

Interactions of beta lactamase from MRSA and complexes of metallopolymers with penicillin like antibiotics

Swanandi Pote, Parasmani Pageni, Peng Yang, Chuanbing Tang, Maksymilian Chruszcz
University of South Carolina

Methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is one of the most prevalent pathogens that account for severe nosocomial infections in millions of patients annually [1]. High resistance to beta-lactam antibiotics exhibited by this organism can be majorly attributed to its ability to produce a class of enzymes called beta-lactamases. Our team investigated the protective effect of a group of charged metallopolymers on antibiotics like penicillin, which are usually hydrolyzed by beta-lactamases, thus making them ineffective. For this purpose, we employed several biochemical and structural approaches to study interactions of these recombinant enzymes with conjugate complexes of penicillin and metallopolymers *in vitro* [2]. Recombinant enzymes are often modified in order to improve their expression, yield and structural studies. This study analyzed the effects of different modifications of recombinant beta-lactamases on their stability and activity *in vitro*. Comparison of enzymatic characteristics and the interactions of modified enzymes with conjugates of penicillin and metallopolymers is discussed.

References:

1. Olowe, Eniola, Olowe, Olayemi. Antimicrobial Susceptibility and Betalactamase detection of MRSA in Osogbo. SW Nigeria (2007) Nature and Science, 5(3):44-48.
2. Jiuyang Zhang, Yung Pin Chen, Kristen P. Miller, Mitra S. Ganewatta, Marpe Bam, Yi Yan, Mitzi Nagarkatti, Alan W. Decho, and Chuanbing Tang (2014). Antimicrobial Metallopolymers and Their Bioconjugates with Conventional Antibiotics against Multidrug-Resistant Bacteria. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 4873–4876