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Utility Potentials of Fungal Extract Products as Benign Drug Principles



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ABSTRACT

Fungi, which are diverse microorganisms, have gained attention for their potential use in developing safe and effective drugs. This review examines the different applications and therapeutic benefits of fungal extracts in the pharmaceutical industry. Fungal metabolites, which are bioactive and have a diverse structure, offer many promising drug development and discovery opportunities. The review provides an in-depth analysis of various fungal species and their bioactive compounds, highlighting their pharmacological properties and mechanisms of action. Additionally, the ecological significance of these fungal products is considered, emphasizing sustainable practices in drug development. The review critically assesses recent research findings and clinical trials, providing insight into fungal-derived drugs' efficacy and safety profiles. The potential challenges and future directions of harnessing fungal extracts as safe and effective drugs are also discussed. In summary, this comprehensive review consolidates current knowledge on the potential benefits of fungal extract products in drug development. The exploration of fungal metabolites as sources of novel therapeutic agents shows promise for advancing pharmaceutical science toward more sustainable and eco-friendly practices.



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1 INTRODUCTION

Antibiotics are vital in fighting bacterial infections and have considerably improved the quality of human life since their introduction. However, in recent decades, this progress has been threatened as many commonly used antibiotics have become less effective against certain illnesses. This is not only because many antibiotics can produce toxic reactions but also due to the emergence of drug-resistant bacteria. Consequently, the health benefits of antibiotics are at risk, and it is crucial to find new ways to combat bacterial infections. It is essential to combat drug resistance among microorganisms. This requires searching for new compounds. Fungi are capable of producing a diverse range of secondary metabolites that exhibit fungistatic or bacteriostatic activity. Hence, they are a promising source of these compounds. These metabolites can be used as an alternative to traditional antibiotics. Additionally, fungi can accumulate compounds that possess antiviral properties [130].

Fungi produce diverse low molecular weight secondary metabolites (SMs) with varied biological activities [59; 66]. Fungal metabolites have brought about a revolution in the biotechnology industry due to their remarkable properties. Penicillin, a β -lactam antibiotic, and lovastatin, a cholesterol-lowering drug, are two excellent examples of such metabolites. The discovery and application of these metabolites have opened up new avenues for developing innovative solutions to combat diseases and enhance human health. The biogenetic compounds of fungi can be divided into primary and secondary metabolites [62]. Primary metabolites are compounds derived from the primary metabolism of sugars (monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, sugar alcohols, and quaternary amine bases). Secondary metabolites are compounds that can be further subdivided into compounds derived from the metabolism of active acetate (polyketides, isoprenoids, and sterols); compounds derived from the metabolism of fatty acids (polyacetylenes); compounds derived biogenetically from shikimic acid (phenols and phenolic acids); compounds formed from the transformation of amino acids (amines, toxic amines, alkaloids, and peptides); and compounds formed from the transformation of aromatic amino acids (ergot alkaloids) [62]. Fungal metabolites can be divided into two categories - nitrogenous and non-nitrogenous compounds. Nitrogenous compounds include urea, amino acids, peptides, proteins, lectins, amines, alkaloids, indole derivatives, vitamins, purine compounds, isoxazole derivatives, and phenoxazine derivatives. On the other hand, non-nitrogenous compounds include

carbohydrates, lipids, polyacetylenes, polyketides, isoprenoids, sterols, organic acids, and phenolic compounds [20].

The rising rate of bacterial resistance to antibiotics is becoming a serious concern in the clinical and agriculture fields. As a result, scientists are exploring other microbial sources that can combat these resistant bacteria. Developing feasible alternatives to antibiotics is crucial to protect and promote global public health [39; 18; 17; 31; 99].

Finally and most importantly, the high level of antibiotic resistance poses a significant threat to humanity. With the current crisis in both the European Union and South America, there will be reduced funds available for research and healthcare. This could lead to a faster and easier spread of antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains in both the community and hospitals [80]. Developing new treatments and preventive measures for infectious diseases, such as vaccines and probiotics, can be a challenging and expensive process. Only a very small percentage of new molecules tested -- about 5 out of 260,000-530,000 -- show antimicrobial activity each year. Additionally, these molecules often have high production costs, are highly toxic, and require complex synthesis [98].

This review article aims to explore the potential benefits of using fungal extracts as a safe drug source, highlighting recent advancements in the field. Both the development of fungal extracts and metabolites are covered in this review, along with the diverse range of antimicrobial, antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral compounds produced by various fungi. The paper also describes the properties of chemical compounds extracted from fungi that have applications in pharmaceuticals, specifically their antimicrobial activity. The main objective of this review is to answer the question of how fungi can be used as a source of antimicrobial compounds to combat drug resistance in microorganisms and what their potential applications are, including their use in pharmaceuticals.

2.0 Utility Potentials of Fungal Extract

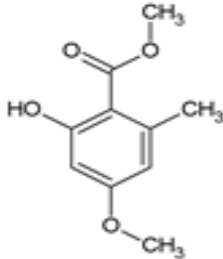
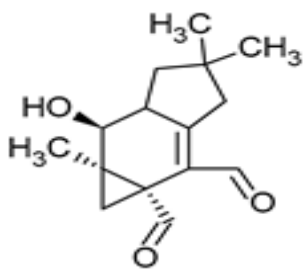
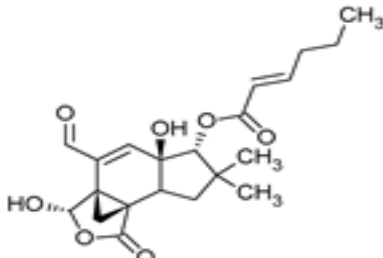
2.1 Antibacterial Properties and Compounds of Fungal Origin with Antibacterial Activity

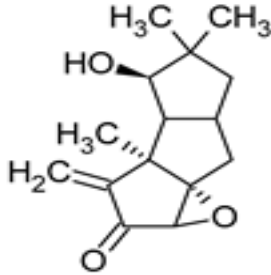
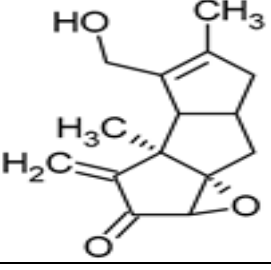
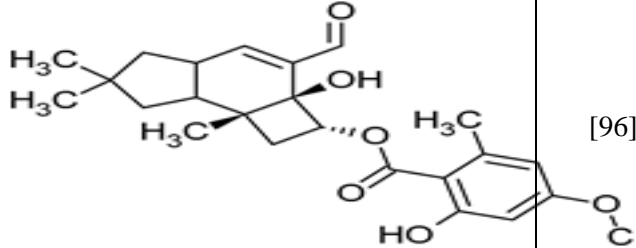
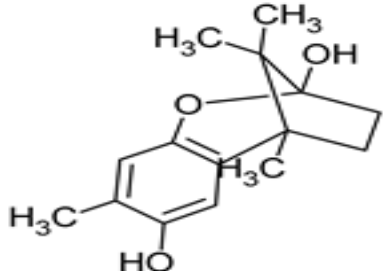
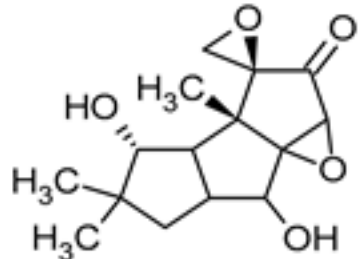
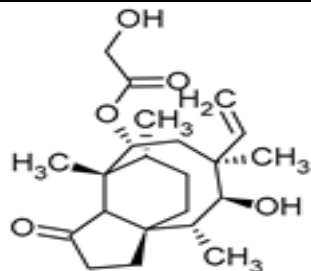
Natural products are a plentiful source of antimicrobials [138]. In the kingdom of fungi, extensive biosynthetic capabilities are leading to the production of compounds with complex chemical structures that exhibit high biological activity. Operating as saprophytic organisms,

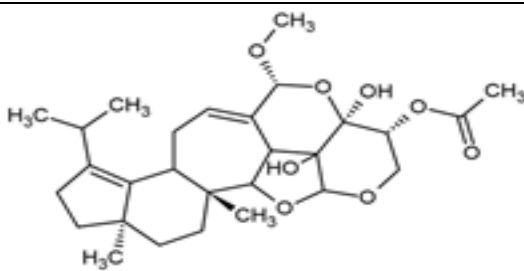
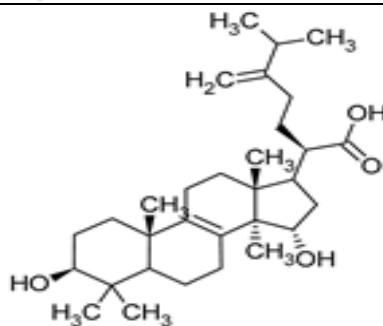
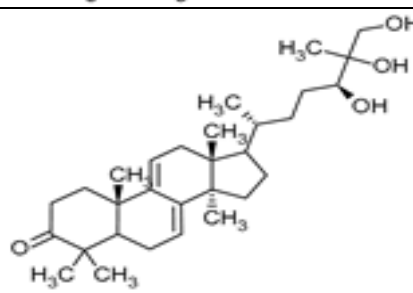
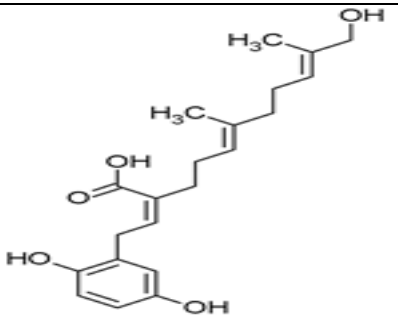
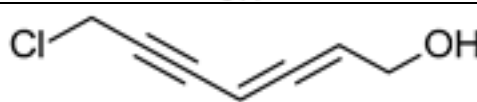
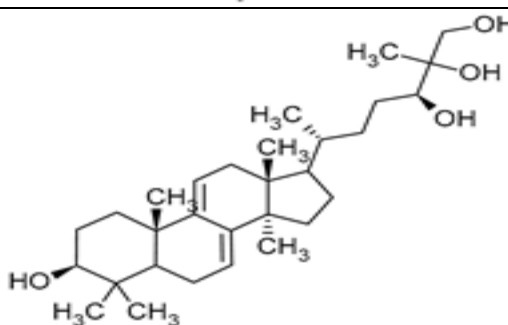
fungi are strongly biochemically related to the composition of the substrate on which they reside [130].

Numerous scientific studies indicate the antimicrobial activity of individual compounds and specific extracts obtained from fungal fruiting bodies. It is believed that the presence of fungal fruiting bodies with such properties is due to defense mechanisms formed by fungi to survive in the environment. As the challenge of bacterial resistance to existing antibiotics grows, a variety of naturally occurring compounds exhibiting antimicrobial activity against pathogenic organisms is garnering increasing attention. Notably, one of the first compounds with antibacterial activity was the antibiotic substance sparassol, which was isolated from *Sparassis crispa* in 1920 [122] (Table 1). Over the following decades, the antibiotic activity of more than 2000 macromycetes species was subsequently validated.

Table 1. Examples of Chemical structures compounds with the antibacterial activity of fungal origin.

Group of Compounds	Compound	Species	Chemical Formula	Reference
Benzoic acid derivative	Sparassol	<i>Sparassis crispa</i>		[22]
Sesquiterpenes (C15)	Merulidial	<i>Merulius tremendous</i>		[108]
	Pilatin	<i>Flagelloscypha pilatii</i>		[45]

	Hypnophilin	Pleurotellus hypnophilus		[65]
	Pleurotellol	Pleurotellus hypnophilus		[65]
	Armillaria acid	Armillaria mellea		[96]
	Enokipodin A	Flammulina velutipes		[131]
	Coriolin	Coriolus consorts		[20]
Diterpenes (C20)	Pleuromutilin	Clitopilus passeckerianus		[95]

	Striatin A	Cyathus striatus		[47]
Triterpenes (C30)	Sulphuric acid	Laetiporus sulphureus		[125]
	Ganoderman ontriol	Ganoderma lucidum		[77]
Meroterpenoids (C40)	Ganomycin A	Ganoderma Pfeifer		[85]
Acetylene derivatives	Scorodonin	Marasmius scorodonius		[7]
Sterols	Ganoderiol	Ganoderma lucidum		[77]

2.2 Antibacterial Compounds of Fungal Origin

Fungi are known for producing a wide variety of compounds endowed with antibacterial activity [1]. Antibiotics are substances that inhibit the growth and division of bacteria. They

exhibit a dual nature, providing a broad spectrum of activity while also showing selective efficacy against specific bacterial strains. The term "antibiotic" was coined by microbiologist Selman Waksman, who discovered two antibiotics: streptomycin and neomycin [22]. Nowadays, antibiotics come in various forms, including natural substances, semisynthetic derivatives, and synthetic analogs. These agents selectively target different bacterial structures, resulting in either a bactericidal or bacteriostatic effect. Antibiotics are grouped based on factors such as their method of action, chemical structure, or activity spectrum. For example, certain antibiotics hinder the production of bacterial cell walls (e.g., β -lactams), while others obstruct protein synthesis (e.g., chloramphenicol, tetracycline) or interfere with bacterial RNA and DNA nucleic acids (e.g., quinolones) [51]. In the early 20th century, small doses of penicillin proved highly effective in controlling a significant proportion of bacterial infections. However, as the use of penicillin increased, so did the prevalence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria [29]. Filamentous fungi, including *Penicillium*, *Cephalosporium*, *Aspergillus*, and *Fusidium* play a crucial role in pharmaceutical biotechnology, particularly in the pharmaceutical industry. These fungi are well-known for being efficient producers of antibiotics. Along with actinomycetes, they are recognized as the primary sources of antibiotics [24]. Penicillins, cephalosporins, fusidans, fusafungin, and fumigation (helvolic acid) are among the most significant classes of antibiotics produced by fungi.

2.2.1 Penicillin

Penicillins belong to the β -lactam group of antibiotics (Figure 1). Penicillins and other β -lactam antibiotics have a thiazolidine ring conjugated with a β -lactam ring in their chemical structure. Their mechanism of action involves binding to penicillin-binding proteins (PBPs) and blocking their function. These antibiotics have minimal toxicity against human cells because they only affect cells involved in peptidoglycan synthesis. Thus, they are safe to use and have low levels of general and organ toxicity. The commercial production of penicillins involves selected species such as *Penicillium chrysogenum*, *Penicillium baculatum*, *Penicillium turbatum*, *Aspergillus persicinum*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *Aspergillus giganteus*, *Aspergillus nidulans*, *Aspergillus oryzae*, and *Aspergillus parasiticus* [15; 82]. Penicillins are antibiotics commonly used to treat bacterial infections, such as impetigo, erysipelas, and acne, and can contribute to wound healing [82].

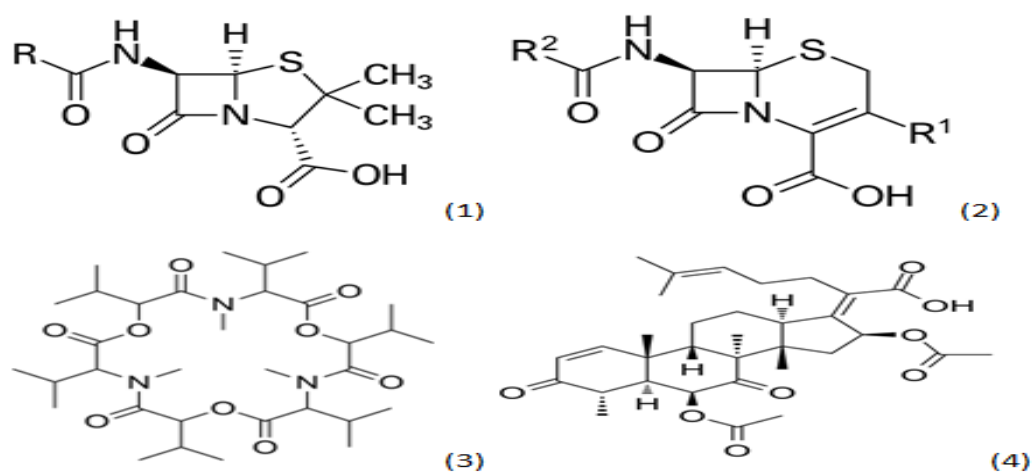


Figure 1. Chemical structures of 1. Penicillin; 2. Cephalosporin; 3. Fusafungine; and 4. helvolic acid.

Image Source: Wikipedia, Retrieval Date: 28th Jan, 2024.

2.2.2 Cephalosporin

The fungi *Cephalosporium acremonium* yielded cephalosporins, first isolated by Giuseppe Brotzu in 1948 [13; 35] (Figure 1). The mechanism of action of cephalosporins is similar to that of β -lactam antibiotics. These compounds are commercially produced by strains of *C. acremonium* and *Paecilomyces perniciosus*. Cephalosporins can be divided into several subgroups based on their chemical structure (P1–P5) [35]. Cephalosporins, like all β -lactam antibiotics, work by inhibiting the formation of bonds that connect the subunits of peptidoglycan (murein), thus preventing the formation of a complete cell wall. They form covalent attachments to the active centers of bacterial enzymes, carboxypeptidase, and transpeptidase, leading to the inhibition of their actions. Consequently, they prevent the synthesis of bacterial cell walls. Cephalosporins are used to treat bacterial infections caused by various types of bacteria including both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. They are effective in treating infections caused by pathogens such as *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*, among others [60]. Cephalosporins are effective in treating skin diseases caused by microorganisms. They have been commonly used in dermatology to address conditions such as folliculitis and postoperative infections [43].

2.2.3 Fusidans

Fusidic acid is one of the most well-known fusidans. It can inhibit the protein synthesis of Gram-positive bacteria. The compound was first isolated in 1962 from *Fusidium coccineum* and later extracted from *Mucor ramannianus* and *Isaria kogana* [25; 118]. Biotechnological methods are used to extract fusafungin from species such as *Calcarisporium arbuscula*, *Fusidium coccophilum*, and *Mortierella ramanniana* [25]. Fusidic acid is an antibiotic that can inhibit the growth and multiplication of bacterial cells. It works by preventing the synthesis of bacterial proteins. Fusidic acid is effective against a narrow range of bacteria, specifically Gram-positive bacteria, particularly those that are resistant to penicillin, like *Staphylococcus* strains. However, the use of fusidic acid during treatment may lead to the emergence of resistant *Staphylococcus* strains. This antibiotic is available in the form of creams and ointments for the topical treatment of infections such as impetigo, boils, inflammation of sweat glands and hair follicles, atrophy, acne vulgaris, and infections caused by the genus *Staphylococcus* spp [118; 72]. Fusidic acid is noteworthy in its ability to permeate the skin barrier, with its penetration influenced by factors such as the duration of antibiotic exposure and the condition of the skin. The biological half-life of fusidic acid is approximately 4-5 hours. Once absorbed into the bloodstream, fusidic acid undergoes significant metabolism in the liver. Although it is primarily excreted through the bile, a small portion is eliminated unchanged in the urine [34]. Although not typically used in cosmetics due to their medical nature, these compounds are effective against skin disease-causing pathogens such as *S. aureus* and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* [118].

Fusafungine is a type of peptide antibiotic that can prevent the growth of many harmful microorganisms (as shown in Figure 1). Apart from its antibacterial properties, it is also known for its anti-inflammatory effects. This is because it can activate NK cells, stimulate lymphocytes to produce IL-2 and inhibit proinflammatory cytokines [68]. Fusafungine is an effective treatment for pharyngitis that offers an alternative to systemic antibiotics, steroids, or anti-inflammatory drugs. It is sourced from the entomopathogenic fungus *Fusarium lateritium* (Ascomycota) and has an expansive activity spectrum without inducing bacterial resistance. As an ionophore antibiotic, it contains enniatins and has a unique ability to form complexes with potassium cations, which it transports across the lipid membranes of liposomes selectively. The topical application of fusafungine has been utilized, while its aerosol form has shown promise in treating inflammation of the upper and lower respiratory

tract. Clinical trials have confirmed the effectiveness of the aerosolized form of this medication [74].

Fumigacin and phenolic acid (Figure 1) are antibiotics and phytotoxic substances produced by fungi of the Ascomycota category. These fungi include *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Cephalosporium caeruleus*, and *Sarocladium oryzae*, which are known as plant pathogens, as well as *Emericellopsis terricola*. Fumigacin has unique properties and a wide range of effects, making it similar to cephalosporins, particularly those in the P1 group [134].

2.3 Selected Compounds of Fungal Origin from the Group of Isoprenoids, Peptides, and Acetylene Derivatives

Compounds with antibiotic properties found in macrofungi include isoprenoids, peptides, nucleosides, and acetylene derivatives.

2.3.1 Isoprenoids

Isoprenoid compounds are a group of diverse secondary metabolites that are found in Basidiomycota. These compounds are closely linked to the biogenetic pathway that originates from active acetate and proceeds through mevalonic acid, ultimately leading to the formation of "active isoprene". Further transformations of active isoprene undergo a series of changes, resulting in the production of different compounds, including monoterpenes, sesquiterpenes, diterpenes, triterpenes, tetraterpenes, and steroids [114; 93].

Merulius tremendous liquid cultures produce *Merulidial*, containing an unsaturated dialdehyde functional group (Table 1). This compound shows potent activity against a range of Gram-positive bacteria, including *Micrococcus roseus*, *Corynebacterium insidiosum*, *Bacillus brevis*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Streptomyces viridochromogenes*, *Sarcina lutea*, and *Arthrobacter citreus*, as well as Gram-negative bacteria like *Proteus vulgaris* [6]. *Pilatin*, a derivative of *marasman* (Table 1), is extracted from *Flagelloscypha pilati*. It is effective against Gram-negative bacteria, including *Salmonella typhimurium*, at concentrations ranging from 5 to 50 µg/mL [45]. Three metabolites with antibiotic activity have been identified from mycelial cultures of *Pleurotellus hypnophilus*. These metabolites include *hypnophilin*, *pleurotello*, and *pleurotellic acid*, all of which are sesquiterpenes derived from *hirsutane*. The common structural feature shared by all three metabolites is the α -methylene ketone moiety. *Hypnophilin* has been extensively studied for its antimicrobial and antioxidant properties,

making it an interesting compound for further investigation. Its potential use in skincare and cosmetics is mainly due to its antioxidant activity, which can help protect the skin from oxidative stress and promote overall skin health. Pleurotellol, on the other hand, has been found to possess antibacterial and antifungal properties, making it a promising candidate for formulations targeting skin conditions caused by microbial overgrowth. Therefore, both hydrophilic and pleurotellol have potential applications in the cosmetic and skincare industry due to their beneficial properties [79]. Lentinelic acid is a type of iludane sesquiterpene (Table 1) that displays potent antibacterial properties. It has been extracted from two species of the *Lentinellus* genus, namely *Lentinellus omphalodes* and *Lentinellus ursinus*. This compound is effective against Gram-positive bacteria such as *B. brevis*, *Aerobacter aerogenes*, and *C. insidiosum*, exhibiting activity at concentrations ranging from 1 to 5 $\mu\text{L}/\text{mL}$ [127]. Sesquiterpenoids are compounds with antimicrobial properties that can potentially aid in the development of new skincare and cosmetic formulas that target skin-related issues caused by microorganisms. Moreover, their potential antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities may further augment their suitability for cosmetic applications, promoting skin health and overall product quality. It's worth noting that Lentinelic acid methyl ester has antifungal properties [127]. In the context of skincare and cosmetics, this compound may have potential applications as a preservative in cosmetic formulations to help solve skin problems caused by fungal infections such as athlete's foot or fungal acne. Cadeli Sulphurenic acid (Table 1), and eburicoic acid are triterpenes isolated from *Laetiporus sulphureus* [125]. Pleuromutilin, a diterpene compound, was isolated by Kavanagh in 1951 from a saprophytic fungus *Clitopilus passeckerianus* (formerly *Pleurotus passeckerianus*) (Table 1). Pleuromutilin and its derivatives inhibit bacterial protein synthesis by binding to the peptidyltransferase component of the 50S subunit of ribosomes Novak and Shlaes (2011). Striations A, B, and C are kyatan diterpenes isolated from *Cyathus striatus* (Table 1). These compounds exhibit antibiotic and cytotoxic effects at concentrations of 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$. These compounds have been found in both the fruiting bodies and in vitro mycelium of the species. They demonstrate activity against various bacteria, including *A. citreus*, *B. brevis*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*, *Mycobacterium phlei*, *Nocardia brasiliensis*, *P. vulgaris*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *S. lutea*, *S. aureus*, and *Streptomyces viridochromogenes*, along with the fungus *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and the yeast *Rhodotoula rubra*. In the context of cosmetics and skin care, secondary metabolites such as striatins could have potential applications such as antimicrobial and antioxidant effects [47]. Armillaric acid, isolated from mycelial cultures of *Armillaria mellea*, is a sesquiterpene compound (Table 1) [96]. An aryl

ester of this compound, known as melleolide, has exhibited antibacterial activity [81]. *Flammulina velutipes* mycelium has produced four sesquiterpenes that possess antibacterial properties: enokipodins A, B, C, and D (Table 1). These compounds are effective against *B. subtilis*, while enokipodins A and C also demonstrate activity against *S. aureus*. Enokipodins have a wide range of biological properties that could make them useful in cosmetics, such as their antioxidant effects, skin brightening properties, and anti-inflammatory effects [3; 54]. A steroid named (24Z)-3,11-dioxolanosta-8,24-dien-26-oic acid was extracted from the fruiting bodies of *Jahnoporus hirtus* (Basidiomycota). This compound is active against *Bacillus cereus* and *Enterococcus faecalis*, as reported by Liu *et al.* [71]. Ganomycin A and B, which were isolated from *Ganoderma pfeifferi*, have shown activity against *B. subtilis*, *Micrococcus flavus*, and *S. aureus* as listed in Table 1.

2.3.2 Peptides

Fungi produce various peptides, one of which is plectasin. It is found in the fruiting bodies of *Pseudoplectania nigrella* (Ascomycota). Plectasin is categorized as a defensin peptide and has a positive charge. It consists of 40 amino acids and has antimicrobial effects against Gram-positive bacteria such as *S. aureus* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. Its primary mode of action is destabilizing the cell membranes of these bacteria [87]. In vitro, plectasin's impact on *S. pneumoniae* mirrors that of penicillin and vancomycin. In addition, this peptide targets Gram-positive bacteria of genera such as *Streptococcus* (*S. pneumoniae*, *S. pyogenes*), *Staphylococcus* (*S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*), *Enterococcus* (*E. faecalis*, *E. faecium*), *Corynebacterium* (*C. diphtheriae*, *C. jeikeium*), and *Bacillus* (*B. cereus*, *B. thuringiensis*) [14]. Zervamicins are a group of antibacterial peptides produced by *Emericellopsis salmosynnemata* (Ascomycota). These linear peptaibols are characterized by a high content of α,α -dialkyl amino acids like α -aminoisobutyric acid [111; 114]. Another set of peptaibols includes peptaibol boletusin, peptaibol chrysospermin-3, and peptaibol chrysospermin-5, all extracted from *Boletus* spp. These compounds demonstrate efficacy against *B. subtilis*, *Corynebacterium lilium*, and *S. aureus*. Peptaibol chrysospermin-3 also shows activity against various *Streptococcus* strains [67]. Cyclosporin is a cyclic peptide that is derived from the fungal fermentation of *Tolypocladium niveum* or *Aspergillus terreus* strains (Figure 2). It belongs to the cyclosporin family, which comprises cyclic peptides with specific amino acids and has a mild antibiotic effect. However, their primary use is as immunosuppressive agents. Cyclosporin A, for example, is used in medicine to prevent organ rejection in transplant

patients and treat autoimmune diseases [53]. Enniatins, cyclic hexapeptides, are synthesized by various strains of *Fusarium* within the family Nectriaceae (Ascomycota) and possess antibiotic, insecticidal, and anticancer properties [57].

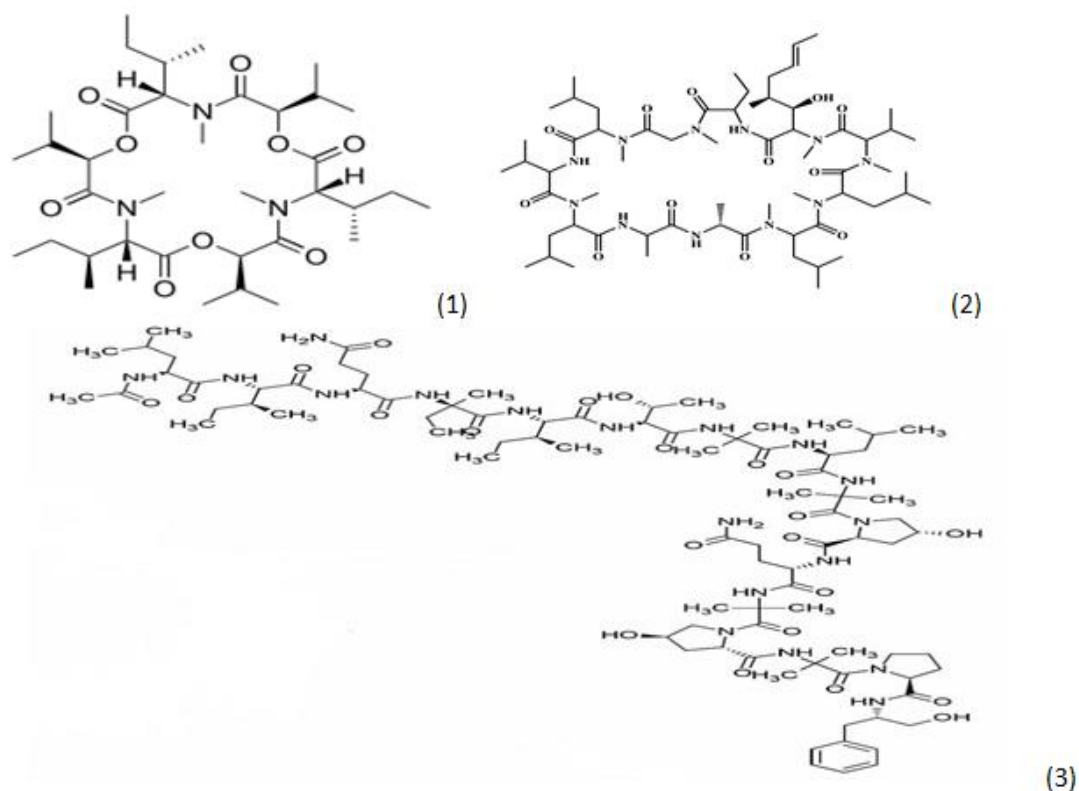


Figure 2. Examples of antibacterial compounds with peptides structure: 1. enniatin; 2. Cyclosporin; and 3. Zervamicin.

An antibacterial nucleoside, nebularine, has been isolated from *Clitocybe nebularis*, a toxic saprotrophic species [78]. Edible *Pleurotus sajor-caju* is the source of ribonuclease, an enzyme with antimicrobial, antimitogenic, and antiproliferative effects. It targets RNA and acts against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *S. aureus* [92].

2.4 Other Compounds of Fungal Origin with Antibacterial Activity

Pleurotin, a derivative of quinone, along with leucopleurotin and dihydropleurotinic acid, has been isolated from *Pleurotus griseus* (now classified as *Hohenbuehelia grisea*). These compounds exhibit activity against Gram-positive bacteria and specific pathogenic fungi. Pleurotin has shown antimicrobial activity against certain bacteria and fungi. In the context of cosmetics, its antimicrobial properties could be explored for potential use as a natural preservative to prevent microbial growth in cosmetic products [115]. Oxalic acid, isolated from the mycelium of *Lentinus edodes*, shows activity against *B. cereus*, *S. aureus*, and *E.*

faecalis [11]. Oxalic acid derived from fungi presents an array of cosmetic uses due to its exfoliating, brightening, antibacterial, and antioxidant properties [103]. Another compound, cloratin A, a benzoic acid derivative, has been isolated from the saprotrophic inedible fungus *Xylaria intracolarata*. This compound displays activity against *E. coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *Salmonella enterica*, with particularly potent inhibitory activity observed against *K. pneumoniae*, surpassing the control group [109]. Antibacterial activity is also evident in anthraquinone derivatives such as 6-methylxanthopurpurin-3-O-methyl ether, (1 S, 3 S), austrocortilutein, (1 S, 3 R), austrocortilutein, (1 S, 3 S), austrocortirubin, and torosachryson, isolated from *Cortinarius basirubencens*. Compounds of erythroglaucone and emodin, isolated from other *Cortinarius* species, also demonstrated efficacy against *S. aureus* [10]. A fraction labeled B from *Pycnoporus sanguineus*, mainly composed of loose-3-one, exhibited activity against *S. aureus* and various strains of *Streptococcus* (A, B, C, and G). Compounds isolated from *G. pfeifferi* showed moderate activity against *E. coli*, *Proteus mirabilis*, and *Serratia marcescens*. Quinoline, isolated from the fungus *Leucopaxillus albissimus*, showed activity against *Achromobacter xyloxydans*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Burkholderia cenocepacia*, *Burkholderia loquax*, *Burkholderia multivorans*, *Cytophaga johnsonae*, and *P. aeruginosa*, with the highest activity observed against *C. johnsonae* [120].

Polysaccharides, such as β -glucans, chitin, and its derivative chitosan, are vital components of the fungal cell wall. Chitosan, featuring amino sugars in its composition, exhibits antibacterial activity. Notably, chitosan is found not only in fungi but also in the shells of arthropods such as crabs, shrimp, squid, and crayfish [94]. Exhibiting a wide antibacterial activity, chitosan proves effective against certain Gram-negative bacteria, Gram-positive bacteria, and fungi. Specifically, it has shown a higher effect on Gram-positive bacteria, including *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Bacillus megaterium*, *B. cereus*, *S. aureus*, *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *L. brevis*, and *L. bulgaris*. While it does display activity against Gram-negative bacteria, such as *E. coli*, *P. fluorescens*, *S. typhimurium*, and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, its potency is comparatively weaker [23; 64].

Recent studies indicate that chitosan can be obtained biotechnologically from the cell wall of the filamentous fungus *Rhizopus oryzae*. Its antibacterial properties have been tested against *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*, and *S. aureus* [56; 46]. A summary of the antibacterial activity of compounds derived from fungi is provided in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary Of Antibacterial Activity Of Compounds Of Fungal Origin.

Species	Extract	Bacteria	References
Aspergillus giganteus Aspergillus nidulans Aspergillus oryzae Aspergillus parasiticus Aspergillus persicinum Aspergillus flavus Penicillium baculum Penicillium chrysogenum Penicillium turbatum Penicillium chrysogenum	Penicillins	Gram-positive bacteria Diplococcus spp. Enterococcus spp. Staphylococcus spp. Streptococcus spp. Gram-negative bacterial Clostridium spp. Enterobacteriaceae spp.	[13; 82].
Cephalosporium acremonium	Cephalosporins	Gram-positive bacteria: Diplococcus spp. Enterococcus spp. Staphylococcus spp. Streptococcus spp. Gram-negative bacteria: Clostridium spp. Enterobacteriaceae spp.	(25; 72; 34; 60; 35]
Calcarisporium arbuscula Fusidium coccineum Isaria Kogan	Fusidans	Gram-positive bacteria	(25; 118; 34; 72]

Mucor ramannianus			
Fusarium lateritium	Fusafungine	Streptococcus pyogenes Streptococcus pneumoniae Staphylococcus epidermidis Moraxella catarrhalis Legionella pneumophila Mycoplasma pneumonia	[66; 74]
Aspergillus fumigatus Cephalosporium caeruleus Emericellopsis terricola Sarocladium oryzae	Fumigacin (helvolic acid)	Gram-negative bacteria	[134]
Merulius tremellosus	Meridian	Gram-positive bacteria: Arthrobacter citreus Bacillus brevis Bacillus subtilis Corynebacterium insidiosum Sarcina lutea Streptomyces viridochromogenes Gram-negative bacteria: Proteus vulgaris	[108]
Flagelloscypha pilati	Pilatin	Salmonella typhimurum	[45]
Pleurotellus hypnophilus	Hypnophilin Pleurotellol Pleurotellic acid	Bacillus brevis Salmonella typhimurium	[65]
Lentinellus	Lentinellic acid	Bacillus brevis	[127]

omphalodes Lentinellus Ursinus		Aerobacter aerogenes Corynebacterium insidiosum	
Laetiporus sulphureus	Sulphurenic acid Eburicoic acid	Gram-positive bacteria	[125]
Clitopilus passeckerianus	Pleuromutilin	Mycoplasma spp. Brachyspira hyodysenteriae Brachyspira pilosicoli	[95]
Cyathus striatus	Striatins A, B, C	Arthrobacter citreus Bacillus brevis Bacillus subtilis Escherichia coli Leuconostoc mesenteroides Mycobacterium phlei Nocardia brasiliensis Proteus vulgaris Pseudomonas fluorescens Sarcina lutea Staphylococcus aureus Streptomyces viridochromogenes	[47]
Armillaria mellea	Armillaria acid	Gram-positive bacteria	[96]
Flammulina velutipes	Enokipodin	Bacillus subtilis Staphylococcus aureus	[54]
Jahnoporus hirtus	(24Z)-3,11-Dioxolanosta- 8,24-dien-26-oic acid	Bacillus cereus Enterococcus faecalis	[71]
Ganoderma pfeifferi	Ganomycin A	Bacillus subtilis Micrococcus flavus Staphylococcus aureus	[85]
Pseudoplectania nigrella	Plectasin	Bacillus cereus Bacillus thuringiensis	[87; 14]

		Corynebacterium diphtheriae Corynebacterium jeikeium Enterococcus faecalis Enterococcus faecium Staphylococcus aureus Staphylococcus epidermidis	
Clitocybe nebularis	Nebularine	Mycobacterium tuberculosis	[78]
Pleurotus sajor–caju	Ribonuclease	Pseudomonas aeruginosa Staphylococcus aureus	[92]
Gymnophilus spectabilis	Hepta-4,6-diyne-3-ol 7-Chloro-hepta-4,6-diyne-3-ol	Gram-positive/Gram-negative	[8]
Hohenbuehelia grisea	Pleurotin	Gram-positive bacteria	[115]
Albatrellus flettii	Confluent Grifolin Neogrifolin	Bacillus cereus Enterococcus faecalis	[71]
Lentinula edodes	Oxalic acid	Bacillus cereus Staphylococcus aureus Streptococcus faecalis	[11]
Cortinarius basirubencens	Austrocortilutein Austrocortilutein Austrocortirubin Torosachryson	Staphylococcus aureus	[10]
Boletus spp.	Boletusin Chrysospermin	Bacillus subtilis Corynebacterium lilium Staphylococcus aureus	[67]
Pycnoporus sanguineus	Phenoxazin-3-one	Staphylococcus aureus Streptococcus spp.	[120]
Ganoderma	Terpenes	Escherichia coli	[85]

pfeifferi		Proteus mirabilis Serratia marcescens	
Xylaria intracolarata	Cloratin A	Escherichia coli Klebsiella pneumonia Pseudomonas aeruginosa Salmonella enteritidis	[109]
Leucopaxillus albissimus	Crinoline	Achromobacter xyloxydans Acinetobacter baumannii Burkholderia cenocepacia Burkholderia loquax Burkholderia multivorans Cytophaga johnsonae Pseudomonas aeruginosa	[120]

2.4.1 Extracts of Fungal Origin with Antibacterial Activity

A considerable number of studies have focused on evaluating the antibacterial activity of natural raw materials, often by investigating the analysis of complete extracts. Notably, several types of extracts have been extensively examined, including aqueous, ethanol, methanol, chloroform, dichloromethane, ether, and acetone extracts.

Ganoderma lucidum stands as a prominent fungal raw material in East Asian traditional medicine, including TCM [104]. Notably, diverse extracts including aqueous, ethanol, methanol, and acetone have demonstrated comparable efficacy against gentamicin sulfate, an aminoglycoside antibiotic. This effectiveness extends to various bacterial species: *E. coli*, *S. aureus*, *K. pneumoniae*, *B. subtilis*, *S. typhimurium*, and *P. aeruginosa* [110]. Other studies have confirmed that acetone extract of *G. lucidum* exhibits antibacterial activity, mainly against Gram-negative *K. pneumoniae* bacteria. Additionally, a synergistic interaction was observed when combining *G. lucidum* extracts with antimicrobial agents such as ampicillin, cefazolin, oxytetracycline, and chloramphenicol. This synergy was particularly pronounced with cefazolin against *B. subtilis* and *Klebsiella oxytoca* [142]. Conversely, a chloroform extract from the edible mycorrhizal fungus *Hygrophorus agathosmus* exhibited inhibition against various pathogenic bacteria, including *E. coli*, *Enterobacter aerogenes*, *S. typhimurium*, *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, and *B. subtilis*. Furthermore, this

extract demonstrated inhibitory effects on *Candida albicans* and *S. cerevisiae* [140]. In a similar vein, a dichloromethane extract from *Suillus collitinus* observed activity against Gram-positive bacteria, including *S. epidermidis* and *B. subtilis*. This extract demonstrated significant antibacterial activity with MIC values of 7.81 µg/mL, surpassing the reference antibiotic streptomycin (MIC = 15.62 µg/mL). The MIC values for *S. aureus* remained the same as those of streptomycin at 15.62 µg/mL [140]. Finally, the methanolic extract of *Hypholoma fasciculare*, a saprotrophic poisonous fungus, exhibited notable antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria such as *B. cereus*, *B. subtilis*, and *S. aureus*. Turkoglu [135] conducted a study investigating the antibacterial activity of ethanol extracts from *L. sulphureus*. The extract displayed inhibitory activity against the growth of Gram-positive bacteria, including *B. subtilis*, *B. cereus*, *Micrococcus luteus*, and *M. flavus*. Another study analyzed the antibacterial activity of different extracts (chloroform, ethyl acetate, and water) from *Lentinula edodes* fruiting bodies. These extracts showed antibacterial activity against *Streptococcus* spp., *Actinomyces* spp., *Lactobacillus* spp., *Prevotella* spp., and *Porphyromonas* spp., which are known to cause various oral infections. Specifically, chloroform extracts exhibited bactericidal activity against both growing and resting bacterial cells of *Streptococcus mutans* and *Prevotella intermedia*, while the other two extracts exhibited bacteriostatic activity against both growing and resting bacterial cells of *S. mutans* and resting bacterial cells of *P. intermedia*. Furthermore, a low molecular weight fraction study was conducted on an extract of *L. edodes* formulated as a mouthwash and administered to a group of volunteers [124]. Methanolic extract from the mycelium of *Leucopaxillus giganteus*, an inedible saprophytic species, showed antibacterial properties against Gram-positive bacteria in the order of potency: *S. aureus* > *B. cereus* > *B. subtilis*. This study also revealed that diammonium hydrogen phosphate was the preferred nitrogen source for enhancing the production of bioactive compounds inhibiting the growth of Gram-positive bacteria [9]. Studies on methanolic extracts of *Phellinus rimosus* and *Navesporus locose* demonstrated moderate antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria *B. subtilis* and *S. aureus*. Ethanolic extracts from *Pleurotus ostreatus* and *Meripilus giganteus* exhibited broad-spectrum antibacterial activity, particularly against *S. lutea* [58]. Evaluating extracts from fruiting bodies and mycelial cultures of *Trametes versicolor*, researchers found varying antibacterial activity based on the type of solvent used for the extraction (water, organic solvents, or mixtures). The study revealed significant antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria, with lower activity against Gram-negative bacteria. This effect was attributed to coriolin, a sesquiterpene compound found in *Trametes* (formerly *Coriolus*) spp.

(Table 1). Extracts from *Clavariadelphus loccose* and *T. versicolor* have exhibited activity against a range of bacteria, including *E. coli*, *E. aerogenes*, *S. typhimurium*, *S. aureus*, and *B. subtilis* [140]. Aqueous extracts of *Cordyceps sinensis* and *Cordyceps militaris*, which are species that parasitize invertebrates, have demonstrated antibacterial activity against *S. aureus*, probably as a result of an increase in phagocytic macrophage activity and cytokine expression [58]. Ethanol extracts containing polysaccharides from *Grifola floccose* fruiting bodies have been tested against Gram-positive bacteria such as *S. aureus*, *E. faecalis*, *B. cereus*, *L. monocytogenes*, and Gram-negative bacteria such as *E. coli*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Shigella sonnei*, and *Yersinia enterocolitica*. The most notable antibacterial activity was observed against *B. cereus* [61]. Acetyl acetate extracts from various species growing in Brazil, including *Phellinus* sp., *Gloeoporus theleporoides*, *Hexagonia hydnoides*, and *Nothopanus hygrophanus*, demonstrated inhibition of growth against bacteria such as *B. cereus*, *L. monocytogenes*, and *S. aureus* [113]. Aqueous, ethanol, methanol, and xylene extracts of *Agaricus bisporus* and *P. sajor-caju*, both saprophytic edible fungi, have shown antibacterial activity against *E. coli*, *E. aerogenes*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *K. pneumoniae*. Consumption of these fungi may provide natural protection against common pathogenic organisms [132]. Methanolic extracts of *Hydnum repandum*, an edible saprophytic species, have demonstrated activity against the Gram-negative bacteria *P. aeruginosa* [101]. The methanolic extract of the fruiting bodies of *Lepista nuda*, another edible fungus, exhibited antibacterial activity against *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa* [28]. Dichloromethane extract from *S. collitinus* displayed activity against a range of bacteria, including *E. coli*, *E. aerogenes*, *S. typhimurium*, *S. aureus*, and *S. epidermidis*, *B. subtilis*, as well as *C. albicans* and *S. cerevisiae* (Yamac and Bilgili, 2006; Alves *et al.*, 2012). Regarding *L. sulphureus*, both ethanolic and aqueous extracts from its fruiting bodies have shown antibacterial effects against various strains, including *B. subtilis*, *B. cereus*, *M. luteus*, *M. flavus*, and *K. pneumoniae*. Among these strains, *M. flavus* exhibited the highest susceptibility, while *K. pneumoniae* showed resistance. Although the efficacy of the active extracts was lower compared to commercial drugs, they still demonstrated potential as antibacterial agents. Furthermore, the aqueous extract of *L. sulphureus* fruiting bodies has shown antibacterial effects against *M. flavus* and *L. monocytogenes* [135]. Notably, the extract displayed significant efficacy against *L. monocytogenes*, a strain resistant to streptomycin. A summary of the antibacterial activity of fungal extracts can be found in Table 3.

Table 3. Summary of antibacterial activity of fungal origin extracts.

Species	Extract	Bacteria	References
Ganoderma lucidum	Acetone extract Aqueous extract Ethanol extract Methanol extract	Bacillus subtilis Escherichia coli Klebsiella pneumoniae Pseudomonas aeruginosa Salmonella typhimurium Staphylococcus aureus	[110]
Ganoderma lucidum	Acetone extract	Bacillus subtilis Klebsiella oxytoca	[142]
Hygrophorus agathosmus	Chloroform extract	Bacillus subtilis Enterobacter aerogenes Escherichia coli Pseudomonas aeruginosa Salmonella typhimurium Staphylococcus aureus Staphylococcus epidermidis	[140]
Suillus collins	Dichloromethanol extract	Bacillus subtilis Staphylococcus epidermidis	[140]
Hypholoma fascicular	Methanol extract	Bacillus cereus Bacillus subtilis Staphylococcus aureus	[9]
Laetiporus sulphureus	Ethanol extract	Bacillus cereus Bacillus subtilis Micrococcus flavus Micrococcus luteus	[135]
Lentinula edodes	Chloroform extract Acetate-ethyl extract	Actinomyces spp. Lactobacillus spp. Porphyromonas spp. Prevotella spp. Streptococcus spp.	[58]
Leucopaxillus giganteus	Methanol extract (mycelial cultures)	Bacillus cereus Bacillus subtilis Staphylococcus aureus	[9]
Navesporus floccose Phellinus rimosus	Methanol extract	Bacillus subtilis Staphylococcus aureus	[123]
Pleurotus ostreatus Meripilus giganteus	Ethanol extract	Sarcina lutea	[58]
Trametes versicolor	Methanol extract	Gram-positive bacteria	[46]
Grifola frondosa	Ethanol extracts/polysaccharides	Bacillus cereus	[61]
Gloeoporus theleporoides Hexagonia hydroxides	Acetate-ethyl extract	Bacillus cereus	[113]

Phellinus spp.			
Nothopanus hygrophanus	Acetate-ethyl extract	Listeria monocytogenes Staphylococcus aureus	[113]
Agaricus bisporus Pleurotus sajor–caju	Aqueous extract Ethanol extract Methanol extract Xylene extract	Enterobacter aerogenes Escherichia coli 390 Escherichia coli 739 Klebsiella pneumoniae Pseudomonas aeruginosa	[132]
Hydnum repandum	Methanol extract	Pseudomonas aeruginosa	[101]
Lepista nuda	Methanol extract	Escherichia coli Pseudomonas aeruginosa	[28]
Suillus collins	Dichloromethane extract	Bacillus subtilis Candida albicans Enterobacter aerogenes Escherichia coli Salmonella typhimurium Staphylococcus aureus Staphylococcus epidermidis	[140]
Hygrophorus agathosmus	Chloroform extract	Bacillus subtilis Enterobacter aerogenes Salmonella typhimurium Staphylococcus aureus Staphylococcus epidermidis	[4]
Laetiporus sulphureus	Ethanol extract Aqueous extract	Bacillus subtilis Bacillus cereus Micrococcus luteus Micrococcus flavus Klebsiella pneumoniae Listeria monocytogenes	[135]

Nandika *et al.* [89] extracted the chemical components of a fungus comb from Indomalayan termite (*Macrotermes gilvus* Hagen) (Isoptera: Termitidae) and identified them as phenol, hydroquinone, steroids, terpenoids, and saponin compounds. In addition, the ethyl acetate extract inhibited the growth of *Aspergillus foetidus*, a fungus that attacks wooden raw materials, including rubberwood (*Hevea brasiliensis* Muell. Arg.). The bioactivity of fungus comb extract from Indomalayan termite (*M. gilvus* Hagen) mounds as an antifungal and antibacterial agent has not been reported as much. A similar study revealed that fungus comb extracts, especially ethyl acetate, could be considered as a new antimicrobial agent after *n*-hexane, ethyl acetate, methanol, and water extracts were obtained from fungus combs isolated from Indomalayan termite (*Macrotermes gilvus* Hagen) mound. Their antibacterial and antifungal activities against food spoilage microorganisms including *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923,

Aspergillus flavus, and *Aspergillus niger* were evaluated by Kirby–Bauer disc diffusion and microdilution. Results showed that ethyl acetate extract formed the largest diameter inhibition zone for all tested bacteria and fungi, and exhibited antibacterial activity against all tested bacteria with minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) values of 0.39 and 0.78 mg/mL, respectively, and suppressed *A. flavus* and *A. niger* with an MIC value of 0.78 mg/mL. This extract contained guaiacol and syringol, which were predicted as the main antimicrobial components in fungus comb. *n*-Hexane extract only inhibited Gram-positive bacteria. *S. aureus* ATCC 25923 was the most sensitive to all the extracts, and *A. flavus* was more sensitive than *A. niger* [73].

2.5 Anti-fungal

Antifungal Activity of Substances of Fungal Origin

2.5.1. Compounds of Fungal Origin with Antifungal Activity

Due to concerns over the toxicity of polyene antibiotics and synthetic azole derivatives, researchers have turned to exploring natural compounds with antifungal properties. This pursuit is driven by the increasing resistance of *Candida* species to traditional antifungal drugs, prompting the search for alternative resources. The antifungal activity of substances produced by fungi is attributed to high-molecular-weight compounds such as proteins and peptides, as well as low-molecular-weight compounds, including terpenes (sesquiterpenes), steroids, and organic acids [21]. Numerous studies conducted in this field involve screening extracts derived from fungal materials show that Biforminic acid and biformin, a polyacetylene compound, are examples of substances with antifungal properties produced by the saprophytic fungus *Trichaptum biforme*. These compounds were among the earliest bioactive substances of fungal origin to be identified [63]. Griseofulvin is an antibiotic used for treating fungal infections in both humans and animals. Its mechanism of action involves inhibiting the cell divisions of dermatophytes belonging to the genera *Microsporum*, *Epidermophyton*, and *Trichophyton*. Griseofulvin is produced by various species of the *Penicillium* genus, particularly *Penicillium griseofulvum*, *Penicillium aethiopicum*, *Penicillium janezewski*, and *Penicillium lanosus*. Commercial production of griseofulvin involves biotechnological methods using *Penicillium patulum* [27; 86]. During the fermentation processes leading to griseofulvin synthesis, other metabolites are formed, primarily intermediates in the antibiotic's production, such as dehydrogriseofulvin, griseophenone A, griseoxanthone C, griseophenone Y, and dechlorogriseofulvinic acid.

These metabolites might have significant implications in the search for new therapeutic agents. Griseofulvin's mechanism of action involves inhibiting RNA biosynthesis and chitin synthesis, leading to damage to the fungal cell wall. It is commonly used for treating fungal skin, nail, and hair infections. When administered orally, it is well absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and reaches peak concentration after about 4 h. The half-life of griseofulvin is 16–20 h, and the recommended dosage for treating superficial infections is typically 250 mg every 6 h. However, it is worth noting that griseofulvin has been discontinued from use [27; 86]. Agrocybin, a peptide displaying activity against plant pathogens such as *Mycosphaerella arachidicola* and *Fusarium oxysporum*, was isolated from the fruiting bodies of *Agrocybe cylindracea*, a saprophytic Basidiomycota species [91].

Also, screening studies aimed at identifying naturally occurring fungicides from fungi have demonstrated the potent antifungal impact of the ethanolic extract derived from the fruiting bodies of *Albatrellus dispansus*. Grifolin, the active compound isolated from these bodies, has been identified as the crucial component. Against *Erysiphe graminis*, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, and *Fusarium graminearum*, it exhibited antifungal activity levels of 86.4% and 80.9%, respectively, at a concentration of 304.9 μM [75]. Cloratin A, sourced from *X. intracolarata*, displayed activity against *Aspergillus niger* (with an inhibition zone diameter of 15 mm) and *C. albicans* (with an inhibition zone diameter of 17 mm), comparable to the control substance nystatin, which also had an inhibition zone diameter of 17 mm. The diameter of the inhibition zone (IZD) serves as a reliable indicator of the antifungal activity present in the sample [4]. *Lactarius rufus*, an inedible mycorrhizal fungus, accumulates the sesquiterpene rufuslactone, an isomer of the previously described 3,8-oxa-13-hydroxylactar-6-en-5-lactaric acid γ -lactone from *Lactarius necator*. Rufuslactone exhibits antifungal properties against plant pathogens such as *Alternaria alternata*, *Alternaria brassicae*, *Botrytis cinerea*, and *Fusarium graminearum* [75]. Sesquiterpenoids Enokipodins F, G, and I were isolated from the mycelium of *F. velutipes*, a saprotrophic tree species. These compounds exhibit moderate activity against *A. fumigatus*, a pathogenic species affecting mammals, birds, and insects [54]. A summary of the antifungal activity of fungal compounds is presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Summary of antifungal activity of compounds of fungal origin.

Species	Chemical Compound/Extract	Fungal Pathogen	Reference
Trichaptum biforme	Biforminic acid Biformin	Aspergillus niger	[63]
Penicillium spp.	Griseofulvin	Epidermophyton Microsporum Trichophyton	[27]
Agrocybe cylindracea	Agrocybin	Fusarium oxysporum Mycosphaerella arachidicola	[91]
Cordyceps militaris	Cordymin	Bipolaris maydis Candida albicans Mycosphaerella arachidicola Rhizoctonia solani	[139]
Lactarius rufus	Rufuslactone	Alternaria alternata Alternaria brassicas Botrytis cinerea Fusarium graminearum	[75]
Flammulina velutipes	Enokipodins F, G, I	Aspergillus fumigatus	[54]
Tricholoma giganteum	Trichogin	Fusarium oxysporum Mycosphaerella arachidicola Physalospora piricola	[42]
Gloeophyllum sepiarium	Oospolactone	Alternaria spp. Fusarium spp. Giberella spp. Penicilim spp. Aspergillus spp.	[88]
Lentinula edodes	Lentin	Mycosphaerella	[92]
Pleurotus eryngii	Eryngin	Fusarium oxysporum Mycosphaerella arachidicola	[137]
Hypsizigus marmoreus	Hypsin	Botrytis cinerea Fusarium oxysporum Mycosphaerella arachidicola Physalospora piricola	[83]
Strobilurus tenacellus	Strobilurins	Aspergillus panamensis Candida albicans Paecilomyces variety Penicillium notatum Rhodotorula glutinis	[36]
Hygrophorus chrysodon	Chrysotriones A, B	Fusarium verticillioides	[38]
Ganoderma annulare	5-Ergost-7-en-3-ol 5-Ergosta-7,22-dien-3-ol	Microsporum canis Trichophyton	[126]

	5,8-Epidioxy-5,8-ergosta-6,22-die -3-ol Applanoxidic acids A, C, F, G, H	mentagrophytes	
Ganoderma lucidum	Ganoderma	Botrytis cinerea Fusarium oxysporum Physalospora paricola	[36]
Pleurotus sajor–caju	Ribonuclease	Fusarium oxysporum Mycosphaerella arachidicola	[92]
Crepidotus fulvifibrillosus	Strobilurins	Alternaria porri Aspergillus ochraceus Candida albicans Cladosporium cladosporioides Curvularia lunata Epicoccum purpurascens Mucor miehei Nematospora coryli Neurospora crassa Paecilomyces varioti Penicillium islandicum Penicillium notatum Phoma clematidina Phytophthora infestans	[128]

2.5.2 Extracts of Fungal Origin with Antifungal Activity

The antifungal activity of both aqueous and ethanol extracts from *A. bisporus* was determined against *A. flavus*. Ethanolic extracts and the protein fraction obtained from the mycelium of *Ophiocordyceps sobolifera* displayed potent antifungal effects against both pathogenic and saprophytic fungi, including *C. albicans* [116]. Methanolic extracts of *A. bisporus*, *Agaricus torques*, and *Agaricus sylvicola* demonstrated antifungal activity against *C. albicans* and *Candida tropicalis* (Öztürk *et al.*, 2011). The chloroform extract of *H. agathosmus* exhibited antifungal activity against *S. cerevisiae* [140]. Additionally, the dichloromethane extract from *S. collitinus* showed activity against both *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* [140]. Also, numerous fungal fruiting body extracts have been tested for their antifungal activity against *C. albicans* strains. Notably, the ethanolic extract derived from *L. sulphureus* fruiting bodies exhibited significant activity, with an inhibition zone diameter (IZD) measuring 21 ± 1 mm. This result surpassed the positive control, nystatin, which had an IZD of 19 mm [135] and so on. A summary of the antifungal activity of fungal extracts is provided in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of Antifungal Activity of Extracts of Fungal Origin.

Species	Extract	Fungal Pathogen	Reference
Albatrellus dispansus	Ethanol extract	Erysiphe graminis Sclerotinia sclerotiorum Fusarium graminearum	[75]
Agaricus bisporus	Aqueous extract Ethanol extract	Aspergillus flavus	[130]
Ophiocordyceps sobolifera	Ethanol extract	Candida albicans	[116]
Agaricus bisporus Agaricus torques Agaricus sylvicola	Methanol extract	Candida albicans Candida tropicalis	[102]
Hygrophorus agathosmus	Chloroform extract	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	[140]
Suillus collitinus	Dichloromethane extract	Candida albicans Saccharomyces cerevisiae	[140]
Ganoderma lucidum	Ethanol extract	Aspergillus fumigatus Aspergillus versicolor Aspergillus ochraceus Aspergillus niger Trichoderma viride Penicillium funiculus Penicillium ochrochloron Penicillium verrucosum	[142]
Laetiporus sulphureus	Ethanol extract Aqueous-ethanol extract	Candida albicans Aspergillus niger Botrytis cinerea Fusarium oxysporum, Penicillium gladioli Sclerotinia sclerotiorum	[135]
Lactarius camphoratus	Methanol extract	Candida albicans	[9]
Lentinula edodes	Chloroform extract	Candida albicans	[11]
Lepista nuda	Methanol extract	Candida albicans	[28]
Trametes versicolor	Methanol extract	Aspergillus fumigatus	[46]

According to Al-Saleem *et al.* [3], showing that *P. chrysogenum* extract exhibited significant antifungal activity towards *Candida albicans* and *Cryptococcus neoformans* with MIC 93.75 ± 0.55 and 19.53 ± 0.48 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. Moreover, kojic acid (156) revealed the same potency towards *Fusarium oxysporum* and *Cryptococcus neoformans* with MIC 39.06 ± 0.85 and 39.06 ± 0.98 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively.

Holzknrecht *et al.* [48] also reported that the antifungal protein C (PAFC) produced by *P. chrysogenum* Q176 was produced together with PAF and PAFB into the culture broth. Recombinant PAFC's functional characterization revealed a promising novel molecule for anti-*Candida* therapy. In pre-established biofilms of two strains of *C. albicans*, the planktonic cells were killed by the thermotolerant PAFC while the sessile cells' metabolic activity decreased. One of the strains was a fluconazole-resistant one that displayed greater PAFC sensitivity than the fluconazole-sensitive one. The absence of hemolytic activity supports the further use of PAFC in clinical therapy.

Furthermore, Huber *et al.* [50] found that PAF and PAFB, the antimicrobial proteins (AMPs) secreted by the filamentous fungus *P. chrysogenum* Q176, are highly stable due to a compact disulfide-bond, β -fold structure. In micromolar doses, these two AMPs effectively prevented the growth of several fungi including *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Trichophyton spp.*, *Aspergillus niger*, and *Candida spp.*, along with the *Neurospora crassa* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae.*, which were vulnerable to both proteins since their growth diminished at 0.25–4 μ M PAF or PAFB doses, respectively.

2.6 Anti-viral

2.6.1 Extracts and Chemical Compounds of Fungal Origin with Antiviral Activity

The antiviral mechanisms of fungal-derived substances often involve blocking viral enzymes, disrupting nucleic acid synthesis, or indirectly boosting the immunostimulatory effects. While numerous chemical compounds with proven antiviral activity are registered drugs, ongoing intensive research aims to search for substances of natural origin, including those of fungal origin. The scientific literature broadly describes the antiviral effect of both fruiting body extracts and single, isolated compounds [70]. For instance, triterpenes such as ganoderiol, ganodermanontriol (Table 1), and ganodermic acid derived from *G. lucidum* exhibit activity against HIV-1 [36]. Similarly, ganodermediol, lucidadiol, and lucidumol B obtained from *Ganoderma Pfeifer* demonstrate effectiveness against the influenza A virus. Ganodermediol also combats the herpes virus HSV-1 [36]. Phenolic compounds sourced from *Inonotus hispidus* exhibit activity against influenza viruses of types A and B. Among the macromolecular compounds with antiviral activity isolated from fungi, the most noteworthy is the PSK complex (Krestin). This polysaccharide peptide, derived from the mycelium of *T. versicolor*, boasts anticancer and immunostimulatory properties. Scientific studies have

confirmed the antiviral activity of PSK against cytomegalovirus and its ability to inhibit HIV replication [133].

In the study of natural substances, special attention has been given to the analysis of aqueous extracts. This is attributed to the logistical challenges and potential hazards associated with the utilization of organic solvents as extraction agents for raw materials. Compounds found within the fruiting bodies of species such as *G. pfeifferi*, *Rozites caperata*, and *Agaricus brasiliensis* have exhibited activity against herpes viruses. Notably, sulfated polysaccharides from *A. brasiliensis*, RC28 proteoglycan from *R. caperata*, and triterpenoids from *G. Pfeiffer* (present in aqueous extracts) exhibit noteworthy antiviral potential. These compounds hold the ability to effectively counteract various stages of herpes virus replication [85; 16; 141].

Aqueous extracts containing polysaccharides and ethanol extracts sourced from *Pleurotus pulmonarius* fruiting bodies have demonstrated antiviral activity against the influenza A (H1N1pdm) virus (Vlasenko *et al.*, 2020). Similarly, the acidic polysaccharide fraction obtained from *C. militaris* fruiting bodies has shown identical antiviral activity against the influenza A (H1N1) virus [97].

In addition, aqueous–methanol extracts derived from the fruiting bodies of *L. sulphureus* have demonstrated inhibitory effects on HIV reverse transcriptase. This enzyme plays a crucial role in the transcription process, and its inhibition leads to the suppression of virus replication. The observed antiviral activity within the tested extracts is believed to be influenced by the presence of immunomodulatory polysaccharides [84]. In the case of polysaccharides EP-AV1 and EP-AV2 sourced from an aqueous extract of the fruiting body of *Porodaedalea pini* (also known as *Phellinus pini*), their presence inhibits plaque formation in Vero cells induced by herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1) and by Coxsackie virus B3 (CVB3) in HeLa cells. These polysaccharides have been demonstrated to affect the initial stage of virus replication [67].

Polyphenols were isolated from the ethanol extract of the fruiting bodies of *Phellinus baumii*. Through spectroscopic techniques, compounds including hesperidin, hypholomine B, inoscavin A, davallialactone, and pelligridin D were identified. These compounds demonstrated inhibitory effects on the neuraminidase activity, an enzyme specific to the H1N1, H5N1, and H3N2 strains of the influenza virus. Additionally, they exhibited a reduction in the virus-induced cytopathic effect (CPE). Neuraminidase serves as an enzyme that allows viruses to exit cells by breaking down the cell membrane of an infected cell. It

also plays a role in facilitating virus attachment to cell membranes, aiding their entry into the cell due to its high affinity for the sialic acid of membrane receptors [52]. Laccase isolated from *Pleurotus ostreatus* and tyrosinase from *A. bisporus* show activity against HCV. Laccase from *P. ostreatus* has been shown to block viral entry and replication into PBMC and HepG2 cells, while tyrosinase from *A. bisporus* inhibits viral replication into replicon-containing Huh-5-2 cells [121]. Another noteworthy species that show significant antiviral activity is *Grifola frondosa*. The main active compound is β -glucan (GF-D). It has been shown that a combination of GF-D with IFN human interferon α -2b could potentially offer effective therapy against chronic HBV infections [40; 44].

In 2018, structural identification of lentinan from *L. edodes* mycelium LNT-1 was conducted, followed by an investigation of its antiviral activity against hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV) [112]. Notably, its immunostimulatory activity was also demonstrated. As proven, the innate immune response is a critical factor in the course of COVID-19 disease. COVID-19 patients show high titers of inflammatory cytokines, so the effect of LNT-1 on SARS-CoV-2 should be considered [121].

Furthermore, a potential candidate in the battle against SARS-CoV-2 is *Inonotus obliquus*, commonly known as the chaga fungus, which possesses a robust enzyme system and defense mechanism due to its parasitic lifestyle [121]. SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19, primarily targets the human respiratory system and other vital organs. Currently, no specific treatment for SARS-CoV-2 infection exists, although certain drugs have displayed potential efficacy in inhibiting the virus. Natural substances, including fungi, have exhibited potent antiviral and anti-inflammatory effects positioning them as promising candidates for effective COVID-19 treatments [121]. *I. obliquus*, commonly found in Asia, Europe, and North America, serves as a widely utilized natural resource for various ailments. A specific polysaccharide fraction derived from *I. obliquus*, named IOP, has shown the ability to inhibit the production of NO and similar cytokines associated with COVID-19. COVID-19 patients often experience inflammatory responses, resulting in elevated plasma levels of cytokines and leukocytes. Since IOPs have shown promising results in treating various viral diseases, their potential effect on COVID-19 infection holds considerable promise. Furthermore, an aqueous extract of *I. obliquus* has demonstrated virucidal activity against the hepatitis C virus, remarkably reducing its infectivity by 100-fold within 10 min [77]. A summary of the antiviral activity of compounds and fungal extracts is provided in Table 6.

Table 6. Summary of Antiviral Activity of Compounds and Extracts of Fungal Origin.

Species	Chemical Compound/Extract	Virus Type	Reference
Tricholoma giganteum	Trichogin	HIV-1	[42]
Ganoderma lucidum	Ganoderiol Ganodermanontriol Ganodermic acid	HIV-1	[36]
Ganoderma pfeiferi	Ganodermediol	H1N1	[85]
Inonotus hispidus	Phenolic compounds	H1N1 and B	[2]
Trametes versicolor	PSK complex	Cytomegalovirus HIV	[133]
Agaricus brasiliensis	Aqueous extracts	HSV	[32]
Rozites caperata	Aqueous extracts	HSV	[141]
Ganoderma pfeifferi	Aqueous extracts	HSV	[85]
Pleurotus pulmonarius	Ethanol extract	(H1N1pdm)	[136]
Cordyceps militaris	Polyssaccharide acidic fraction	H1N1	[97]
Laetiporus sulphureus	Aqueous-methanol extract	HIV	[30]
Agaricus brasiliensis	Polysaccharides	PV-1	[16]
Porodaedalea pini	EP-AV1 polysaccharide EP-AV2 polysaccharide	HSV-1 CVB3	[93]
Phellinus baumii	Hispidin Hypholomine B Inoscavin A Davallialactone Phelligridin D	H1N1, H5N1, H3N2	[52]
Agaricus bisporus Pleurotus ostreatus	Laccase enzyme Tyrosinase enzyme	HCV	[121]
Grifola frondosa	B-glucan	HBV	[40]
Lentinula edodes	Lentinan	IHNV	[112]
Inonotus obliquus	Polysaccharide fraction Aqueous extract	COVID-19 HCV	[121]

In vitro as well as in vivo studies by Huber *et al.* [50] on PAF and PAFB, the two antimicrobial proteins (AMPs) secreted by the filamentous fungus *P. chrysogenum* Q176,

displayed that they had antiviral activity without triggering any cytotoxic effects or hemolytic activity on mammalian cells. Experiments in human cervix cancer cells showed that they both reduced Human Coronavirus cytopathogenic effects. It was the very first study on the antiviral ability of small, cysteine-rich and cationic proteins derived from fungi.

Study by Peng *et al.* [105] isolated sorbicatechol A and sorbicatechol B (146,147), from the deep-sea sediment-derived fungus *P. chrysogenum* strain PJX-17's culture. Results revealed that both displayed activities against influenza virus A (H1N1), with IC₅₀ at 85 and 113 µM, respectively.

2.7 Antimicrobial

According to Newaz *et al.* [90], several compounds were isolated from the Indonesian mangrove sediment-derived fungus *P. chrysogenum* ZZ1151. The new peniprenylphenol A (200) was found to possess promising antimicrobial activity towards the human pathogens MRSA, *E. coli* and *C. albicans* with MIC values of 6, 13, and 13 mg/mL, respectively. In addition, the other known isolated compounds, preparaherquamide (203), uridine (205) and 4-hydroxybenzeneacetic acid methyl ester (207) revealed antimicrobial activity with MIC values in a range from 3 to 25 mg/mL towards the three pathogens. Meanwhile thymine (204) and clavatul (206) demonstrated antibacterial activity against MRSA and *E. coli* only with MIC values of 13–25 mg/mL and 2-hydroxyphenylacetic acid methyl ester (209) showed activity against both MRSA and *C. albicans* with MIC values of 13 and 7 mg/mL, respectively. Also, penicimumide (201) showed antibacterial activity against *E. coli* (13 mg/mL), communal G (102) and 4-hydroxyphenylethanone (210) had activity against MRSA (MIC: 25 mg/mL) and 2,5-dihydroxyphenylacetic acid methyl ester (208) exhibited antifungal activity against *C. albicans* (MIC = 25 mg/mL).

Orfali *et al.* [100] conducted a study on compounds (177–181) obtained from the fungus *P. chrysogenum* that was found in Wadi Lajab sediment. The research aimed to investigate the antimicrobial activity of these compounds against five pathogenic bacteria, namely *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus licheniformis*, *Escherichia Ferguson*, *Enterobacter xiangfangensis*, and *Ps. aeruginosa*. The results indicated that all samples, except 6-hydroxymellein (179), demonstrated selective activities towards Gram-positive bacteria, *Staph. aureus* and *B. licheniformis*, with MIC values ranging from 0.8 to 21.6 µg/mL. Notably, 4-chloro-6-hydroxymellein (180) exhibited a highly potent effect towards Gram-

positive bacteria, with MIC values of 1.00 and 0.8 µg/mL for *Staph. aureus* and *B. licheniformis*, respectively.

A study by Chang *et al.* [19] on tyrosol (242) isolated from *P. chrysogenum* DXY-1, obtained from deep-sea sediments nearby the East Sea, found that tyrosol had an anti-quorum sensing (anti-QS) activity. All studies implied that tyrosol (242) may act as a possible inhibitor for the QS systems to resolve the frightening crisis of bacterial resistance. It may be used as a QS inhibitor against *C. violaceum* and *Ps. aeruginosa*. The docking outcomes showed that it inhibited the QS system of CviR in *C. violaceum* by binding to the DNA-binding domain and blocking pathogenic gene expression.

Zhen *et al.* [145], treated chrysoxanthones A-C (161–163) obtained from the *P. chrysogenum* HLS111 strain with the histone-deacetylase inhibitor VPA. They were examined against *Staph. epidermidis* (ATCC 12,228, MSSE), *B. subtilis* (ATCC 63,501), *Staph. aureus* (ATCC 29,213, MSSA), *Enterococcus faecalis* (ATCC 29,212, VSE), and *E. coli* (ATCC 25,922). They showed the maximum antibacterial effects against *B. subtilis* with a MIC of 5–10 µg/mL, while they exhibited modest activities towards *Staph. epidermidis* and *Staph. aureus* with MICs of 10–80 µg/mL.

2.8 Antioxidant

The DPPH free radical scavenging assay is widely used for testing antioxidant activity because it changes in coloration from intense violet to bright yellow when reacting with antioxidant compounds [37]. Correspondingly, a higher percentage of scavenging corresponds to a higher antioxidant activity of the isolate being tested. In this study, the crude extract from the PDB culture had a scavenging of 51.5%, which was significantly higher than the PDYB culture (26.4%) ($F_2 = 2,299.7$; $p < 0.001$). Moreover, the fungal isolates from the PBD culture had the highest antioxidant activity because the DPPH free radical was inactivated in more than 50% after 5 min of reaction (Figure 3). These results suggest that PDB presumably induced a higher synthesis of secondary metabolites responsible for the observed bioactivity.

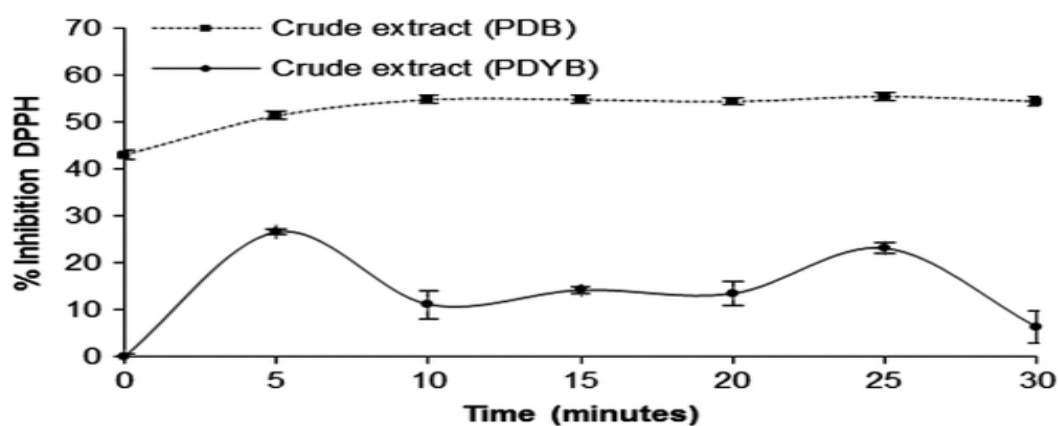


Figure 3: DPPH radical scavenging activity of crude extract obtained from *Fusarium oxysporum* strain EBB-ET-01 growing in potato dextrose broth (PDB) or potato dextrose broth and 0.5% yeast extract (PDYB) at pH 6.0 and 29°C for 30 days

On the other hand, it was impossible to compare the equivalent IC_{50} for gallic acid as DPPH radical inhibitor (0.85 μ M) with the same values used for the crude extract, because these contained a no purified mixture of polysaccharides.

Recent studies have shown that endophytic fungi synthesize EPS involved in plant–endophyte interactions and that such biopolymers are characterized by structures that exhibit antioxidant activity [20; 71]. In this study, an endophyte crude extract obtained from the leaves of *Otoba gracilipes* showed a 51.5% of antioxidant activity in 5 min. This is much higher than the 20% scavenging activity of DPPH after 30 min of an EPS obtained from the culture of the strain *Fusarium oxysporum* *Dzf17* and with a 10-fold lower concentration (200 μ g/ml). However, in Li et al., 2011, crude extracts were subjected to deproteination and decolorization processes. Using a different approach by isolating two endophytes (*Aspergillus* sp. y *Fusarium* sp.) from roots of a close relative of *Otoba gracilipes*, a *Virola* sp. tree, and found an EC_{50} of 17.4 μ g/ml for antioxidant activity for the crude extracts of *Aspergillus* sp. Such activity was also measured on DPPH and found to be related to the presence of secondary metabolites such as flavonoids. However, no antioxidant activity was detected for crude extracts obtained from *Fusarium* sp. Thus, the high performance of culture media extracts of *Fussarium oxysporium* in this study suggests that the novel fungal strain we describe here has a greater potential for producing exopolysaccharides with antioxidant activity. Given that in our study the fungus was isolated from plant leaves and not from roots, the production of secondary metabolites with antioxidant activity may be tissue-dependent. In addition, it is important to mention that exopolysaccharides with antioxidant activity were

detected as secondary metabolites; therefore, the production of these compounds should be measured at different developmental stages of the fungal endophyte.

Most antioxidants known today are industrially synthesized although being account for causing liver damage and carcinogenesis [143]. In contrast, natural-derived antioxidants, like those produced by endophytes, are not harmful. In particular, due to a high biological diversity and biochemical evolution [34], endophytes can use several substrates, producing a wide array of secondary metabolites [41]. These comprise a large but little-explored proportion of fungal diversity [106; 144]. For example, since the discovery of paclitaxel, a potent anticancer agent isolated from endophytic fungi such as *Taxomyces andreanae* and *Pestalotia* spp., endophytes have been recognized as potential new sources of anticancer, antimicrobial, and antimalarial bioactive metabolites, attracting much more attention from researchers [26]. These metabolites include steroids, xanthines, phenols, isocoumarins, quinones, and terpenoids [119], among others.

It is relevant to mention that the biotechnological use of endophyte metabolites for pharmaceutical or agrochemical products is still in the developmental stage. For example, rugulosin, a mycotoxin produced by a spruce endophyte, has been shown to be effective against pine worm [82], but is still not commercially produced. In this study, we explored secondary metabolites produced by fungal endophytes of *Otoba gracilipes* (family Myristicaceae), a tropical medicinal tree not previously explored for potential bioactive metabolites [12]. Since previous studies have shown that the leaves of other trees such as *Quercus ilex* and *Nothapodytes foetida* contain a high diversity and abundance of fungal endophytic strains [33], we predicted that leaves of *O. gracilipes* would contain a high diversity of endophytic fungi, with a high potential for producing secondary metabolites. For this purpose, we isolated, cultivated, and molecularly characterized a leaf endophyte of *O. gracilipes*. In addition, crude extracts composed mainly of polysaccharides were evaluated for antioxidant activity by a DPPH free radical test.

According to a study by Al-Saleem *et al.* [3], Kojic acid (156) showed a potent antioxidant activity with $IC_{50} 33.7 \pm 0.8 \mu\text{g/mL}$ compared to the *P. chrysogenum* extract, which was nearly inactive as revealed by the DPPH free-radical-scavenging technique.

Various antioxidant activity techniques were utilized by Jakovljevic *et al.* [55], including DPPH free-radical-scavenging activity, Fe^{2+} -chelating ability, Fe^{3+} -reducing power and

total antioxidant activity. *P. chrysogenum* ethanolic extract which was isolated from wastewater, was found to contain higher total phenolic content and better total antioxidant capacity along with ferrous ion chelating ability.

An *et al.* [5], isolated chrysotriazoles A and B (94–95) from *P. chrysogenum* EN118, an endophytic fungus culture extract isolated from the marine brown alga *Sargassum pallidum*. Its radical-scavenging activity was evaluated by the 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) assay but did not show any activity.

2.9 Anti-inflammatory

Penicichromanone A (175) and penicichromanone B (176), two novel chroman-4-ones, were isolated by Liu *et al.* (2020) along with three previously identified metabolites, emodin (152), moniliphenone (153), and conioxepinol C (182). These compounds were obtained from an endophytic fungus *P. chrysogenum*, which was separated from the bark of *Eucommia ulmoides* Oliver. The anti-inflammatory activity of all the compounds was evaluated using HEK293 cells. The results showed that compounds (175), (152), (153), and (182) had powerful inhibitory actions on TNF- α -stimulated NF- κ B activation.

In a previous study conducted by Qi *et al.* [107], five compounds labeled as (40), (41), (43), (48), and (49) were extracted from the fermented cultures of a *Huperzia serrata* endophytic fungus called *P. chrysogenum* MT-12. These compounds were found to inhibit the production of nitric oxide in lipopolysaccharide-activated macrophage cells with IC₅₀ values ranging from 4.3–78.2 μ M. The standard, indomethacin, had an IC₅₀ value of $33.6 \pm 1.4 \mu$ M.

Wang *et al.* [137] isolate a new benzoic acid derivative, HPABA (265) from the fermented broth of *P. chrysogenum*., where it presented significant anti-inflammatory with pain killer activities when given at 100 mg/kg, while it showed no ulcerogenic actions.

CONCLUSION

In light of the escalating prevalence of infectious diseases globally, a major concern arises from the growing resistance of microorganisms and viruses to conventional antimicrobial drugs used for both therapeutic and preventive purposes. In response to this pressing challenge, there has been a noteworthy increase in the exploration of natural sources possessing potent antimicrobial properties. Among these, fungi emerge as compelling

candidates within the scientific literature, displaying robust antimicrobial potential against a diverse spectrum, including Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, fungal pathogens, and even viruses.

The burgeoning interest in the antimicrobial capabilities of fungi is particularly intriguing in benign drug principle. This sector actively leverages these therapeutic attributes to enhance the quality and effectiveness of its products. A thorough examination of conducted studies highlights the significant presence of substances with substantial antimicrobial activity within for example mushrooms, representative of the fungal kingdom. These bioactive compounds show great promise for various applications, especially in formulating skincare products designed to address persistent skin conditions.

Moreover, the therapeutic potential of these fungal substances extends beyond cosmetics, demonstrating effectiveness in treating various dermatological diseases. This represents a significant step towards integrating natural antimicrobial agents derived from fungi into the complexities of dermatological care.

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