

# A Review on Bacterial Pathogens, Types and Their Inhibition by the Action of Medicinal Plants

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## Abstract

Bacterial infections are one cause of food borne illness. Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, chills, and abdominal pain are common symptoms of food poisoning. *Campylobacter jejuni* is a diarrheal illness often accompanied by cramps and fever. *Clostridium botulinum* is a potentially life-threatening bacterium that produces powerful neurotoxins. *Escherichia coli* is a diarrheal (often bloody) illness that may be accompanied by nausea, vomiting, fever, and abdominal cramps. *Listeria monocytogenes* causes fever, muscle aches, and diarrhea. Pregnant women, elderly individuals, infants, and those with weakened immune systems are most at risk for acquiring this infection. *Salmonella* causes fever, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Symptoms typically last between 4 and 7 days. *Vibrio* causes diarrhea when ingested, but it can also cause severe skin infections. *Bacterial vaginosis*, which causes an overgrowth of pathogenic bacteria in the vagina. *Bacterial meningitis* is a severe infection of the meninges, the lining of the brain.

**Keywords:** Antimicrobials, bacterial infections, fever, cramp, food poisoning, antioxidants.

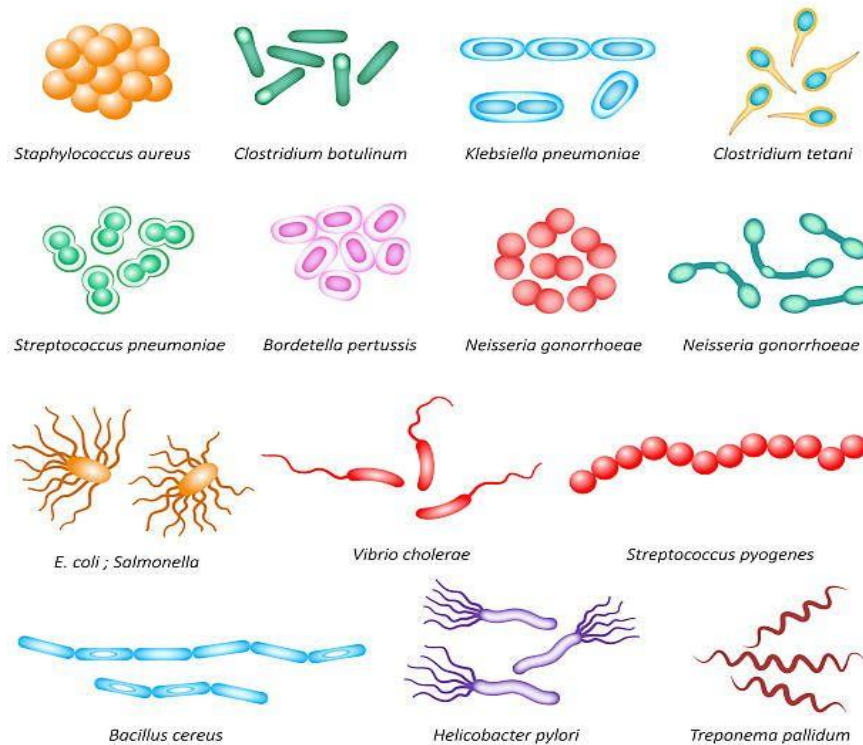
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## INTRODUCTION

*Campylobacter jejuni* is a genus of bacteria that is among the most common causes of bacterial infections in humans worldwide. *Campylobacter* means "curved rod", deriving from the Greek *kampylos* (curved) and *baktron* (rod). *Escherichia coli*, also known as *E. coli*, is a Gram-negative, facultative anaerobic, rod-shaped, coliform bacterium of the genus *Escherichia* that is commonly found in the lower intestine of warm-blooded organisms [1-3]. *Listeria monocytogenes* is the species of pathogenic bacteria that causes the infection listeriosis.

It is a facultative anaerobic bacterium, capable of surviving in the presence or absence of oxygen [4].

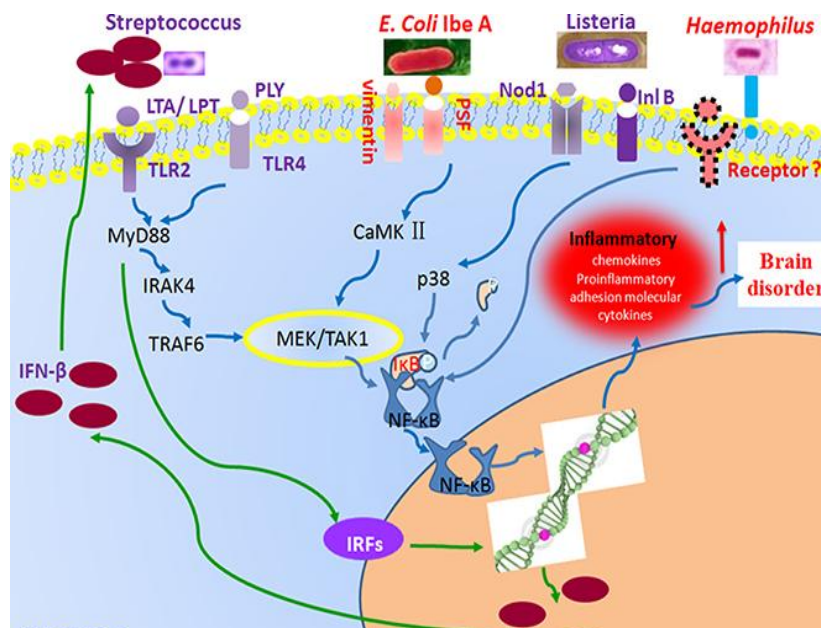
*Salmonella* is the type of bacteria that's the most frequently reported cause of food-related illness in the United States. You can't see, smell, or taste it. Illness from these bacteria is officially called salmonellosis. It can cause an upset stomach, diarrhea, fever, and pain and cramping in your belly. Bacterial vaginosis (BV) is an infection of the vagina. It results from a change in the normal balance of vaginal bacteria. BV usually doesn't cause any other health problems. But it can lead to issues, especially when you're pregnant or trying to get pregnant [5].



**Fig-1: Shows the shapes different types of bacteria**

Bacterial meningitis is very serious and can be deadly. Death can occur in as little as a few hours. Most people recover from meningitis. However, permanent disabilities (such as brain damage, hearing loss, and learning disabilities) can result from the infection. Generally, the germs that cause bacterial meningitis spread from one person to another. Certain germs, such as *L. monocytogenes*, can spread through food [6]. It is also important to know that people can have these

bacteria in or on their bodies without being sick. These people are “carriers.” Most carriers never become sick, but can still spread the bacteria to others. Most cases of meningitis in the United States are caused by a viral infection, but bacterial, parasitic and fungal infections are other causes. Some cases of meningitis improve without treatment in a few weeks. Others can be life-threatening and require emergency antibiotic treatment [7-9].



**Fig-2: Shows the immune mechanism of different types of bacteria**

### Action of Medicinal Plants for bacterial growth

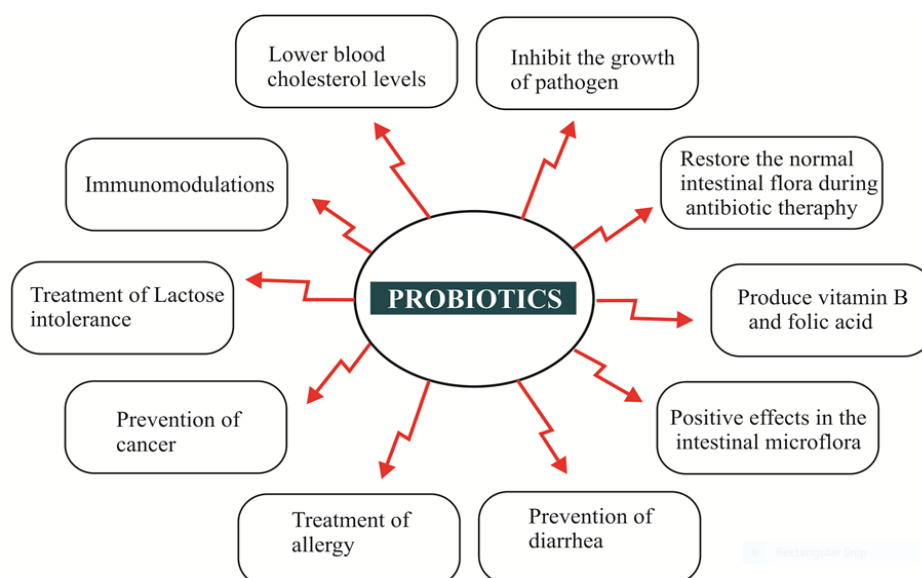
Different medicinal plants are widely used as a source of food mostly in industries as well as in homes. But there the certain microbes that causes various diseases in storage of the onions. As a result, the quality of the food reduces which ultimately causes issues to the human health. So, it is important to control the growth of microbes that are harmful and causes diseases in human such as *E.coli* and *S.aureus*. These bacteria can cause the spoilage of food and storage of food has becomes issue and needed to resolved. The addition of the certain compounds in the foods as either for their storage as well as the reducing the attacks on the food preserved in industries and homes. Preservatives are compounds that are carefully added in the specific foods to reduce the entry of pathogens as well as bacteria. Their function in the food is to maintain the quality by increasing the shelf life of the selective foods with less or least toxic effects. But the compounds that increasing the shelf life if added more in the quantity as compared to the normal concentration that ultimately leads to the occurrence of many pathogens as well as disease associated with the metabolism [10-12].

Different medicinal plants also exhibit the high potential against the bacteria such as *M.luteus*. More of the sulfur compounds in the inner portion of the onions and hence strong activity of the onions against the specific type of the bacteria. While less concentration of the cysteine in the onions also leads to the low antimicrobial activity. All compounds in the extracts of the onions possess the activity against the bacteria. Some compounds shows the maximum activity while some has low activity. Coamoxiclave resulted the

highest activity against the *S.aureus*, while the methanol shows the moderate activity and similarly n-hexane shows little activity [13-15].

Different medicinal plants like ginger possess the activity against the different kinds of bacteria such as *S.epidermidis* as well as the *S.aureus*. These bacteria involved in causing the diseases associated with the human infections. The data in previous studies proved that the first category of the bacteria such as the *S.epidermidis* causing the diseases of skin in human. It also damaged the skin by the formation of the lesions that ultimately leads to severe growth of the bacteria. The second category of the bacteria such as *S.aureus* involved in infections with the urinary system. These bacteria particularly live in the muscles of the urinary system and damaged its wall [16, 17].

Previous studies demonstrated that different medicinal plants of possess the activity again the different pathogens like *E.coli*. This activity depends on the concentration of the antibacterial compounds in the extracts of the onions. The compounds such as the flavonoids shows the highest activity while the other compounds such as the anthocyanin possess the low activity while in inhibiting the growth of the *S.aureus*. These bacteria shows vigorous changes in behavior when certain concentration extracts applied in vitro based studies. Their growth can be controlled when there are the high concentrations of the flavonoids compounds in the extracts of the plants. Most of the plants such as onions are used as the food by the human and either through the industries [18-21].



**Fig-3: Shows the role of probiotics in prevention of metabolic diseases**

### Role of Plants antioxidants

There are various methods for measuring the antioxidant activity of certain compounds in Different

medicinal plants as the reaction of the free radicals as well as the antioxidants are very complex. DPPH free radical method is the most important method that is

used for capturing the free radicals and finally scavenging them. Once the reaction of free radicals started that ultimately leads to the initiation of the chain. It also causes the oxidative stress. To inhibit the chain of the free radicals, antioxidants effectively used to block the chain. For this reason, the antioxidant activity of the certain compounds determined effectively by the DPPH method [21]. Different medicinal plants contains a variety of antioxidants compounds such as phenolics. These phenolic compounds acting as the main source of antioxidants showing the high antioxidant activity. These compounds also protected the DNA by inhibiting the free radicals [22-24].

Antioxidants also inhibited the production of the free radicals. More of the extractions through the methanol ultimately lead to high antioxidant activity while less concentrations of the extraction through the methanol also causes the low antioxidant activity. Extraction through the distill water shows the low potential of the scavenging of the free radicals. Water is used as the source of solvent due to which it has low antioxidant potential as compared to the other organic compounds such as the methanol as well as the n-hexane [25].

The antioxidant activity experimentally determined by the transfer of the atom such as hydrogen in DPPH assay. This transfer of hydrogen mainly responsible of antioxidant activity. During the formation of the lipid peroxidation, free radicals such as peroxy radical are causing agents for the blocking of the transfer of the hydrogen atom. This activity only maintained through the transfer of electron that ultimately causes the inhibition of the free radicals. It also reduces the oxidative stress. High potential of the antioxidant activity also inhibited the free radicals and hence more of antioxidants available for the survival of the particular type of the cell [26-29]. Previous studies demonstrated the methanol extract possesses the highest antioxidant activity due to presence of the compounds in different medicinal plants such as phenolic to scavenge the free radicals. The DPPH assay was used in to confirm the correlation the activity to radical scavenge the free radical as well as phenolic [30].

## CONCLUSION

Phenolic compounds are mainly the compounds in medicinal plants that responsible for scavenging the actively free radicals. It also dependent on the concentration of the medicinal plant extracts for the free radicals. The high concentration of the extracts increases the activity to scavenge the free radicals while the low concentration of the extracts decreases the activity to scavenge the free radicals. The extracts of the different medicinal plants utilized as a main source to inhibit the reactions of the oxidation as it contains many

of the compounds that concentrated on medicinal plants.

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