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While they allow one to lower the dose and thus reduce side effects, 277, 278 they come with an inherent risk of treatment failure through resistance. If resistance to one drug occurs, synergistic effects are lost, resulting in the low-dose exposure to a single antibiotic.279–283 Even with nonsynergistic antibiotic combinations, the risk for increased resistance development is evident. P.; Perry J. J. W.; Zhang Q.; Castillo R.; Doppalapudi V. (1993) Reassessment of the Rationale for the Combinations of Sulphonamides with Diaminopyrimidines. B.; Sevim E.; Gaballa A.; Popham D. N. Antimicrob. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Asker D.; Awad T. These are particularly interesting, since the outer membrane is the main reason why most antibiotics are ineffective against Gram-negative bacteria. 10.1128/AAC.45.6.1737-1742.2001. M.; Rouse M. 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Naturally occurring mixes have been used in clinical settings with great success and in some cases are combined with each other or other antibiotics like neomycin.21,22 It is quite common in clinical practice to use antibiotic combinations for different reasons. E.; Sahl H. E.; Bliziotis I. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Velkov T.; Roberts K. (1976) Rifampicin Binding as a Probe for Subunit Interactions in Escherchia Coli RNA Polymerase. (2003) Effects of Metronidazole and Tinidazole Ointments on Models for Inflammatory Dermatitis in Mice. 101, 6671-6681. 1818, 673-678. (2008) Teichoic Acids and Related Cell-Wall Glycopolymers in Gram-Positive Physiology and Host Interactions. 17, 908-911. P. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Sass P.; Josten M.; Famulla K.; Schiffer G.; Sahl H.-G.; Hamoen L.; Brotz-Oesterhelt H. C.; Watts A. J.; Pinto A.; Prochnow P.; Vuong C.; Langklotz S.; Metzler-Nolte N.; Bandow J. 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(2005) Combined Colistin and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: Clinical Outcome and Adverse Events. 10.1007/s00232-008-9134-4. 10.1128/AAC.41.2.363. 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: 10.1002/1529-0131(199810)41:103.0.CO; 2-F. and Rifampicin Therapy for Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter Baumannii Infections: 10.1002/1529-0131(1 10.1111/bph.12009. This is, for example, very common in tuberculosis treatment regimes, which often consist of a combination of rifampicin, isoniazid, ethambutol, and pyrazinamide266 but has also been employed for other bacterial infections.267 A newly emerging approach is the combination of an antibiotic with more than one potentiator. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Brindle E. Peptides derived from these membrane-anchoring sequences not only display potent activity against E. coli and other Gram-negative bacteria but also significantly increase their outer membrane permeability.186,202,203Few compounds are known that selectively permeabilize the outer membrane, and most known compounds also permeabilize the inner membrane. P.; Doktor V.; Emer J. 10.1038/s41598-019-51711-x. (2017) Pharmaceutical Approaches to Target Antibiotic Resistance Mechanisms. 30, 317–327. N.; Ding W.-Q. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Wenzel M.; Dekker M. N.; Carmine A.; Heel R. 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For example, the cyclic hexapeptide cWFW induces large-scale phase separation sorting peripheral and integral membrane proteins into two distinct domains,68 and the plant-derived antibiotic candidate rhodomyrtone forms large membrane vesicles that irreversibly trap both peripheral and transmembrane proteins.69Another molecular target that intrinsically presupposes multiple effects is the peptidoglycan precursor lipid II, which is the antibiotic target of the glycopeptide antibiotic target of the glycopeptide antibiotic target of the glycopeptide antibiotic target of a variety of lantibiotics, most prominently the food preservative nisin. C.; Curtis N.; Ritz N. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Lin D. 10.1136/jcp.29.2.162. (2009) WHO Model Formulary 2008, WHO, Geneva. B.; Ramasubbu N. 31, e00077-17 10.1128/CMR.00077-17. 4, 349–359. Ed. 54, 3937–3940. Soc. C.; Hall A. 10.5935/0305-7518.19820010. J.; Zasowski E. 2, 17028. 28, 110–118. C.; Bycroft B. 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For example, p-coumaric acid was found to interfere with the DNA-binding ability of RecA in Listeria monocytogenes and increased the activity of ciprofloxacin against this pathogen.213 Another study found that zinc inhibits the ability of RecA to bind to single-stranded DNA, suggesting a potential application for zinc ionophores.214 However, the effectivity and cytotoxicity of zinc ionophores would depend on the external zinc concentration,215 which may limit this approach to topical applications or targeted drug delivery and release approaches. 10.2147/CCID.S58940. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Wittekind M.; Schuch R. Another example is clofazimine, which is used to treat leprosy.101 This antibiotic binds to guanine bases in bacterial DNA but also increases phospholipase A1 activity, leading to toxic overproduction of lysophospholipids.102 The atypical tetracycline chelocardin, which has recently attracted renewed interest for clinical development,103,104 inhibits the bacterial ribosome and additionally depolarizes the cytoplasmic membrane.105 Tetracycline itself, while not leading to depolarization, has recently been shown to disturb membrane organization in addition to translation inhibition.31 The same was observed for anhydrotetracycline, suggesting that this dual activity could be a general activity may be a general activity may be a general consequence of translation inhibition, since ribosomes associate with the cell membrane to couple translation to protein secretion.106 However, other ribosome inhibitors did not visibly disturb the cell membrane, and a ribosome showed the same tetracycline-induced membrane effects as the wild-type.31 These findings suggest that the membrane activity of tetracycline is independent from translation inhibition and thus a separate secondary target. 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R.; Perron G. 10.1073/pnas.080077197. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Paul M.; Lador A.; Grozinsky-Glasberg S.; Leibovici L. 10.1093/jac/dkh104. (2012) Estimation of the Subunit Stoichiometry of the Membrane-Associated Daptomycin Oligomer by FRET. (1982) Effects of Clofazimine Alone or Combined with Dapsone on Neutrophil and Lymphocyte Functions in Normal Individuals and Patients with Lepromatous Leprosy. (2004) Self-Protection Mechanism in D-Cycloserine-Producing Streptomyces Lavendulae. 10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2016.04.007. Molecules 22, 468. Particularly, Gram-negative bacteria possess different multidrug efflux pumps that can export a wide variety of antibiotics and antimicrobial molecules. 10.1038/nrd2202. (2019) Inhibiting Plasmid Mobility: The Effect of Isothiocyanates on Bacterial Conjugation. B.; Ly N. M.; Hostetler Z. (2019) History, Chemistry and Antibacterial Spectrum. 49, 2954-2958. 10.3389/fmicb.2017.01205. K.; Domalaon R.; Lyu Y.; Kumar A.; Zhanel G. 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PLoS One 11, e0161057 10.1371/journal.pone.0161057. J.; McArthur W. 58, 6627-6638. W.; Wilson W. The most prominent efflux pump type is the Gram-negative-specific resistance-nodulation-division (RND) superfamily, in particular the well-characterized AcrAB-TolC pump.240 A wide variety of antibiotics can be the substrate of these export systems, and their overexpression leads to high level drug resistance.240 This makes efflux pumps one of the biggest challenges in overcoming antibiotic resistance and at the same time an attractive target for resistance-breaking antibiotic potentiators (Figure 4E). 10.1128/MMBR.65.2.232-260.2001. E.; Benton B. ciz746 10.1093/cid/ciz746. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Ye Y.; Xia Z.; Zhang D.; Sheng Z.; Zhang P.; Zhu H.; Xu N.; Liang S. 60, 1194-1201. Care 10, R27-R27. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]'t Hart P.; Oppedijk S. The most extreme examples for this are the β-lactam antibiotics, which typically target more than one penicillin-binding protein (PBP) (Figure 1D).8 For example, Escherichia coli has 8 PBPs, 6 of which are inhibited by penicillin G.90-92 Other examples include quinolone antibiotics, which target both topoisomerase II and IV involved in DNA supercoiling and resolving DNA concatemers, respectively,9 and the cell wall synthesis inhibitors fosfomycin and d-cycloserine. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. ChemMedChem 7, 73-77. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. ChemMedChem 7, 73-77. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. ChemMedChem 7, 73-77. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. ChemMedChem 7, 73-77. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. ChemMedChem 7, 73-77. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Domalaon R.; Idowu T.; Zhanel G. 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Thus, membrane-targeting antibiotics have the potential to (i) inhibit processes essential for survival, (ii) reduce bacterial fitness, (iii) impair virulence, and (iv) interfere with stress adaptation. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Schirawski J.; Unden G. Science (Washington, DC, U. 8, 1867. (2014) Efflux Inhibition with Verapamil Potentiates Bedaquiline in Mycobacterium Tuberculosis. (2019) Polymyxin Derivatives That Sensitize Gram-Negative Bacteria to Other Antibiotics. (2017) Synthetic Peptides to Target Stringent Response-Controlled Virulence in a Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Murine Cutaneous Infection Model. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Stone G. P.; Hoiby N.; Bjarnsholt T.; Givskov M. (2017) New Roads Leading to Old Destinations: Efflux Pumps as Targets to Reverse Multidrug Resistance in Bacteria. 1145, p 17, Spinger Nature, Switzerland AG, 10.1007/978-3-030-16373-0_3. This screen identified the two-component stress response system AmgRS as a potential target for combination therapy with aminoglycoside antibiotics.218 It was later found that the RNA polymerase inhibitor rifampicin, amikacin, gentamycin, and neomycin against P. aeruginosa.219,220A multitude of stress response systems have been identified that play a role for antibiotic adaptation and resistance, yet little effort has been put into identifying inhibitors of these systems to be used as antibiotic potentiators. Methods 91, 497-500. Many of them have been found to increase the activity of drugs, which are normally ineffective due to active export. (2015) Synthetic Fatty Acids Prevent Plasmid-Mediated Horizontal Gene Transfer. Pat. 58, 574–576. 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.7b00215. Adv. Here, it has been suggested that the depletion of penicillin-binding proteins by translation inhibition might be the underlying mechanism.157 However, a similar combination of azithromycin (ribosome inhibitor) and imipenem (β-lactam) only results in additive effects.174 The last documented mechanism underlying antibiotic synergy is the improvement of target accessibility (Figure 3D). [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Koppen B. 54, S214–S219. (2009) Decreased Susceptibility to Polymyxin B during Treatment for Carbapenene-Resistant Klebsiella Pneumoniae Infection. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Paul T. (2016) New Mechanisms, New Worries. 10.2174/187446721080100068. 41, 2847–2854. Y.; Li Q.; Sergeeva M.; Khambatta G.; Georgopapadakou N. 59, 2785–2790. Two phase I clained trials have been completed, yet results remain to be published.121,125A different hybrid approach was followed by the company Visterra, who developed an ultranarrow spectrum hybrid molecule against P. aeruginosa infections by coupling a specific antibody that targets cell surface glycan molecules with an antimicrobial peptide.134 Here, the hybrid molecule does not possess two antibacterial targets, but the antibody strategy allows more targeted treatment by increasing the local peptide concentration at the cell surface and bringing the antibiotic candidates against Gram-negative bacteria based on the polymyxin lead structure has recently been published.135 These compounds are chimeric peptidomimetics combining features of polymyxin A with the outer membrane protein-targeting cyclic peptide murepavadin. 10.1093/femspd/ftw060. Indeed, the inhibition of respiration and/or ATP synthase and subsequent depletion of ATP pools have been observed for several compounds, whose primary target is the cell membrane.58,69,80-82 Membrane potential and respiration are closely intertwined, and the impairment of one can lead to the inhibition of the other.83,84 Either way, both will have downstream effects on the performance of ATP synthase and the availability of ATP for important cellular processes (Figure 1C). [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Blais J.; Lewis S. 10.1128/AAC.02071-15. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]MacLean R. 56, 5476-5483. In the case of the TC19 and TC84 peptides, membrane depolarization, rigidification, and phase separation were already observed at sublethal concentrations and increased at lethal concentrations while other observations like protein delocalization and intracellular content leakage were mainly observed at lethal concentrations or after prolonged treatment.64,65 This suggests that the primary mechanism of these peptides is the disruption of membrane organization. (2018) Zinc Blockade of SOS Response Inhibits Horizontal Transfer of Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Enteric Bacteria. (2013) Polypharmacology: Drug Discovery for the Future. M.; Zaitseva E.; Laubscher W. 10.3390/antibiotics9010017. L.; Churukian A.; Kingsley J.; Corey G. Crit. 10.1002/pmic.201100046. However, the last decades have shown that resistance to antibiotics with specific single protein targets develops too fast to be sustainable, and the realization emerged that candidates with multiple targets are worth pursuing for their slower resistance development rates. 5-7 In fact, long-established antibiotic drugs with great clinical success rarely target only one specific molecule. E.; Montie T. 10.1073/pnas.0805965105. C., Kouimtzi M., and Hill S. (2012) Characterization of Daptomycin Oligomerization with Perylene Excimer Fluorescence: Stoichiometric Binding of Phosphatidylglycerol Triggers Oligomer Formation. 10.1128/AAC.40.8.1801. (2004) Mechanism of Action of NB2001 and NB2030, Novel Antibacterial Agents Activated by Beta-Lactamases. Thus, the inhibition of type IV secretion, which is involved in conjugative DNA transfer, has been shown to be inhibited by small peptidomimetic compounds.251 While more research is needed to verify the feasibility of these approaches in clinical settings, it is certainly an interesting new combination therapy strategy that deserves further exploration. One big problem in the clinic is the production of biofilms by bacteria like S. aureus and P. aeruginosa, and biofilm inhibitors are potent potentiators for antibiotics used against such infections (Figure 4F). 148, w14630 10.4414/smw.2018.14630. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Idowu T.; Ammeter D.; Arthur G.; Zhanel G. 10.1128/AAC.33.9.1428. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Idowu T.; Ammeter D.; Arthur G.; Zhanel G. 10.1128/AAC.33.9.1428. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Idowu T.; Ammeter D.; Arthur G.; Zhanel G. 10.1128/AAC.33.9.1428. 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Strategies to prevent biofilm formation or disperse mature biofilms can commonly be divided into three categories: the inhibition of adhesion or extracellular matrix.252 Several antimicrobial peptides, for example, LL-37, prevent adhesion of bacterial cells by inhibiting the initiation of biofilm production.253 Furanones are structurally similar to the quorum sensing molecule N-acyl-homoserine-lactone and are thought to competitively inhibit binding to their cognate transcriptional regulator.253 Several other analogues of quorum sensing molecules have been patented, yet studies on their clinical potential are yet to come.254 The most prominent biofilm-dispersing agent is the glycoside hydrolase dispersin B, which directly targets the extracellular matrix.230 Further small molecule inhibitors have been identified for all these mechanisms.254–257Biofilm inhibitors are particularly relevant in the context of medical devices like catheters and of chronic lung infections, with P. aeruginosa being the most problematic pathogen due to its high intrinsic antibiotic resistance and the emergence of totally drug-resistant isolates.258 Several compounds have been described that could be used against P. aeruginosa biofilms. D.; Theisen E.; Sauer J.-D.; Nonejuie P.; Olson J.; Pogliano J.; Sakoulas G.; Nizet V.; Proctor R. (2003) Erythromycin, Roxithromycin, and Clarithromycin: Use of Slow-Binding Kinetics to Compare Their in Vitro Interaction with a Bacterial Ribosomal Complex Active in Peptide Bond Formation. Different enzymes have been described that acetylate different sites of aminoglycoside antibiotics, 236 some of which are inhibited by Cu2+, Zn2+, and Cd2+ ions.237 Inhibitors of these enzymes have been identified by molecular docking studies with virtual compound libraries for in vitro enzyme inhibition.222,238,239 One of these has been confirmed to restore the activity of amikacin against a resistant Acinetobacter baumannii strain.222 However, none of these compounds is close to clinical development at the present time. The most important intrinsic resistance mechanism, next to the outer membrane permeability barrier, is constituted by antibiotic efflux pumps. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Higgins D. W.; Brul S.; Zaat S. The most common class of natural antimicrobial substances are antimicrobial peptides, which occur in virtually all organisms. Ion Processes 122, 153-179. 1860, 2404. 10.1002/anie.201411028. S.; Lee A.; Galazzo J.; Fronko R.; Lee M.; Blais J.; Cho D.; Chamberland S.; Renau T.; Leger R.; Hecker S.; Watkins W.; Hoshino K.; Ishida H.; Lee V. 10.3390/molecules22030468. Future Microbiol. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar] Yang X.; Goswami S.; Gorityala B. 10.1016/0168-1176(92)87015-7. G.; de Boer L.; Riool M.; Drijfhout J. (2017) Conjugation Inhibitors and Their Potential Use to Prevent Dissemination of Antibiotic Resistance Genes in Bacteria. 74, 2640-2648 10.1128/AAC.00712-12. Moreover, it leads to the displacement of peripheral membrane proteins that bind to the membrane surface by electrostatic interactions, such as the cell division proteins FtsA and MinD.56,57 However, not all membrane effects can be explained by membrane depolarization. 10.1038/ja.2014.83. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Deris Z. J.; Bitter W.; van Weering J. Often, resistance against a new drug develops even before it reaches the market. 10.1111/j.1469-0691.2005.01198.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Kerrigan J. (2014) Beta Lactam Antibiotic Monotherapy versus Beta Lactam-Aminoglycoside Antibiotic Combination Therapy for Sepsis. 41, 1889-1893. Br. J. P.; Clarke R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Gupta V.; Datta P. (2016) New Insights into Nisin's Antibacterial Mechanism Revealed by Binding Studies with Synthetic Lipid II Analogues. R.; Ilyas B.; French S.; Cote J.-P.; Bouwman C.; Farha M. L.; Iglesias L. 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It is still in use today and remains the only one that is orally available.235 Since then, several other β-lactamase inhibitors have been identified, and eight combinations are currently on the market: tazobactam, ceftolozane-tazobactam, ceftazidime-avibactam, and Meropenem-vaborbactam.221,235 Several other combinations are in different stages of clinical development.221A similar strategy is the inhibition of aminoglycoside resistance (Figure 4D). 58, 892 sought after, since they allow one to lower drug doses and thus may reduce side effects. G. 12, 1079-1091. D.; Dessen A.; Hill K. 10.1038/nrd2683. E.; Wright G. S.; Landersdorfer C. (2000) Interaction of the Lantibiotic Nisin with Mixed Lipid Bilayers: A 31P and 2H NMR Study. K.; Brown E. (2019) Next-Generation Strategy for Treating Drug Resistant Bacteria: Antibiotic Hybrids. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Xiang H.; Cao F.; Ming D.; Zhong X.; Zhong X.; Mu D.; Li B.; Zhong X.; Mu Microbiology 149, 2015-2021. 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In this Review, we provide an overview of antibiotic, multiresistant bacteria, antibiotic combination therapy, synergyAntimicrobial resistance has developed into a global healthcare crisis that has culminated in the emergence of multidrug-resistant bacteria that are no longer treatable with any common antibiotic.1 For example, recently emerging Neisseria gonorrhoeae strains resistant to third-generation carbapenems led to a number of untreatable gonorrhea infections in the UK.2 Despite considerable investments, the development of innovative, resistance-breaking antibiotics still progresses too slowly.3,4 For a long time, antibiotics with one specific protein target were highly sought after in drug design and screening efforts. Aureus. 10.1080/21505594.2017.1313372. R.; Schmidt T. mBio 7, e00221-16 10.1128/mBio.00221-16. R.; Ravikumar R.; Haldar J. 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Other antibiotics with this dual function are metronidazole, tetracycline, macrolides, and dapsone, which are all used to treat acne.48 Clofazimine, which is used against leprosy, already has two distinct antibacterial targets, guanine bases and phospholipase A2.102 In addition to these activities, it also reduces neutrophil mobility, which is beneficial for treating patients with a type 2 lepra reaction characterized by strong inflammation.139,140 The range of antibiotics with immunomodulatory and anti-inflammatory effects and the detailed use of these compounds have been thoroughly reviewed before 48,141-143 and should not be described here in more detail. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Schneider T.; Hamoen L. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Li Q.; Montalban-Lopez M.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.01462-13 de F. H.-F.; Brown E. mBio 6, e01032-15 10.1128/mBio.01032-15. (2007) Multi-Targeting by Monotherapeutic Antibacterials. 10.1517/17460441.2010.508069. 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The funders had no role in the design of the paper, in the writing, and visualization; D.A.G. and M.W.The authors declare no competing financial interest. Sprenger M.; Fukuda K. K.; Henderson T. T.; Boszhard L.; Vreede J.; Dekker H. Matching these to elicit the desired outcome in patients can be a serious challenge.267,269 A solution for this limitation could be antibiotic hybrids as discussed in Designer Dual-Target Compounds. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Zhanel G. L.; Chang R.; Debabov D. 72, 341-352. I.; Grzes K.; Kurek A. 61, 61. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tu Y.; McCalla D. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Jia J.; Zhu F.; Ma X.; Cao Z. 10.1038/nrmicro1861. (1982) Suppression of Polymorphonuclear Leukocyte Chemotactic Factor Production in Propionibacterium Acnes by Subminimal Inhibitory Concentrations of Tetracycline, Ampicillin, Minocycline, and Erythromycin. 10.4103/0253-7613.117765. 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Moreover, cell wall synthesis is coupled to other cellular processes, most prominently cell division, and the binding of antibiotics to the sites of cell wall synthesis is likely to have additional "sand in the gearbox" effects.61 Due to their typically large size and/or hydrophobic or amphipathic properties membrane and cell wall-targeting antibiotics rarely cross the outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram-negative bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram-negative bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram-negative bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram-negative bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potent Broad-gram bacteria and are mostly used against and structure of Platencin: A FabH and FabF Dual Inhibitor with Potencin: A Spectrum Antibiotic Activity. 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It remains exciting to see how this type of compound proceeds in future clinical trials. A different strategy to enhance the performance of existing antibiotic drugs is to sensitize bacteria to their action. A large-scale screen for inhibitors of LexA autoproteolysis has yielded promising lead structures for the inhibitor of DNA repair, was later verified to target the AddAB DNA repair complex and sensitized multidrug-resistant S. aureus to ciprofloxacin.217Another example for this strategy was identified by a transposon screen for increased tobramycin sensitivity in Pseudomonas aeruginosa. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Kreutzberger M. From antibiotics that have multiple downstream effects, true multitargeting compounds, and dual-activity hybrid molecules to combination approaches with antibiotic adjuvants, all of these strategies have shown a certain promise and give hope for one to see light at the end of the tunnel of antibiotics. BioMed Res Single target drugs were propagated as the ideal antibiotics with the argument that a high target specificity equals less side effects. 10.1002/ddr.21457. E. (2003) Mechanisms of Antimicrobial Peptide Action and Resistance. (2015) A Macrophage-Stimulating Compound from a Screen of Microbial Natural Products. L.; Moschella S. (2009) Targeting and the ideal antibiotics with the argument that a high target specificity equals less side effects. 10.1002/ddr.21457. E. (2003) Mechanisms of Antimicrobial Peptide Action and Resistance. Bacterial Stress Response to Enhance Antibiotic Action. 56, 5749-5757. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Pradhan S.; Madke B.; Kabra P.; Singh A. (2018) Interaction of MreB-Derived Antimicrobial Peptides with Membranes. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Pradhan S.; Madke B.; Kabra P.; Singh A. (2018) Interaction of MreB-Derived Antimicrobial Peptides with Membranes. 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Gram-positive bacteria possess two copies of MurA, the first enzyme in the lipid II synthesis pathway, and fosfomycin inhibits both isoenzymes.93d-Cycloserine competitively inhibits both alanine racemase and d-ala-d-ala ligase which converts l-alanine to the d-alanine dipeptide that is part of the peptidoglycan interpeptide bridge.94 Similarly, platencin, a fatty acid synthesis inhibitor that attracted significant attention upon its discovery but then encountered several hurdles in preclinical development,95 is a dual inhibitor of the FabF and FabH enzymes.96,97Several antibiotics have been found that inhibit two or more distinct targets that are not closely related components of the same pathway or process. Biochem. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Docquier J.-D.; Mangani S. (2013) Analysis of the Mechanism of Action of Potent Antibacterial Hetero-Tri-Organometallic Compounds: A Structurally New Class of Antibiotics. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Lomovskaya O.; Warren M. 54, 4335-4342. (2018) Antimicrobial Peptides from C-Terminal Amphipathic Region of E. Hosp. [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Lomovskaya O.; Warren M. 54, 4335-4342. (2018) Antimicrobial Peptides from C-Terminal Amphipathic Region of E. Hosp. [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Cheng M.; Ziora Z. 69, 585-607. It is the target of many natural antibiotics, most prominently host defense peptides.12 The cytoplasmic membrane harbors essential cellular processes, such as the respiratory chain and cell wall synthesis (Figure 1A), and many more important components, including Region of E. 10.1128/AAC.42.1.154. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Brötz H.; Bierbaum G.; Leopold K.; Reynolds P. 11, 1082-1087. Neither of these compounds have an effect on biofilms by themselves, and the mechanism behind this adjuvant activity is unknown.265 So far, no biofilm inhibitor has made the transition to the clinic, yet a number of preclinical studies show the promise of using such agents as antibiotic potentiators in the future. Combination therapy approaches may involve more than two compounds. E.; Venter G. E.; Gatner E. (1996) Malignant Pyoderma Responding to Clofazimine. (A) Targeting the same molecule (here, plectasin in red-yellow and dalbavancin in green-blue), (B) targeting the same pathway (here, plectasin in red-yellow), and (D) improving target accessibility (here, colistin in red-yellow), and teicoplanin in red-yellow), (C) targeting target accessibility (here, colistin in red-yellow), and teicoplanin in red-yellow and teicoplanin in red-yellow), and teicoplanin in red-yellow and teicoplanin in red-yellow), and teicoplanin in red-yellow and teicoplanin in red-yellow and teicoplanin in red-yellow), and teicoplanin in red-yellow and teico the same target molecule at multiple binding sites (Figure 3A). E.; Holt H. (1976) Action of Polymyxin B on Bacterial Membranes. M.; Sein T.; Schaufele R. L.; Rybak M. 23, 5694-5698. (2012) Synergistic Antibacterial Efficacy of Early Combination Treatment with Tobramycin and Quorum-Sensing Inhibitors against Pseudomonas Aeruginosa in an Intraperitoneal Foreign-Body Infection Mouse Model. Angew. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Kishony R. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Hegreness M.; Shoresh N.; Damian D.; Hartl D.; Shoresh N.; Da development, yet this has almost never been pursued. Pharmacotherapy 12, 161-173. (A-C) Antibiotics with intrinsically multi-effective properties. A.; Elf P. 80, 144. One class of potentiators are cell envelope permeabilizers, especially outer membrane-permeabilizing compounds (Figure 4A). Y.; Holmes D. Target mutations are only one way for bacteria to become antibiotic resistant. S.; Baker P.; Howell P. 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.9b01279. (2008) Macrolides as Immunomodulatory Medications for the Therapy of Chronic Lung Diseases. A different approach to combination strategies is using potentiators, sometimes also called antibiotic adjuvants. 133, 535-540. 10.1128/CMR.05041-11. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Gonzalez-Bello C.; Rodriguez A.; Colchon E. I.; Stiller M. 47, 1611-2. 22, 26-27. (1977) Properties of the Penicillin-Binding Proteins of Escherichia Coli K12. A.; Brul S. 53, 530-532. 10.2217/fmb.13.39. Some mechanisms of action presuppose multiple targets or at least multiple effects. such as targeting the cytoplasmic membrane or the carrier molecule bactoprenol phosphate and are therefore particularly promising. M.; Rautenbach M. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Crane J. Acta Derm.-Venereol. 10.4103/ijmr.IJMR 2079 17. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Xue J.; Moyer A.; Peng B.; Wu J.; Hannafon B. 226, 9-16. Most successful long-established antibiotics target more than one molecule or possess targets, which are encoded by multiple genes. T.; Vicente F.; Gonzalez I.; Salazar O.; Pelaez F.; Cummings R.; Ha S.; Wang J.; Singh S. 10.3390/antibiotics2010028. 17, 141-155. (2014) Small Cationic Antibiotic Adjuvant. 10.1039/C5MD00344J. (2017) Hidden Mode of Action of Glycopeptide Antibiotics: Inhibition of Wall Teichoic Acid Biosynthesis. Toxicol. It is therefore pivotal to examine the mechanism of a compound after short treatment times with sublethal concentrations. 4 The comparison of the effects observed under these conditions with those occurring at lethal concentrations or after prolonged treatment can give insight into which effects lead to cell death and which are a consequence thereof. 10.1016/j.bbamem.2012.02.019. L.; Tsuji B. 13, 207-214. In this Review, we provide an overview of multitarget antibiotics and combination approaches that are in current clinical use or have a chance to be applied in clinical settings in the future. Generally, the ability of a single drug to interact with more than one specific target is called polypharmacology.24 When talking about multitarget antibiotics, we distinguish between different levels of multitargeting. (2012) Antistaphylococcal Activity of TD-1792, a Multivalent Glycopeptide-Cephalosporin Antibiotic. 10.1007/s00253-017-8403-5. 10.1016/j.bmc.2019.06.025. (2009) Anti-Listerial Activity and Structure-Activity Relationships of the Six Major Tyrocidines, Cyclic Decapeptides from Bacillus Aneurinolyticus. This is, for example, the case for the PBP inhibitors ampicillin and imipenem.150 Another possibility for synergy is that two compounds inhibit independent targets in the same pathway (Figure 3B). 10.1021/acs.jpcb.7b00324. (2012) Proteomic Response of Bacillus Subtilis to Lantibiotics Reflects Differences in Interaction with the Cytoplasmic Membrane. Y.; Herron S. (2019) Multifunctional Pharmaceutical Effects of the Antibiotic Daptomycin. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Beavers W. J.; Upton E. (2017) A Tobramycin Vector Enhances Synergy and Efficacy of Efflux Pump Inhibitors against Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria. I.; van Dissel J. M.; Morrier Y.; Bannwarth B.; Bebear C. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Omardien S.; Drijfhout J. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Omardien Scholar]Om Scholar]Zhao W. (1), CD003344. T. T.; Chappell J.; Almqvist F.; Cover T. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]van Rensburg C. (2008) Immunomodulatory Properties of Antibiotics. H. A recent study found that the development of tolerance, i.e., the ability of bacteria to survive longer under antibiotic exposure without changing the antibiotic's minimal inhibitory concentration, to one drug may promote the transmission of resistance to the second drug.284 These unwanted effects of combination treatments seem to be due to the prolonged survival of bacteria and their exposure to sublethal antibiotic concentrations. 10.1016/j.coph.2005.06.002. Thus, the membrane pore-forming peptides tyrocidine A and C not only dissipate the membrane potential and lead to leakage of ions and small molecules but also reduce membrane-bound processes, including cell division, peptidoglycan synthesis, respiration, and ATP synthesis. 20 Such effects are not observed when the membrane potential is dissipated by specific ionophores. 56,57 The structurally similar peptide gramicidin S, which does not form distinct membrane potential and fluidity, only affects cell division and cell envelope synthesis proteins. 20,58 Dapto which is one of the few systemically applied membrane-targeting antibiotics, has recently been described to interfere with both peptidoglycan and phospholipid synthesis machinery.25,31,59Similar results have been obtained for host defense peptides and experimental compounds that are not yet in clinical application. M.; Benton B. Agents 48, 607-613. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Ulm H.; Schneider T. M.; Hansford K. (2016) Targeting Bactoprenol-Coupled Cell Envelope Precursors. Z.; Akter J.; Sivanesan S.; Roberts K. For example, clindamycin is used to treat acne for both its direct antibacterial action and its ability to decrease swelling and inflammatory activities. P.; Wenzel M.; Hamoen L. 498, 58-63. H.; Gallis H. 42, 154-160. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Greenwood D.; O'Grady F. 10.1128/AAC.01230-13. Int. Agents Chemother. However, it should be noted that daptomycin has been implicated to have immunomodulatory effects as well.144 Daptomycin already has multiple effects on bacterial cells, and both tetracycline and clofazimine have two distinct antibacterial targets. In this Review, we use the terminology intrinsically multi-effective, multitarget, and multifunctional. 10.1093/jac/dks002. Acta, Proteins Proteomics 1864, 645-654. E.; Raut A.; Aboutaleb M.; Sakoulas G.; Rybak M. This is, for example, the case for gramicidin A-C), tyrothricin (contains gramicidin A-C), structural variations depending on the polymyxin type).14,15 Such small structural variations can result in slightly different target interactions16-20 and may complicate resistance development by target alterations and antibiotic-cleaving or scavenging molecules. T.; Smith A. R.; Barber K. For example, the antiprotozoal drug pentamidine has been identified as an outer membrane-permeabilizing agent. (2019) Enhancing Uptake of Antibiotics into Gram-Negative Bacteria Using Nonribosome-Targeting Aminoglycoside-Based Adjuvants. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Matsuura M.; Nakazawa H.; Hashimoto T.; Mitsuhashi S. 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Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Tauber S. Several compounds have been identified that inhibit horizontal [CrossRef] [Cro gene transfer, yet in the majority of cases, this activity turned out to be due to secondary effects. 248 However, a small number of specific inhibitors have been found. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar] Fernandez-Cuenca F.; Martinez-Martinez L.; Pascual A.; Perea E. 48, 477-483. K.; Chapman J. 349, 475-486. G.; Bandow J. 10.1093/jac/41.2.281. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Palm J.; Fuchs K.; Stammer H.; Schumacher-Stimpfl A.; Milde J. (2016) Mechanisms of Resistance to Aminoglycoside Antibiotics: Overview and Perspectives. 6, 276-287. 33, 18-24. (2015) Inhibition of Aminoglycoside Acetyltransferase Resistance Enzymes by Metal Salts. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Du W.; Brown J. 10.1074/jbc.M111.248641. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Li Y.; Green K. 10.1067/mjd.2001.114733. W.; Stratton C. In 2018, its developing company Morphochem was acquired by Deinove, and the compound, now under the name DNV3837, finally went into phase II clinical trials for treatment of C. difficile infections in 2019.131 The study is planned to be completed in the summer of 2020.132 TNP-2092 is a stable rifamycin-resistant strains.120 TNP-2092 is a stage.133 TD-1607 is a stable glycopeptide-cephalosporin hybrid similar to cefilavancin. 5, 465-469. A.; Bibi E. (2014) Synergy between Essential Oil Components and Antibiotics: A Review. A.; Wenzel M. 10.1016/0190-9622(95)90134-5. For example, human β-defensin 3 forms a dimeric raft-like structure with two α-helices anchoring it to the hydrocarbon layer and binds to negatively charged lipid head goups.60 It has also been shown to bind the cell wall precursor lipid II with low affinity, probably due to electrostatic interactions with the pyrophosphate group.61 Thus, the defensin is attracted to sites of active cell division and cell wall synthesis, where its presence disturbs the interactions of the complex peptidoglycan synthetic machinery, which was coined the "sand in the gearbox" effect. 61 The structurally similar human β-defensin 2 binds to distinct membrane foci at nascent cell division septa, where it disturbs the function of SecA and sortase A, which specifically localize to these sites and are involved in the secretion of virulence factors.62 Other membrane-active compounds have been observed to have broader effects. Am. J. C.; Mulder P. 10.1128/AAC.48.2.477-483.2004. 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This resulted in a predominantly genomic-driven approach to antibiotic discovery, where single protein targets were evaluated, while compounds with multiple or complex targets were regarded to be unspecific and unsuitable for further development. Bioorg. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Stepanek J. 10.1021/acsinfecdis.8b00112. (2018) The Immunomodulatory Effects of Macrolides—A Systematic Review of the Underlying Mechanisms. Expert Rev. Drug Discovery 5, 883-902. 137, 278-291. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Strahl H.; Burmann F.; Hamoen L. (2010) Management of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis: An Update. 45, 536-537. 108, 17474-17479. 14, e1006876 10.1371/journal.ppat.1006876. (2016) Cell Wall Hydrolases and Antibiotics: Exploiting Synergy to Create Efficacious New Antibiotic for Treatments. (2014) In Vitro and in Vivo Antibiotic for Treatment of Clostridium Difficile Infections. 5, 32-36. (2008) How Many Modes of Action Should an Antibiotic Have?. 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Examples for Clinically Used Antibiotics with Multiple Mechanisms of Actionantibiotictargetsmechanism of actionrefIntrinsically Multi-effectived aptomycinphosphatidylglycerol, fluid lipid domains that harbor the cell wall synthesis machinery, immediately inhibits cell wall and membrane synthesis; prolonged treatment results in partial membrane depolarization and impairs several other membrane-bound processes(25, 26) gramicidin Smembrane induces membrane phase separation causing inhibition of cell envelope synthesis and cell division(20) vancomycinlipid II binds to lipid II, thereby inhibits peptidoglycan synthesis and cell division(20) vancomycinlipid II binds to lipid II, thereby inhibits peptidoglycan synthesis and cell division(20) vancomycinlipid II binds to lipid II, thereby inhibits peptidoglycan synthesis and cell division(20) vancomycinlipid II binds to lipid the inhibition of wall teichoic acid synthesis(27, 28) bacitracinbactoprenol pyrophosphate depletes the pool of bactoprenol phosphate resulting in inhibition of peptidoglycan and wall teichoic acid synthesis(29) nitrofurantoincellular macromolecules generates reactive oxygen species, which damage cellular macromolecules including DNA and membrane lipids(30, 31)acyldepsipeptidesClp proteasederegulates the Clp protease resulting in unspecific degradation of a variety of proteins(32, 33)bedaquilineATP synthase, depleting the ATP pool and resulting in the inhibition of all energy-consuming cellular processes(34)Multitargetpenicillin-binding proteinsinhibits multiple penicillin-binding proteins(8)ciprofloxacintopoisomerase II and IV(9)tetracyclineribosome and membrane function(31, 35)polymyxin Bouter and inner membrane of Gramnegative bacteria (36) tyrocidine membrane and probably DNAforms defined ion-conducting membrane pores; probably additionally binds to DNA(20, 37, 38) Multifunctional clindamycin50S rRNAanti-inflammatory (41-43) dapsoned hydropteroate synthaseanti-inflammatory (41-43) dapsoned hydropteroate synthaseanti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory (44, 40) clofazimine guarantee and probably DNAforms defined ion-conducting membrane pores; probably additionally binds to DNA(20, 37, 38) Multifunctional clindamycin50S rRNAanti-inflammatory (41-43) dapsoned hydropteroate synthaseanti-inflammatory (41-43) dapsoned hydropteroate sy 45)macrolides50S rRNAanti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory(46-48)metronidazoleDNAanti-inflammatory(49, 50)rifampicinDNA-dependent RNA polymeraseanti-inflammatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and membraneanti-inflammatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and membraneanti-inflammatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and membraneanti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and membraneanti-inflammatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and membraneanti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory(51, 52)tetracyclineribosome and immunomodulatory and immunomo multitude of cellular effects, is the cytoplasmic membrane. 61, 95-104. 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exact mechanisms underlying synergy are little understood.167 Synergy can also be observed between compounds that inhibit related processes (Figure 3C). 149, 97-106. Trends Ecol. (2013) When the Most Potent Combination of Antibiotics Selects for the Greatest Bacterial Load: The Smile-Frown Transition. M.; Kaniga K.; Schmidt D. B.; Penkova M.; Krämer U.; Erdmann R.; Metzler-Nolte N.; Straus S. Chem., Int. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Wang J.; Nong X.-H.; Amin M.; Qi S.-H. (2010) In Vitro Activity of the New Multivalent Glycopeptide-Cephalosporin Antibiotic TD-1792 against Vancomycin-Nonsusceptible Staphylococcus Isolates. 10.1128/CMR.00037-09. 10.1007/s00403-002-0381-4. 78, 2793-2800. 10.1002/14651858.CD003344.pub3. (2018) Bactericidal Activity of Amphipathic Cationic Antimicrobial Peptides Involves Altering the Membrane Fluidity When Interacting with the Phospholipid Bilayer. 10.1002/anie.201508330. 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Recent research gives the concept of polypharmacology another dimension by designing antibiotic adjuvants that possess multiple mechanisms themselves, such as outer membrane permeabilization and efflux pump inhibition, which synergistically increase the intracellular antibiotic concentration.197 While more research is needed to truly understand the complex mechanisms underlying some of these multiple activities, they have already taught us one important thing, namely, that we should not shy away from complex mechanisms and multiple targets but try to exploit their full potential for future drug development.M.W. received funding from Chalmers University of Technology and the Swedish Research Council (VR Starting Grant 2019-04521). 10.3389/fcell.2016.00007. 56, 395-411. W.; Sax H.; Kuster S. (2000) Two Active Forms of UDP-N-Acetylglucosamine Enolpyruvyl Transferase in Gram-Positive Bacteria. 10.1128/AAC.27.5.841. 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Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Vattimo M. 1, 68–79. Such dual membrane activity can often be a sign for poor selectivity for bacteria, and side effects are likely. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Va [Google Scholar]Saikia K.; Chaudhary N. Exp. Cell. E.; Thomas D. 10.1128/MMBR.56.3.395-411.1992. 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Recent efforts have yielded lipophilic vancomycin analogues that were able to permeabilize both the inner and outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria while retaining their ability to inhibit peptidoglycan activity.191 Attempts to fuse outer membrane-penetrating peptide sequences to the lantibiotic nisin, which by itself is not active against Gram-negative bacteria due to its inability to reach its inner membrane target, have resulted in hybrid molecules with significantly increased anti-Gram-negative bacteria due to its inability to reach its inner membrane target. activity.192,193 A similar approach is the hybridization of antibiotics with the aminoglycoside tobramycin.194 Tobramycin is known as a ribosome inhibitor but at higher concentrations primarily attacks and permeabilizes the outer membrane.195,196 It has been conjugated with efflux pump inhibitors,197 quinolones,198,199 and the chelator cyclam.200 The resulting conjugates turned out to be potent antibiotic adjuvants and increased the activity of tetracyclines, fluoroquinolones, and β-lactams against Gram-negative bacteria by increasing uptake and limiting efflux. 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There have also been approaches to develop inhibitors of horizontal gene transfer to prevent the spread of resistance genes.148 In the following, we will discuss these different approaches to antibiotic combination therapy. Examples for Well-Characterized Antibiotic Combinationsaantibiotic 1 antibiotic 2 mechanism of combinationse inhibits peptidoglycan synthesis pigallocatechin gallate binds to and disrupts the peptidoglycan layerd-cycloserine inhibits lipid II synthesis, and epigallocatechin gallate disrupts cell wall peptidoglycan(149)ampicillinb inhibition of PBPs; it also inhibits lipid II synthesis by abolishing membrane organization, which might interfere with the function of PBPs; it also inhibits lipid II synthesis by abolishing membrane organization. acid ribosome inhibition of PBPsinhibition of PBPsinhibition of translation might deplete β-lactamases(153, 156, 157)additiveampicillinb inhibition of PBPsinhibition of PBPsinhibition of PBPsinhibition of translation might deplete β-lactamases(153, 156, 157)additiveampicillinb inhibition of PBPsinhibition of translation might deplete β-lactamases(153, 156, 157)additiveampicillinb inhibition of PBPsinhibition of translation might deplete β-lactamases(153, 156, 157)additiveampicillinb inhibition additiveampicillinb inhi of PBPsboth antibiotics bind to the same site of PBP2A but with low affinity(150, 158, 159) azithromycinb ribosome inhibition of translation might deplete PBPs, requiring lower doses of imipenem(160, 161) indifferent suphamethoxazoleb inhibits dihydropteroate synthetasetrimethoprim inhibits dihydropteroate synthetasetrimethoprim inhibits dihydrofolate reductaseboth compounds target folate synthesis but at different steps; a combination is given to prevent rapid resistance development to a single drug rather than increase activity (162-164) potentiative amoxicilline) inhibition of PBPsclavulanate β-lactamase inhibitor clavulanate β-lactamase that degrades amoxicilline) inhibition of PBPsclavulanate β-lactamase inhibitor clavulanate inhibits the β-lactamase that degrades amoxicilline) inhibition of PBPsclavulanate β-lactamase inhibitor clavulanate β-lactamase 166)Synergistic compound combinations are known against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria and mycobacteria. 10.1073/pnas.77.2.866. 181, 3981-3993. 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(E) Polymyxins like poly anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory effects and is, for example, used against dermatitis herpetiformis, 136 or rifampicin, used against pruritus caused by primary biliary cholangitis.137 For other indications, the dual effects of these compounds are crucial for their therapeutic efficacy. 10.1128/AAC.21.5.693. 63, 617-623. 10.1016/0005-2787(75)90032-5. K. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Zhu Y. 11, 682-683. 10.1016/j.biomaterials.2018.03.016. Biochemistry 39, 11425-11433. (2018) Strategies for Combating Bacterial Biofilms: A Focus on Anti-Biofilm Agents and Their Mechanisms of Action. 10.3389/fmicb.2017.02409. 10.1073/pnas.1005485107. F.; Straus S. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Stuart M. D.; Nation R. K.; Harris J.; Taylor S. (2005) Beta-Lactams against Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus. 11, 1519-1522. 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A similar strategy, yet much more exploited, is the direct targeting of bacterial resistance mechanisms (Table 4). Examples for Resistance-Breaking Compounds resistance breakerantibioticmechanismrefclavulanateaamoxicillineß-lactamase inhibitor(221)tazobactamaceftazidime, ceftaroline, aztreonamß-lactamase enzymes(222)PABNerythromycin, chloramphenicolefflux pump inhibitor(224, 225)IMP-1700quinolonessensitizer (SOS response)(212, 217)colistinarifampinpermeabilizer(226-228)dispersin Bseveral possiblebiofilm inhibitor(229-231)dehydrocrepenyc acidseveral possibleinhibitor of horizonta gene transfer(232) streptazolinseveral possible immunomodulator(233) The most prominent example for this is the inhibition of β-lactamase activity 234 (Figure 4C). DNA damage is sensed by the RecA protein, which induces autoproteolysis of the LexA repressor, leading to derepression of DNA repair genes. (2017) Rhodomyrtone Inhibits Lipase Production, Biofilm Formation, and Disorganizes Established Biofilm in Propionibacterium Acnes. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.241.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.241.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107. C.; Alosaimy S.; Mynatt R. Y. E.; Sahl H.-G.; Labischinski H. 10.1128/AAC.24.1.107 the Discovery of New Antimicrobial Agents. H.; Galgoci A.; Painter R.; Dorso K.; Racine F.; Motyl M.; Hernandez L.; Tinney E.; et al. E.; Young K. (2016) Development of Efflux Pump Inhibitors in Antituberculosis Therapy. 10.1046/j.1432-1327.1998.2570210.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Mesa-Arango A. D.; Ramakrishnan V.; Chaudhary N. (2016) Development of Efflux Pump Inhibitors in Antituberculosis Therapy. 10.1046/j.1432-1327.1998.2570210.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Mesa-Arango A. D.; Ramakrishnan V.; Chaudhary N. (2016) Development of Efflux Pump Inhibitors in Antituberculosis Therapy. 10.1046/j.1432-1327.1998.2570210.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Mesa-Arango A. D.; Ramakrishnan V.; Chaudhary N. (2016) Development of Efflux Pump Inhibitors in Antituberculosis Therapy. 10.1046/j.1432-1327.1998.2570210.x. 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This is well-described for a range of antibiotics, and some are even used to treat conditions unrelated to infections due to these properties. Microbiology 135, 3023-3034. Q.; Schmidt N. A.; Hurwitz M. Ophthalmol. L.; Espinosa M.; Lanka E.; de la Cruz F. L.; Edwards A. 10.1021/bi401363m. 10.1080/17460441.2016.1187597. 72, 3349-3352. However, if the effects of the combination exceed the expected additive effects, the combination is called synergistic. Am. Acad. Most prominently, such compounds may have anti-inflammatory or immunomodulatory properties (Table 1). M.; Courvalin P.; Meziane-Cherif D. Investig. (1998) Propionibacterium Acnes Isolated from Synovial Tissue and Fluid in a Patient with Oligoarthritis Associated with Acne and Pustulosis. However, hybrid molecules may encounter other challenges like solubility and uptake.125Another risk of combination therapy is antimicrobial resistance. A.; Sutton M. 109, 51-58. M.; Martin S.; Zechner E. 10.1093/toxsci/kft247. L.; Yule I. 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[PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Pasquale T. R.; Garneau-Tsodikova S. Microb. This is especially critical for otherwise slowly occurring resistance mechanisms like enzymatic resistance.246 Importantly, the human (or animal) microbiota can act as a reservoir for resistance plasmids that may spread to pathogenic bacteria during infection. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Bosscha M. (2016) Anti-Inflammatory and Immunomodulatory Effects of Antibiotics and Their Use in Dermatology (1985) Synthesis and Characterization of D-Alanyl-D-Alanine-Agarose. (1998) Synergy of Antibiotics against Streptomyces Somaliensis Isolates in Vitro. I.; Otto A.; Zweytick D.; May C.; Schumacher C.; Gust R.; Albada H. 10.3892/ijmm.2018.3473. (1996) Effective Treatment of Multidrug-Resistant Enterococcal Experimental Endocarditis with Combinations of Cell Wall-Active Agents. [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Loll P. 10.1111/j.1432-1033.1977.tb11258.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Denome S. This is, for example, the case for colistin and polymyxin B and the reason why they are only employed as the last resort antibiotics for otherwise resistant infections.98,204–206 However colistin nonapeptide and polymyxin B hepta-, octa-, and nonapeptide are derivatives of these compounds that retain their membrane-permeabilizing but not act as strong potentiators of antibiotics with otherwise poor anti-Gram-negative activity.184,207,208 At the same time, it is much less toxic than full-length polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin derivative with similar properties as polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin derivative with similar properties as polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies, it is not used for combination therapy in the clinic.211 However, a polymyxin B.184,209,210 While these properties have been demonstrated by many different studies. developed and successfully passed its first phase I clinical trial.211 Compounds like polymyxin B nonapeptide or NAB741 hold great promise as potentiators of a wide range of antibiotics that would otherwise be ineffective against Gram-negative infections. 10.3389/fmicb.2017.01867. 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[PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Breukink E.; Wiedemann I.; van Kraaij C.; Kuipers O. 10.1128/AAC.04099-14. 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For example, trimethoprim is combined with sulfonamides to prevent quick resistance development by a single target mutation, and erythromycin is often given together with penicillin for their synergistic effect.23 Since more and more pathogens become resistant to individual antibiotics, it has become pivotal to thoroughly explore multitarget approaches to combat resistant bacteria. (2015) Two Mechanisms of Killing of Pseudomonas Aeruginosa by Tobramycin Assessed at Multiple Inocula via Mechanism-Based Modeling. Drugs 8, 600-607. J.; Sheehan-Dare R. A.; Speight T. Agents 29, 630-636. G.; de Kruijff B. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Dinos G. (2013) Anti-Infective Properties of Epigallocatechin-3-Gallate (EGCG), a Component of Green Tea. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Drew R. Chem. Gene Cloning, Characterization, and Kinetics of Its Alanine Racemase and D-Alanyl-D-Alanine Ligase, Which Are Target Enzymes of D-Cycloserine. Front. Cell Dev. Swiss Med. 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Both of them display synergy with antibiotics with intracellular targets, which can at least partially be attributed to increased outer membrane permeability.175,181,182 Many other outer membrane-permeabilizing agents are known, for example, chelators like EDTA, metal ions, and certain antimicrobial peptides, but many of these have little clinical promise.183-188 However, several compounds have recently been described that could make the step into clinical practice in the future. 4, 117-127. F.; Watanabe M.; da Fonseca C. (2012) Oritavancin: Mechanism of Action. M.; Parrillo J. It first establishes contact with lipid II, inhibiting peptidoglycan synthesis. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Jorgensen S. Thus, both targets are in close proximity. 10.1016/j.bbamem.2018.09.011. (2001) Tetracycline Antibiotics: Mode of Action, Applications, Molecular Biology, and Epidemiology of Bacterial Resistance. 139, 459-464. For example, β-lactam antibiotics typically target more than one transpeptidase, and quinolones inhibit both topoisomerases II and IV.8,9 Antibiotics that truly have one single protein targeting an enzyme involved in folate synthesis or rifampicin targeting RNA polymerase, are famous for high resistance development and are therefore usually administered in combination regimes. 10,11Naturally occurring antibiotics often do not have strict single targets either. Indian J. N.; Skaar E. L.; Tran T.; Adams C.; Alam J. Updates 3, 155–160. 398, 339–363. E.; Palm M.; Warringer J.; Farewell A. 10.4155/fmc-2019-0131. Drug Resist. 130, 744.e1-744.e7. (2019) The Concept of an Ideal Antibiotic: Implications for Drug Design. J.; Kline K. D. (2014) Investigations of the Mode of Action and Resistance Development of Clostridium Difficile Infections. 40, 127-135. Acta Biol. 10.1080/1040841X.2018.1423616. (1998) In-Vitro Activity of the Combination of Colistin and Rifampicin against Multidrug-Resistant Strains of Acinetobacter Baumannii. This is, for example, observed with the outer membrane-permeabilizing peptide colistin in combination with drugs that have inner membrane-bound or cytosolic targets, such as the β-lactam meropenem, the ribosome inhibitor minocycline, and fosfomycin, which inhibits the first enzyme in the lipid II pathway.175 This is an important anti-Gram-negative strategy that will be discussed in more detail in the following chapter. ACS Chem. 10.1016/j.colsurfb.2017.05.025. 10.1124/pr.55.1.2. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Brotz H.; Josten M.; Wiedemann I. Schneider U.; Gotz F.; Bierbaum G.; Sahl H. D.; Strahl H.; Hall M. 10.1007/BF00425112. T.; Kuijper E. 10.1128/AAC.21.5.770. 10.1093/jac/41.4.494. J.; Garey K. Z. (2018) An Update on Beta-Lactamase Inhibitor Discovery and Development. 10.1016/j.jcf.2011.06.002. For example, the membrane-disruptive peptides TC19 and TC84, which are derived from the microbicidal blood platelet protein thrombocidin,63 lead to large-scale disruption of membrane organization and affect a multitude of cellular processes, including cell division, peptidoglycan synthesis, respiration, ATP synthesis, and spore outgrowth.64–66 Such a broad panel of effects raises the following questions: which ones are due to the multifaceted mechanisms of the compounds and which are merely a consequence of cell death? (1999) Use of the Cell Wall Precursor Lipid II by a Pore-Forming Peptide Antibiotic. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Kissoyan K. 45, 105-116. 194, 1008-1018. 65, 232-60. bioRxiv 820191. 10.1128/AAC.01620-09. 10.1002/anie.200701058. C.; Pla J.; Cuenca-Estrella M.; Zaragoza O. (2016) Dual Mechanism of Action of the Atypical Tetracycline Chelocardin. 10.1002/j.1875-9114.1992.tb04504.x. 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Biomol. 2, 132–139. 1838, 1199–1207. 10.1586/ecp.12.74. 10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2018.10.002. Hence, newer efforts rather focus on stable hybrids.118-120 These approaches have been recently reviewed in detail,117,121 but we want to give a brief overview of the molecules Currently under Clinical Development (Table 2). Antibiotic 2 inhibited process 2stagerefcadazolidquinolone topoisomerases II and IVoxazolidinone translationphase III(122)cefilavancin (TD-1792)vancomycin lipid IIcephalosporin PBPsphase III(123)DNV3837 (MCB-3681)afluoroquinolone topoisomerases II and IVoxazolidinone translationphase III(122)cefilavancin (TD-1792)vancomycin lipid IIcephalosporin PBPsphase III(123)DNV3837 (MCB-3681)afluoroquinolone topoisomerases II and IVoxazolidinone translationphase III(123)DNV3837 (MCB-3681)afluoroquinolone topoisomerases II and IVoxazolidinone topoisomerases II and IVoxazolid topoisomerases II and IVphase II(120)TD-1607glycopeptide lipid IIcephalosporin PBPsphase I(125)Cadazolid is a stable hybrid of a quinolone and oxazolidinone and oxazolidinone and currently in phase III clinical trials for the treatment of Clostridium difficile infections.122,126 It primarily inhibits translation but also topoisomerase activity and shows low resistance development rates.127 Cefilavancin is a stable hybrid molecule of vancomycin and a third-generation cephalosporin, which is currently undergoing phase III clinical trials for complicated skin and soft tissue infections.121 This hybrid compound is active against both methicillin and vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, yet it has not been verified to which extent it inhibits lipid II and PBPs.128,129 MCB-3681 is a stable fluoroquinolone-oxazolid.124 It is active against strains that are resistant to both ciprofloxacin and linezolid.130 MCB-3681 was scheduled to undergo phase II clinical trials since 2015 and was granted fast track status by the FDA in 2016.124 Instead, it was further developed into a prodrug molecule, MCB-3837. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Wenzel M.; Bandow J. K.; Pathania R. This leads to the uncontrolled proteolysis of intact cytosolic proteins and among them the key cell division protein FtsZ.32,33,88Translation inhibitors that target the bacterial ribosome always bind to rRNAs, which are encoded in multiple copies in the bacterial genome.5,89 While they only have one binding site, their resistance development rates are reduced, since an impaired ability to produce proteins hampers multiple cellular processes including the ability to elicit an appropriate stress response and thus prevents stress adaptation. H.; Waters C. mBio 9, e00802-18 10.1128/mBio.00802-18. 49, 1127-1134. (accessed 2020-03-10) DNV3837/DNV3681: First-in-class antibiotic candidate, . (2013) Focal Targeting by Human β-Defensin 2 Disrupts Localized Virulence Factor Assembly Sites in Enterococcus Faecalis. 10.1073/pnas.1319900111. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Wiese A.; Gutsmann T.; Seydel U. 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For example, unsaturated fatty acid species from tropical fruits and their synthetic derivatives were able to inhibit the transfer of the most important resistance-related plasmid types in several Gram-negative pathogens.232,249 Likewise, a mutation of a competence-stimulating peptide from Streptococcus pneumoniae has resulted in peptide versions that reduced competence and, thus, horizontal gene transfer.250 As mentioned earlier, zinc was able to inhibit the bacterial SOS response, which interestingly, also impaired horizontal gene transfer between enterobacteria.214 Secretion systems could be a promising target for such molecules as well. difficile infections, A. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]MacGowan A. 60, 3913–3932. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]WHO . [PubMed] proposed to be a key to successful antibiotic treatment, should be paid particular attention in combination regimes, even if lowering drug doses can be tempting to reduce adverse effects.6,276Many fascinating approaches have been and are currently being developed to target multiple molecules in bacterial cells. 10.3389/fmicb.2018.02277. 10.1086/506617. These molecules have been extensively reviewed elsewhere. 240-244 Despite these efforts, no efflux pump inhibitor has advanced to clinical development yet. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Gupta S.; Cohen K. 10.1080/13543784.2017.1304538. 10.1073/pnas.71.8.2928. (2018) In-Vitro Characterisation of a Novel Antimicrobial Agent, TNP-2092, against Helicobacter Pylori Clinical Isolates. V; Kohl B.; Siersma T.; Bandow J. T.; Fierro J. An example for this is not a universal phenomenon, and other antibiotics that target the same molecule might only have additive effects. 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(B) Einding of antibiotics to lipid II or its carrier molecule undecaprenyl(pyro)phosphate (here: bacitracin binding. 10.1128/CMR.00117-14. (B) Einding of antibiotics to lipid II or its carrier molecule undecaprenyl(pyro)phosphate (here: bacitracin binding. 10.1128/CMR.00117-14. (B) Einding of antibiotics to lipid II or its carrier molecule undecaprenyl(pyro)phosphate (here: bacitracin binding. 10.1128/CMR.00117-14. (B) Einding of antibiotics to lipid II or its carrier molecule undecaprenyl(pyro)phosphate (here: bacitracin binding. 10.1128/CMR.00117-14. (B) Einding of antibiotics to lipid II or its carrier molecule undecaprenyl(pyro)phosphate (here: bacitracin binding. 10.1128/CMR.0011 UDP-PP) depletes the carrier pool, affecting both the synthesis of wall teichoic acids (WTA) and lipid II. 10.1016/j.mimet.2012.09.033. 10.1128/AAC.49.7.2954-2958.2005. B.; Sarkar P.; Akkapeddi P.; Paramanandham K.; Shome B. 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(1996) Group of Peptides and Teicoplanin against Planktonic and Biofilm-Encased Staphylococcus Aureus. (2015) Profiling of β-Lactam Selectivity for Penicillin-Binding Proteins in Escherichia Coli Strain DC2. 64, e02055-19 10.1128/AAC.02055-19 10.1128/AAC.02055-1 producers often produce a mix of structurally related compounds. (2013) Inhibitors of the Aminoglycoside 6'-N-Acetyltransferase Type Ib [AAC(6')-Ib] Identified by in Silico Molecular Docking. M.; Evans L. 169, 456-459. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Trivedi H. They permeabilize the outer membrane by targeting lipopolysaccharides, inhibit the outer membrane protein complex Bam, which is involved in the folding and insertion of β -barrel proteins in the outer membrane.135 One of these compounds is currently undergoing preclinical toxicology studies.135It will be exciting to see whether these hybrid molecules will receive FDA approval and how they will ultimately perform in the clinic. 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L.; Antelmann H.; Helmann J. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Pokrovskaya V.; Baasov T. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Wenzel M.; Kohl B.; Münch D.; Raatschen N.; Albada H. Thus, the administration of an inhibitor of horizontal gene transfer in combination with antibiotic treatment could decrease the incidence of resistance transfer from a reservoir to an infectious strain.247 This is an interesting concept but remains to be tested in infection experiments. Interestingly, biofilm-degrading enzymes have been shown to remain active when immobilized on a surface, suggesting future applications in medical device technologies. 259 Short glycans have been shown to disrupt P. aeruginosa biofilms and subsequently increase the efficacy of antibiotics against it.260 The small peptide 1018 targets the stringent response (p)ppGpp signaling, which is involved in biofilm-dispersing agent not only for P. aeruginosa but also for other pathogens including Klebsiella pneumoniae and S. aureus.261 Peptide 1018 also resulted in decreased virulence of P. aeruginosa in a murine skin infection model.262 Similarly, small molecule quorum sensing inhibitors have been shown to increase the efficacy of tobramycin against P. aeruginosa in a foreign-body infection model in mice.263 Micafungin, which inhibits the synthesis of the pseudomonal cell wall component 1,3-β-d-glucan, was demonstrated to prevent P. aeruginosa biofilm formation and improved the outcome of antibiotic therapy in P. aeruginosa-infected mice, particularly when the fatty acid synthesis inhibitor triclosan, which has been commonly used in hygiene products like toothpaste, was applied ycosides like tobramycin, a strong antibiofilm activity was observed. Thereby, they disrupt the permeability barrier, a feature that vancomycin resistance.7,71 Daptomycin could be included in this group as well, since it likewise inserts into the cell together with aminog membrane and impairs cell wall synthesis.25 However, at least to our current knowledge, it only binds a single molecular target, namely, phosphatidylglycerol-containing lipids.113-116Inspired by the clinical success of these multitarget antibiotics, approaches have been undertaken to develop dual-target molecules. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Kocaoglu O.; Carlson E. 10.1016/j.bbamem.2018.07.002. L.; Rasche M. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Weidenmaier C.; Peschel A. M.; Caparon M. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Weidenmaier C.; Peschel A. M.; Caparon M. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Weidenmaier C.; Peschel A. M.; Caparon M. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Weidenmaier C.; Peschel A. M.; Caparon M. 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Multitarget antibiotics can be divided into multitarget compounds that target more than one isoenzyme or closely related proteins of the same pathway and multitarget compounds that target more than one isoenzyme or closely related proteins of the same pathway and multitarget compounds that target more than one isoenzyme or closely related proteins of the same pathway and multitarget compounds that target more than one isoenzyme or closely related proteins of the same pathway and multitarget compounds that target more target mo [Google Scholar]Vaara M.; Vaara T. (A) Disrupting cytoplasmic membrane integrity, e.g., by gramicidin S, affects membrane-bound processes, most prominently respiration and lipid II synthesis. 60, 8268-8297. (accessed 2020-03-10) Antimicrobial resistance fact sheet, C. 108, 2968-2977. (2020) Effect of Tolerance on the Evolution of Antibiotic Resistance under Drug Combinations. [PMC free article] [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Sharma A.; Gupta V. 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[PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Silver L. 58, 901-908. 10.1046/j.1365-2958.1988.01065.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Silver L. 58, 901-908.01065.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Silver L. 58, 901-908.01065.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Silver L. 58, 901-908.01065.x. [PubMed] [CrossRef principle of the intrinsically multiple effects of such compounds is the same in all organisms. These effects have also been predicted for other multiprotein machineries like the respiratory chain. We will first discuss those compounds that target related proteins of the same pathway. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]Zimmermann P.; Ziesenitz V. 8, 943-950. (1999) Escherichia Coli Mutants Lacking All Possible Combinations of Eight Penicillin Binding Proteins: Viability, Characteristics, and Implications for Peptidoglycan Synthesis. 10.3390/molecules24020249. (2018) Hygrocin C from Marine-Derived Streptomyces Sp. 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