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Research Article

## In vitro studies on anti-cancer activity of anti-cancerous compound producing marine bacteria against on cancer cells by MTT assay

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**Abstract:** Extracts from microorganisms have served as a valuable source of diverse molecules in many drug discoveries. Identification of microbial strains having promising biological activities and purifying the bio-molecules which are responsible for the biological activities, have led to the discovery of many bioactive molecules. Extracts of bacteria in vitro tested on various cancer cell lines. The lyophilized bacterial extract powder was dissolved in various chemical solvents like Methanol, Chloroform and Ethyl acetate. From them cytotoxic assays were performed with the extracts were screened on HCT 15 and MES-SA cancer cell lines to study the cytotoxic potential. Where the Ethyl acetate showed the viability when compared to other solvents. The Ethyl acetate extract of isolate showed promising results by MTT assay and Trypan blue staining.

**Keywords:** Anticancer, Bacterial extracts, MTT assay, HCT 15 cell line, MES-SA cell line.

### INTRODUCTION

Cancer is a disease in which a cell, or a group of cells represents uncontrolled growth invasion (intrusion on and distortion of adjacent tissues), and metastasis (spread from one part to another part in the body through lymph or blood). These three malignant properties differentiate cancer from benign tumors, which are self-limited and do not invade or metastasize while the malignant tumors are not self limited and metastasize. Most of cancers occur from a tumor; the oncology deals with the study, diagnosis,

treatment, and prevention of cancer and it's a branch of medicine. Cancer is a human tragedy that affects people at all ages with the risk in most types increasing with age. Cancers are primarily an environmental disease with 90-95% of cases due to modification in lifestyle and environmental factors and 5-10% due to genetics. Cancer is caused by both external factors (tobacco, chemicals, radiation and infectious organisms) and internal factors (inherited mutations, hormones, immune conditions and mutation that occurs from metabolism). Common environmental factors leading to cancer death include: tobacco 25-30%, diet and obesity 30-35%, infections 15-20%, radiation, stress, lack of physical activity and environmental pollutants<sup>1</sup>.

Natural products have played an important role in treating and preventing human diseases. Natural products with medicinal value have come from various sources viz., terrestrial plants, terrestrial microorganisms, marine organisms, and terrestrial vertebrates and invertebrates the microbial extracts have served as a valuable source of diverse molecules in many drug discovery efforts and led to the isolation of several important drugs<sup>2</sup>. The chemical composition of bioactive compounds of microbial origin is often highly complex. Organic compounds from aqua to terrestrial microorganisms have extensive use in the treatment of many diseases and serve as compounds of interest both in their natural form and as templates for synthetic modification. These compounds provided important contributions to the discovery of antibacterial agents like penicillins, cephalosporins, tetracyclines, and polyketides, immunosuppressive agents like cyclosporins, antidiabetic agent like acarbose, cholesterol-lowering agents like lovastatin and mevastatin and anti cancer agents like peplomycin, pentostatin, and epirubicin<sup>3,4</sup>.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Collection of soil sample:** Marine soil samples were collected from Bay of Bengal coast of Machilipatnam, Krishna district, AP, India. About 15 grams of soil sediments were collected in a sterile polythene bags and stored at 4°C until further use. The soil samples were stored under sterile conditions for preventing the bacterial cross contamination. Then the sample was serially diluted to till 10<sup>-6</sup> dilution by adding 1 gram of soil to 10.00 mL of distilled water<sup>5</sup>.

**Screening and Sub culturing of bacterial isolates:** From the serially diluted samples, 100 µl of sample was poured on Nutrient Agar plates (Himedia). From the 10<sup>-5</sup> and 10<sup>-6</sup> dilutions the single isolated bacterial colonies were obtained on agar plates by the procedure according to Shirai *et al*<sup>6</sup>. The bacterial cultures were isolated. The inoculum was prepared by transferring a single colony of the isolates into 5 ml of the corresponding medium. This inoculum was transferred to 95 ml of the corresponding broth and bacterial isolates were incubated at 37°C for 2 -3 days. This broth was used for the extraction of bioactive metabolites.

**Preparation of bacterial extracts:** The culture broth was centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 15 min to obtain a clear supernatant. Components were extracted successively dissolved with chemical solvents such as chloroform (C), Methanol (M) and Ethyl acetate (E) and followed by vacuum evaporation of these extracts to obtain the dry extracts. These dry extracts were dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) for long time period biological studies and further uses<sup>7</sup>.

**Maintenance of cancer cell lines:** Human colorectal adenocarcinoma Cancer cells (HCT 15) and Human uterine cancer cells (MES-SA) were maintained in Dulbecco's modified essential medium (DMEM) supplemented with 4.5 g/l glucose and 2mm l-glutamine and 5% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (growth medium) at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator.

**Trypan blue dye exclusion technique:** A cell suspension was made with a fixed volume of cells (e.g. 1ml). Although an aseptic technique is not essential in all stages of this procedure, 50µL of cell suspension was taken and mixed it with an equal volume of trypan blue. Solution was well mixed using a pipette. It transfers to a hemocytometer and then counted live cell as clear form and dead cell as blue cells. After

staining with trypan blue solution counting should commence <5 minutes as after that time the cells will begin to take up the dye. A pipette was used to place some of the cell suspension: trypan blue mix into the hemocytometer and overlay with a coverslip. The cell suspension will pass under the coverslip by capillary action unless there is an air bubble. The hemocytometer was placed on the stage of an inverted microscope. Focus was adjusted and power until a single counting square fills the field. The number of cells per ml, and the total number of cells were counted using formula<sup>8,9</sup>.

**Microculture tetrazolium (MTT) assay:** The monolayer cell culture was trypsinized and the cell count was adjusted to 1ml using medium. To each well of 96 well microtitre plates, 0.1ml of diluted cell suspension was added. After 72 hour, the sample solution in wells was flicked off and 50µl of MTT dye was added to each well. The plates were gently shaken and incubated for 4 hours at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. The supernatant was removed, 50 µl of Propanol was added, and the plates were gently shaken to solubilize the formed formazan. The absorbance was measured using a micro plate reader at a wavelength of 490 nm. The percentage growth inhibition was calculated using formula<sup>10, 11</sup>.

**Identification of Microorganism:** The Genomic DNA was isolated from the overnight grown bacterial culture was amplified with universal bacterial primers. A 25µl of reaction mixture contains 15µl of master mix (10 x assay buffer, dntp's, Taq polymerease and MgCl<sub>2</sub>), 1µl of forward primer, 1µl of reverse primer, 2µl of template DNA and 6µl of distilled water. PCR was carried out by the thermal cycler under the following conditions- An intialization step at 94°C for 4min followed by 30 cycles of 94°C for 1min, 52°C for 1min, 72°C for 1.15min followed by final extension at 72°C for 1min and holding temperature at 10°C for 1min. The amplified DNA fragments were observed by agarose gel electrophoresis in 2% agarose gel and sequenced. The unknown bacterium was identified using GenBank database and few biochemical tests were also carried out<sup>12</sup>.

## CALCULATIONS

**Trypan blue staining:** Calculate percent viability by using formula:

$$\% \text{ viability} = (\text{live cell count} / \text{total cell count}) \times 100$$

**MTT assay:** The percentage growth inhibition was calculated using following formula,

$$\% \text{ cell inhibition} = 100 - \{ (At - Ab) / (Ac - Ab) \} \times 100$$

Where,

At= Absorbance value of test compound

Ab= Absorbance value of blank

Ac=Absorbance value of control

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Cancer cells were tested with Chloroform, Methanol and Ethyl acetate bacterial extracts cell viability was evaluated by MTT assay. A gradual decrease in the viability of HCT 15 and MES-SA cancer cells were observed in for all the bacterial extracts used in the study. The isolate A was identified as *Micrococcus luteus* sp, the bacterial isolate B was identified as *Lactobacillus acidophilus* sp. The bacterial isolate A was identified as *Micrococcus luteus* by 16s r RNA sequencing

MTT cell growth inhibition assay was taken as in vitro measure of anticancer activity of bacterial extracts by using different cancer cell lines. Ethyl acetate extracts of bacteria are effective in inhibiting cancer cell growth of the two cancer cell lines. Therefore present invitro studies on ethyl acetate bacterial extracts

demonstrate the remarkable anticancer potentials due to the presence of active principles may responsible for this anti cancer activity. Hence *Micrococcus luteus* Ethyl acetate extracts can be used as a potent natural source of anticancer agent.

**Maintenance of cancer cell lines Report:** Human colorectal adeno carcinoma Cancer cells (HCT 15) and Human uterine cancer cells (MES-SA) were maintained in Dulbecco's modified essential medium (DMEM) supplemented with 4.5 g/l glucose and 2mm 1-glutamine and 5% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (growth medium) at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator. The cancer cells were grown and maintained in required laboratory conditions.



A

B

**Fig.1: Maintenance of cancer cells (A: storage of Cancer cell lines, B: cancer cells growth on DMEM medium)**

**Trypan blue staining Report:** The trypan blue staining was performed and the cancer cell line viability cell proliferation as shown below

**Table- 1: Trypan blue staining % of Viability of cancer cells**

Cell line	% viability	Live cell count	Total cell count	P <sup>H</sup>
MES-SA	81.1%	$1.72 \times 10^5$	$2.12 \times 10^5$	7.5
HCT 15	70-72%	$1.728 \times 10^5$	$2.40 \times 10^5$	6.9

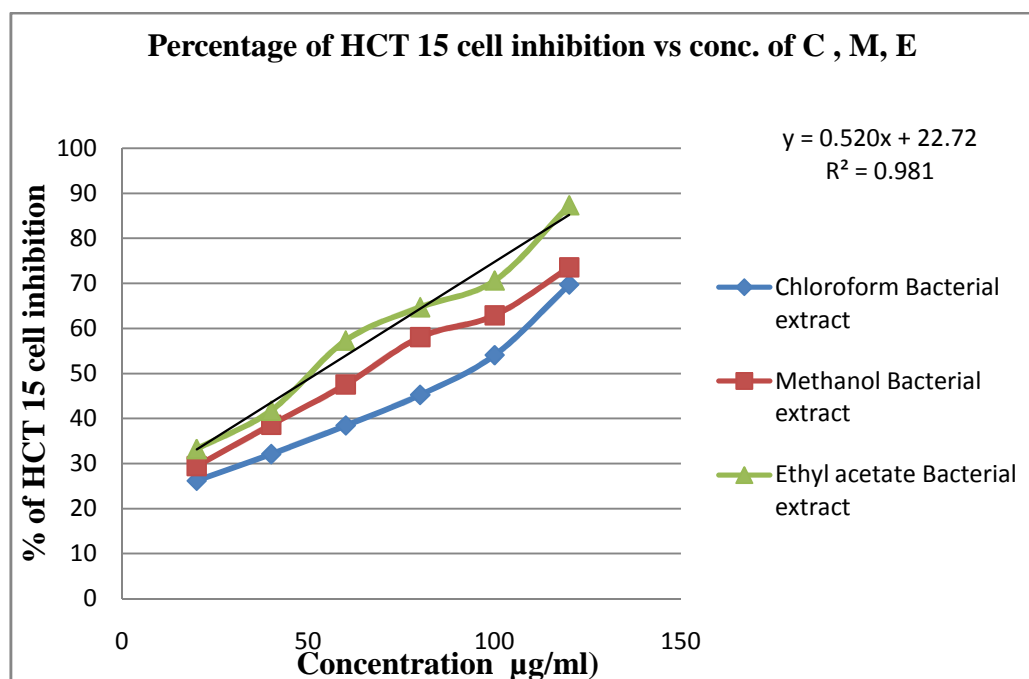
**MTT assay Report:** From the **Table 2 and graph 1:** we can say that as the concentration of Chloroform, Methanol and Ethyl acetate bacterial extracts increased from 20 to 120 µl/ml, the % HCT 15 cancer cell growth inhibition was increased from 26.19% to 69.76% in chloroform bacterial extract, 29.45 % to 73.56 % in Methanol bacterial extract and 33.24 % to 87.34 % in Ethyl acetate bacterial extract, that means they induces a cell arrest to inhibit the growth of the HCT 15 cancer cells.

From the **Table 3 and graph 2:** we can say that as the concentration of Chloroform, Methanol and Ethyl acetate bacterial extracts increased from 20 to 120 µl/ml, the % MES-SA cancer cell growth inhibition was increased from 18.43 % to 60.76 % in chloroform bacterial extract, 20.48 % to 68.61 % in Methanol

bacterial extract and 28.42 % to 79.84 % in Ethyl acetate bacterial extract, that means they induces a cell arrest to inhibit the growth of the MES-SA cancer cells

**Table- 2: Percentage of HCT 15 cell inhibition at various concentrations**

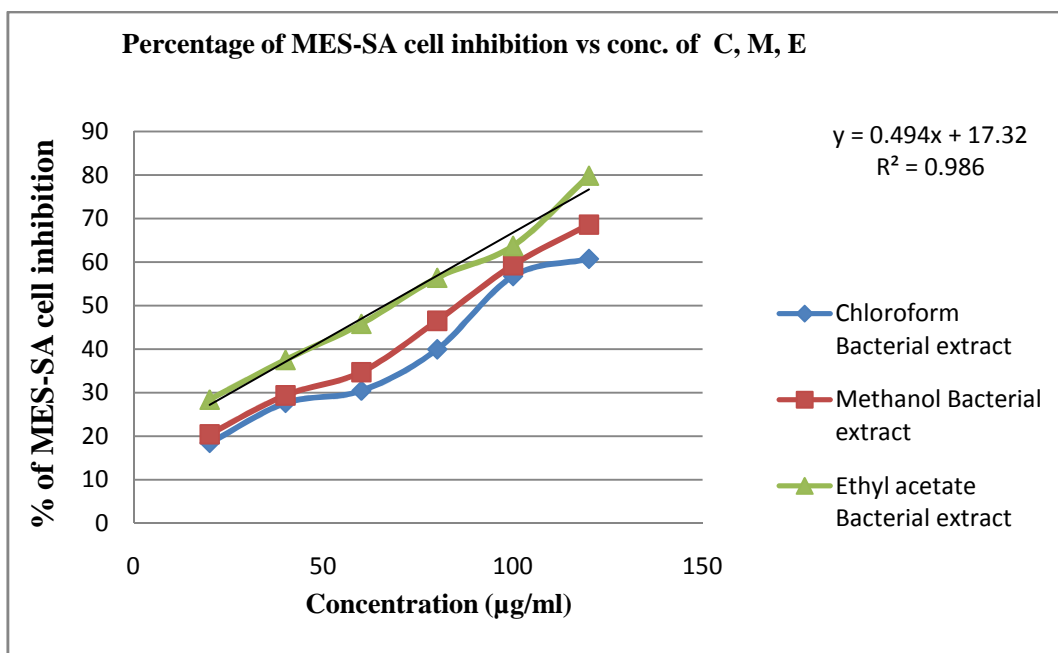
Concentration µg/ml	Percentage of HCT 15 cell inhibition		
	Chloroform Bacterial extract	Methanol Bacterial extract	Ethyl acetate Bacterial extract
20	26.19	29.45	33.24
40	32.12	38.62	41.77
60	38.47	47.56	57.33
80	45.28	58.08	64.73
100	54.11	62.9	70.65
120	69.76	73.56	87.34



**Graph 1: Effect of Chloroform, Methanol and Ethyl acetate bacterial extracts A on HCT 15 cancer cell growth inhibition**

Table 3: Percentage of MES-SA cell inhibition at various concentrations

Concentration µg/ml	Percentage of MES-SA cell inhibition		
	Chloroform Bacterial extract	Methanol Bacterial extract	Ethyl acetate Bacterial extract
20	18.43	20.48	28.42
40	27.62	29.39	37.52
60	30.44	34.72	45.81
80	39.97	46.54	56.39
100	56.78	59.33	63.72
120	60.76	68.61	79.84



Graph 2: Effect of Chloroform, Methanol and Ethyl acetate bacterial extracts A on MES-SA cancer cell growth inhibition

## CONCLUSION

Bacterial extracts of the metabolites were *in vitro* tested for their cytotoxic potential on various cancer cell lines. The extracts were screened on HCT 15 and MES-SA cell lines. The Ethyl acetate extract of isolate showed promising results by MTT assay and Trypan blue staining. The isolate A was identified as

*Micrococcus luteus* sp, the bacterial isolate B was identified as *Lactobacillus acidophilus* sp, The isolate A was identified as *Micrococcus luteus* sp showing promising results were obtained showing anti cancerous activity

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