Antioxidant, antibacterial and antibiofilm potential of green synthesized silver-zinc oxide nanocomposites from *Curcuma longa* extract against multi-drug resistant enteroaggregative *E.coli*

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Background of the study...

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global health priority
 Antibiotic resistant infections (3 million) and 35,000 deaths in U.S and 33,000 deaths per year in Europe
 Food-borne illness: major public health challenge worldwide

□ Food-borne illness in 2010 - 600 million cases

- Enteroaggregative E. coli (EAEC): major emerging enteric pathogen with increased detection in diarrheal episodes around the world
- Dissemination of MDR-EAEC pathotypes has been linked to high morbidity, case fatality and higher healthcare expenses





Critical gaps identified...

Escalating trends in the emergence of drug resistant food-borne pathogens

Dwindling antibiotic discovery pipeline



Lack of suitable antibiotic alternative therapies

Study Objectives

Green synthesis & characterization of Ag/ZnO NCs using C. *longa* extract

Evaluation of its antioxidant, antibacterial & antibiofilm potential against MDR-EAEC isolates

Re-validation of test strains

❑MDR-EAEC isolates (n= 3) maintained in the Zoonoses laboratory of Department of Veterinary Public Health, CVAS, Pookode (from the ICAR-NASF project repository)

Revived and re-validated using:

Biochemical tests : IMViC test + + - - pattern (Cheesbrough, 1985)
PCR assay (Vijay *et al.*, 2015)
Antibiotic susceptibility testing (CLSI, 2019)

Green synthesis of Ag/ZnO NCs



Characterization of Ag/ZnO NCs





FE-SEM

TEM

(Kyomuhimbo et al., 2019; Zare et al., 2019; Shreema et al., 2021; Berhanu et al., 2022 Pavithra & Jessie, 2022)

Assessment of antibacterial potential of Ag/ZnO NCs

Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and Minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) of Ag/ZnO NCs against MDR-EAEC isolates was evaluated.

SI No.	Isolate ID	MIC (μg/mL)	MBC (µg/mL)
1.	E1	31.25	62.5
2.	E2	31.25	125
3.	E3	31.25	125

MBC values of Ag/ZnO NCs was found to have a two to three-fold increase than their MIC values



In vitro antioxidant activity of Ag/ZnO NCs

- *C. longa* has been found to harbor high concentrations of polyphenols, flavonoids, tannins, and ascorbic acid.
- ABTS and reducing power assays
- Observed dose-dependent increase in antioxidant potential both in ABTS and reducing power assays;
- Antioxidant activity of green synthesised Ag/ZnO NCs was lower than compared to the ascorbic acid standard.
- Combination of silver and zinc oxide together forming plant-based nanomaterials have been found to exhibit an increased antioxidant capacity and anti-proliferative action, which eliminates free radicals



(Ehsan *et al.*, 2022; Memarzia *et al.*, 2022)

In vitro anti-biofilm activity of Ag/ZnO NCs

- Evaluated *in vitro* antibiofilm efficacy of Ag/ZnO NCs against MDR-EAEC isolates by employing crystal violet staining assay at 24 and 48 h
- Highly significant (*P*< 0.001) biofilm inhibition was exhibited by Ag/ZnO NCs after 24 h and 48 h
- The antibiofilm activity of green synthesised Ag/ZnO NCs might be due to the increased ROS generation along with the suppression of exopolysaccharides of MDR-EAEC, which are a crucial component of bacterial biofilms







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