administering silver along with the antibiotics through in vivo experiments to show that the synergistic impact of silver with antibiotics which shown in vitro can also be applicable in in vivo conditions. Similarly, metallic drugs are considered likely to assist in reducing antimicrobial resistance which should be researched in the future. Furthermore, future investigation is required to assess the effects of incorporating newly discovered antibiotics with combinations of some old antibiotics (such as macrolides like erythromycin) to enhance the effectiveness to kill bacteria. Moreover, much research is required to research the impacts of combining newly discovered antibiotics with various conventional antibiotics combinations to widen the coverage of microorganisms and more effective treatments for patients. In addition to this, future studies can also research the behavior of bacterial efflux pumps while silver is added in combination with antibiotics because they reduce the drug concentration and tend to contribute to the breaching of drug effectiveness.

After the discovery of penicillin in 1928, a diverse array of antibiotics were mass produced to control a variety of bacterial infections. Nevertheless, in 1945, one of the most significant reports indicated that the *Staphylococcus aureus* organisms initially discovered to be responding to penicillin were now developing viable resistance due to the excessive use of penicillin at hospitals 22. The widespread use of antibiotics in animal and human medicine, as well as in agriculture, has led to antibiotic resistance that is deemed to be one of the most severe threats to public health 23. This indicates the dire necessity to discover new therapies that have antibacterial effects that are novel or beneficial when combined with antibiotics. Synergy, antagonism, or additive effects are all possible

drug-drug interaction outcomes when two different drugs are used simultaneously. Since numerous natural compounds and metals have been reported to possess antibacterial properties against a range of organisms as well as possessing assorted mechanisms of action, it is probable that these substances might have promising synergistic impacts when paired with commercially available antibiotics. We believe that this review could be of value to pharmaceutical companies as their findings underscore the importance of searching for newer therapeutic distractions.

Conclusion

One step towards the development of principles guiding the use of antibiotics in combination would be forging a consensus amongst microbiologists, pharmacists, clinicians and regulators regarding the methods used to study antibiotic interactions. The different in vitro methods used to examine the interactions of antimicrobial substances influence the findings. Typically, MIC (Minimum Inhibitory Concentration) found in microplates and antimicrobial activity values obtained by biocolourimetric assays in microplates, on the one hand, and MIC and FICI values found with agar diffusion methods for drug formulations supplemented with pterostilbilane on the other hand suggest antibacterial activity, above or below 0.5, and show a synergism or a non-interaction. Animal experiments with these formulations are needed to determine the bacteriostatic or bacteriocidal effect. Two-dimensional agar diffusion methods should be used to test the antimicrobial activity of new compounds in combination with antibacterial substances, to locate appropriate increasing concentration of these new substances for synergy tests with microplates realized by the FIC (fractional inhibition concentration). Substances soluble in DMSO cannot be tested using agar diffusion methods. Then for these substances we should test for the ability to demodulate the increased susceptibility to communication quorum molecules that enhance the permeability of membrane, reduce the expression of efflux pump genes and sensitize to oxidative stress. Any conclusion of synergism with these substances except the one on the decrease of MIC visible and real at all concentrations, should not be made. A deep literature investigation should be done for new substances to find other bacterial species gained in highest in vitro susceptibility but falsely associated to antibacterial substances. Synergism tests with new molecules used in a highest antibacterial concentration respond to activity tests with the minimal usable test concentration gauge test by the disc diffusion method for susceptibility testing for isolated Gram-negative bacteria. Then it can be used the disc diffusion method to find the lowest bacteriostatic half concentrations in animal experiments. Compound with lowest susceptibility to 33.33% of minimum bacteriostatic concentration of compounds is not interesting for mandible brake osteomyelitis derivated from chronic bacterial inflammations. Synergy and virulence of formulations for systemic testing are difficult to retrieve with automated systems due the different decreasing concentrations by factors of 1.5 in serial dilutions they are manufactured in comparison to agar diffusion plates where consistent concentrations are applied.

Antibiotics have been the long-standing cornerstone of modern medicine in managing bacterial infections 5. However, their role is under constant threat from the emergence and spread of antibiotic resistance, a major global health issue driven by the overuse and misuse of antibiotics 2. These issues are compounded by the decline in the number of new effective antibiotics coming to market. One approach to this is to optimise the use of available antibiotics through a greater understanding of their behaviour in the complex microbial and host environments associated with bacterial infections. This includes, but is not limited to, investigating how antibiotics interact with each other to influence outcomes of combination therapy, and how these interactions change in these

environments to either promote or hamper the evolutionary rise of antibiotic resistance 12.

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