

Antimicrobials and Related Compounds

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ABSTRACT

An antimicrobial is an agent that kills microorganism or stops their growth. For example, antibiotics are used against bacteria and antifungals are used against fungi. The use of antimicrobial medicines to treat infection is known as antimicrobial chemotherapy. The main classes of antimicrobial agents are disinfectants, antiseptics, antibiotics. Antibiotics do not include antimicrobial substances that are synthetic or semi synthetic. Several bioassays such as disk- diffusion, well diffusion and agar and broth dilutions are common methods. The antimicrobial activity of plant extracts and phytochemicals was evaluated with antibio susceptible and resistant microorganism. In additon, the possible synergistic effects when associated with antibiotics were studied. Eventhough pharmacological industries have produced a number of new antibiotics. A method using scanning electron microscope to study the morphology of the bacterial and fungal microbes determines antimicrobial activity.