



Effect of Ultraviolet Radiation on *Pseudomonas Aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus Aureus* and *Enterococcus*

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between both authors. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

Background: The study of microorganism is called microbiology, which includes bacteria, viruses, fungi and Protozoa. Microbes play a major role in this field. Microbes are also used for life-saving drugs etc.. The effect of ultraviolet rays on the bacterias are mostly lethal to them, UV is a minor fraction of the solar spectrum reaching the ground surfaces, the UV light radiation will reduce the microbes in the surroundings as well as in the labs.

Aim: The aim of this study was to evaluate the effect of the ultraviolet rays on pathogenic bacterias.

Materials and methods: Three organisms were selected for the study. *Pseudomonas*, *S. Aureus* and *Enterococcus*. 30 watts Uv tube was used to evaluate the antibacterial activity of the Uv radiation. The exposure time was determined as 5, 10 and 15 mins at a close distance of 10cm. 20 microliter of suspension was taken and mixed in 2 ml of sterile normal saline and exposed for respective duration. Sub culture was done on suitable media after the exposure . Time exposed plates were incubated at 37 degree Celsius overnight and checked for the total CFU and data were tabulated.

Results: The Ultraviolet radiation of pathogenic bacteria resulted in a significant reduction of the total colony forming unit.

Conclusion: Ultraviolet rays were lethal to the bacterias. There are many airborne bacterias surrounded by environment ultraviolet rays exposure will cause an apparent decrease in the pathogenic bacterias.

Keywords: *Bacteria; Effect; Eco friendly; Pathogenic and Ultraviolet; Innovative technology; Innovative technique.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The study of microorganisms is microbiology, Which is unicellular, multicellular or acellular. Numerous sub-disciplines of microbiology include virology, bacteriology, protistology, mycology, immunology and parasitology [1,2]. Ultraviolet(UV) is a part of the electromagnetic spectrum with a wavelength range 10nm and a related frequency of 400nm, shorter than visible light, but longer than X-rays. In sunlight, UV radiation is present and represents around 10 percent of the overall generation of the electromagnetic radiation from the sun [3]. To most humans, ultraviolet rays are invisible. The human eye's lens blocks most radiation in the 300-400nm wavelength range; the cornea blocks shorter wavelengths [4]. Ultra-violet lamps are used in biological and surgical equipment to sterilize work spaces and instruments, Ultraviolet radiation is used to destroy undesirable microorganisms in some food systems. UV can be used for pasteurizing fruit juice using an ultraviolet medium of high strength and disinfection using UV radiation is commonly used in wastewater treatment applications [5].

The classical use of the ultraviolet has occurred in biological safety in laboratories, in recent years it is also used for the inactivation of the growth of microorganisms [6]. By forming dimers in RNA and DNA, ultraviolet light inactivates microorganisms that interfere with the transcription and replication [6]. The adoption of UV lamps, such as ozone generating low pressure Hg vapour lamps, can be an effective means of disinfecting the microorganisms in the air. As a light source, many current infection prevention devices use low pressure mercury vapour lamps. This is a low-cost source of high-energy photons. Pulsed xenon light source technology has recently emitted a large spectrum of light [7]. Some important Pathogenic bacteria are salmonella species, listeria monocytogenes, Escherichia coli and staphylococcus aureus etc., are espoused in the uv rays [8]. Escherichia coli is an indigenous bowel of healthy people and warm-blooded animals and accounts for about

1% of the global biomass of bacteria [9]. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a common, Gram-negative, rod-like shape bacteria that also causes disease in humans, plants and animals [10]. Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infections have been extensively used in home and hygiene settings in disinfectants and biocidal materials. While the principal bactericidal effect of biocides has been reported for cytoplasmic membrane integrity disruptions, little is known about the biochemical changes caused by such chemical agents [11]. Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that has translate into high quality publications [12–16].

Photocatalytic sterilisation by UV light illumination with a wavelength of 254 nm is one of the standard methods of sterilisation, which provides a high rate of sterilisation at room temperature [17]. The mechanism of microorganisms' UVC inactivation is to trigger cell damage by causing changes in the chemical structure of DNA chains [18]. The effect is the development of cyclobutane pyrimidine dimers (CPDs) that cause DNA molecule distortion, which may cause cell replication malfunctions and lead to cell death [19]. Ultraviolet radiation prevents the infection and diseases transmitted by the pathogenic bacteria through air [20]. The aim of this study is to evaluate the effect of ultraviolet radiation on pathogenic bacterias.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Three organisms were selected for the study. *Pseudomonas*, *S. Aureus* and *Enterococcus*. 30 watts Uv tube was used to evaluate the antibacterial activity of the Uv radiation. The exposure time was determined as 5, 10 and 15 mins at a close distance of 10cm. 20 microliter of suspension was taken and mixed in 2 ml of sterile normal saline and exposed for respective duration. Sub culture was done on suitable media media after the exposure . The subcultured plates were incubated at 37 degree Celsius overnight and checked for the total CFU and data were tabulated.

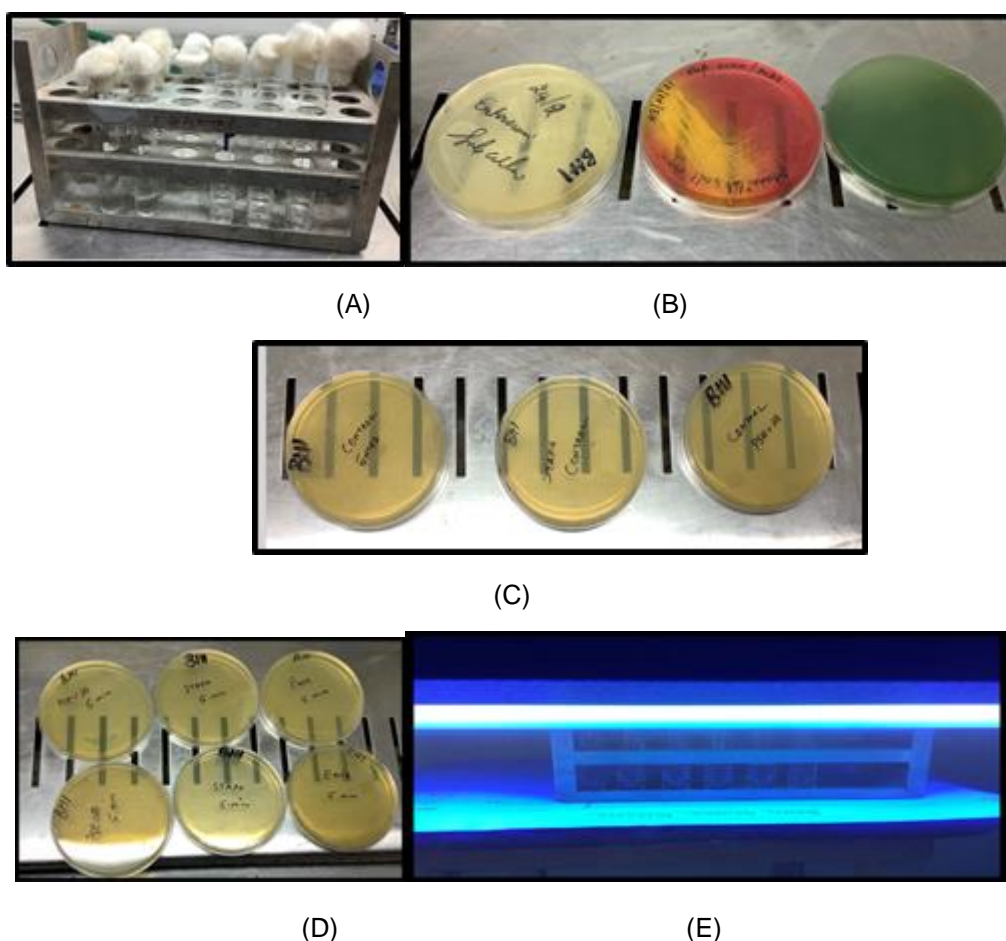


Fig. 1. This figure represents [A] denotes bacterial suspension, [B] denotes bacterial organisms, [C] denotes control culture plates, [D] denotes culture plates of bacteria and [E] denotes UV exposure on pathogenic bacterias

3. RESULTS

In this study it is found that UV rays have antimicrobial activity against the three organisms tested. It is also found that the efficacy is increased on the extended duration of exposure. It can be assumed that the longer duration exposure may completely eliminate the bacterial population. Only unpredictable factor is the bacterial load and the time required to do so. According to this study, it can be used to maintain sterility and independent as an agent for sterilization.

Table 1. This table represents the total colony forming units of susceptible organisms tested

Timings	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	Control
Pseudomonas Aeruginosa	1448	1000	550	1400
Staphylococcus aureus	800	700	656	1280
Escherichia coli	720	680	684	1456

Table 2. This table represents the percentage reduction of bacterias in 15 minutes

Organisms	Percentage reduction in 15 minutes
Pseudomonas Aeruginosa	39%
Staphylococcus aureus	51%
Escherichia coli	47%

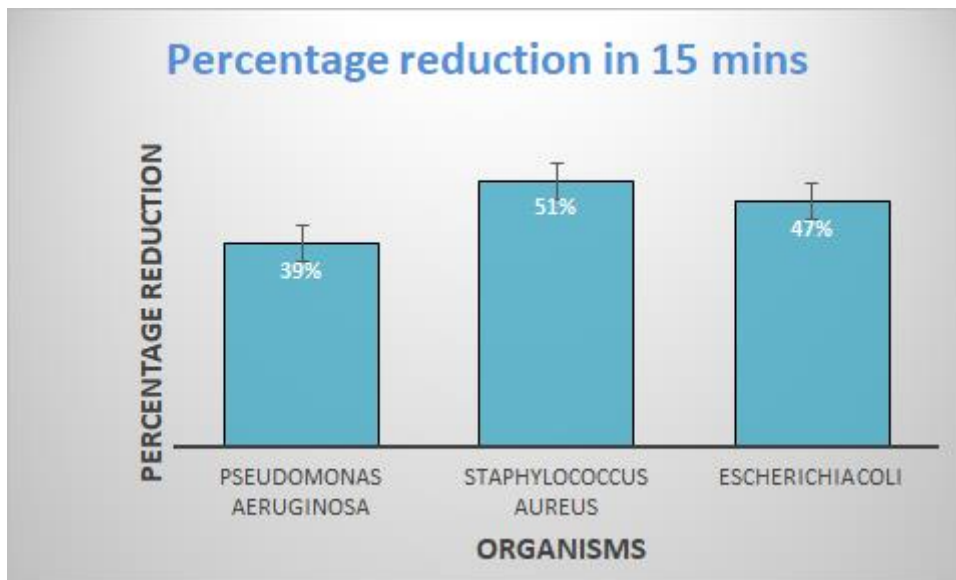


Fig. 2. This figure represents the percentage reduction of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *S. aureus* and *E. coli* in 15 minutes. X axis refers to bacterial organisms and Y axis refers to the percentage reduction in 15 minutes

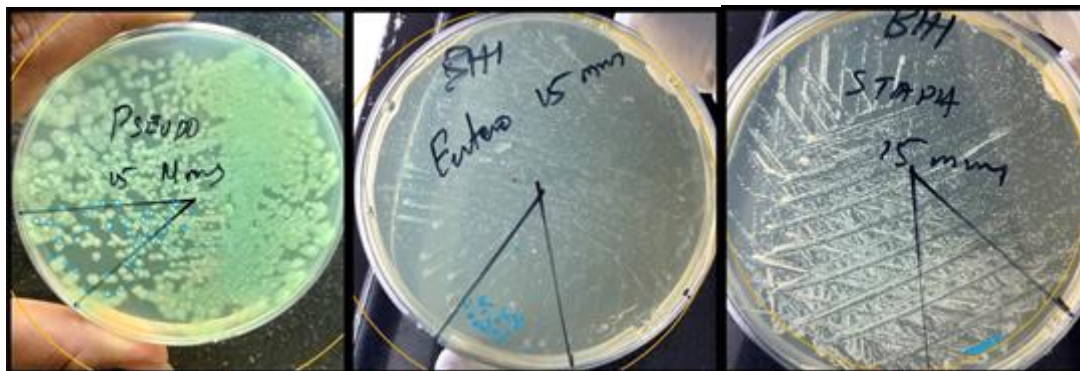


Fig. 3. This figure represents the pathogenic bacterial colonies which were formed after the exposure of UV radiation for 15 minutes

4. DISCUSSION

The main goal of this study is to prove that Ultraviolet radiation treatment for disinfecting the pathogenic bacteria in hospitals and laboratories. This study showed that UV light exposure led to reduction of total colony forming units. Table 1 summarizes the total colony forming unit of all bacteria i.e., *S. aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *E. coli*. Table 2 summarises the percentage reduction of bacteria in 15 minutes. A detailed description about the percentage reduction of bacteria in 15 minutes is described as a bar chart in Fig. 1. The results showed that the decreasing order of pathogenic bacteria gets disinfected with the ultraviolet radiation treatment in the order of

Pseudomonas aeruginosa > *Escherichia coli* > *Staphylococcus aureus*. The population of foodborne pathogens on chicken decreased by an increased UV-C radiation dose had been proved by the study done by Chun et al., that supports the present study [21]. Previous study done by Pereire et al., proved that With the ultimate mean IgG decline by about 50 percent, the UVC treatment of colostrum dramatically lowered Ig G concentration [6]. The study done by Thai et al., concluded that ultraviolet C radiation was lethal to the organism like *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* supports present study [22]. Previous study proved that This knowledge also indicates that UV light at 254 nm is a bactericidal substance for

S. aureus and *E. faecalis* antibiotic resistant strains even as brief as five seconds and enterococcus bacteria are more likely to destroy UV. The findings, indicating that the inactivation of a large number of medically significant bacteria (including the *Staphylococcus aureus* methicillin-resistant) indicate the potential for a new decontamination system for a variety of applications with a narrow, 405-Nm spectrum visible lighting from an LED source [23].

Research has shown that UVCs can cause DNA damage somewhat to mammalian cells at successful antimicrobial doses. The damage to UVC-induced DNA has also been found, however, to be repaired quickly by DNA enzymes. There has also been research into the role of UVC irradiation in wound healing and variable outcomes [24]. There has also been research into the role of UVC irradiation in wound healing and variable outcomes. While pathogens prevent the healing of infected wounds, UVC microorganisms may be expected to improve the healing of wounds in infected wounds [25]. Previous study by Walker et al., concluded that UV rays can serve to prevent transmission of respiratory viral diseases through an effective control measure [26]. The high UV sensitivity of aerosol coronavirus suggests that UV disinfection is an effective tool for preventing significant respiratory viral diseases such as SARS [26]. For the increase in radiation dose at a given wavelength, *e. coli* cells reduce exponentially. Furthermore, the radiation dose required to kill a particular portion of the *E. coli* cells increases exponentially with increased radiation wavelength [27] As UV disinfection is more common in drinking water and in clinical and industrial facilities, the bactericidal effects of UV and visible light on this bacterial species should be investigated [28]. Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that has translate into high quality publications [29-45].

The limitation of this study is that it is confined to a limited number of culture plates and organisms. The study was conducted using 3 organisms in about 18 culture plates for each time interval and 3 culture plates for control. The future scope of this study is that it can be done on large scale culture plates by using various pathogens that are present in hospitals and laboratories.

5. CONCLUSION

The germicidal treatment of UV rays was used on three different organisms (*Pseudomonas*,

E.coli, *staphylococcus*).UV light at safe wavelength to be used is to reduce the colony count as it is not too strong and has a high efficiency in eradicating microorganisms. But higher radiation of UV light is lethal to pathogenic bacteria, this was proved by this present study. Among the 3 bacterial organisms, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* showed a quick percentage in reduction in about 15 minutes. Therefore, UV light can be a method to control microorganisms and there is no complete reduction of numbers although microorganisms maybe can repair this damage. The efficacy of the ultraviolet radiation will be proportional to bacterial load in the system and the effect is based on the availability on the surface.

DISCLAIMER

The products used for this research are commonly and predominantly use products in our area of research and country. There is absolutely no conflict of interest between the authors and producers of the products because we do not intend to use these products as an avenue for any litigation but for the advancement of knowledge. Also, the research was not funded by the producing company rather it was funded by personal efforts of the authors.

CONSENT

It is not applicable.

ETHICAL AAPPROVAL

It is not applicable.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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