

## Evaluation of anti-microbial activity of filtrates of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* and *Saccharomyces boulardii* against antibiotic-resistant gram-negative bacteria

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The article presents the results of the first study on the influence of biologically active substances *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG ATCC 53103 and *Saccharomyces boulardii*, obtained according to the author's method, on growth of gram-negative bacteria with broad medical resistance: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PR, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* PR, *Lelliottia amnigena* (*Enterobacter amnigenus*) PR using the spectrophotometric method. Disintegrates of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* were obtained using low-frequency ultrasound processing of suspension of probiotic strains, and metabolites – through cultivation of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes in disintegrates of probiotic microorganisms. To samples of test-cultures with studied filtrates of disintegrates or metabolites we added growth medium and cultivated them (period of monitoring was 5- and 24-hours). Results of the studies were expressed as the percentage of inhibition of increment in polyresistant gram-negative bacteria under the impact of biologically active substances of probiotic microorganisms. Five-hour incubation of test-strains with the studied samples of lactobacteria led to inhibition of their growth properties by 85.6–96.7%. Growth of bacteria under the impact of substances of saccharomycetes was inhibited by 45.1–92.5%. Twenty-four hour exposure of the test-cultures in filtrates of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* caused 100% inhibition of *P. aeruginosa* and *L. amnigena* polyresistant strains. Temporal interval of cultivation directly proportionally affected the extent of inhibition of growth of microorganisms: we determined direct correlation dependence within 0.789–0.991. Maximum inhibition of increment of the studied pathogens was observed under the influence of metabolites of lactobacteria, obtained by cultivating primary producers in their disintegrate. We determined a high level of anti-microbial activity of metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* obtained by cultivation of probiotics in disintegrates against bacteria resistant to a broad range of preparations, which allows us to consider these substances as promising for development of anti-microbial preparations of a new generation against etiologically significant antibiotic-resistant gram-negative microorganisms.

**Keywords:** lactobacteria; saccharomycetes; disintegrates; metabolites; anti-microbial properties; polyresistant microorganisms.

### Introduction

Among the great variety of infectious diseases, diseases of the respiratory system remain highly relevant (Dorofeev et al., 2017; Jakovlev, 2017; Ponomarev, 2017). According to the data of the WHO, in countries with a low level of income, respiratory infections of the lower respiratory tract take first place out of the ten leading causes of death in the world (WHO, 2017). Especially dangerous are acute respiratory diseases caused by multi drug-resistant pathogens (Wald, 2011). Difficulty in treating such infectious diseases occurs not only due to non-effective antibacterial therapy, but also the ability of polyresistant pathogens to transmit resistance to other microorganism (Arcilla, 2017; Tsutsui et al., 2018). This fact was found in *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Burkholderia cenocepacia* (El-Halfawy et al., 2013).

Reasons for development of the majority of chronic respiratory diseases are antibiotic-resistant microorganisms, from which, according to the WHO, several hundred million people suffer (WHO, 2018). Thanks to scientific studies in the sphere of studying multi-resistance of bacteria to anti-microbial preparations, and on the basis of data of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, it was proved that because

of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, around 25 thousand people in the European Union die each year (Ursova, 2013). Scientists presume that in next 20 years practical medicine will lose its last efficient anti-bacterial preparations (Kraker et al., 2016).

Another problem is increase in the number of gram-negative bacteria in biotopes which are untypical for these microorganisms (Beyer et al., 2000). The development of disbalance of bacterial microflora with changes in quantitative and qualitative composition, which affects different regions of the macroorganism, including the nasopharyngeal and oral cavities, has been observed in most people of our planet (Ursova, 2013; Östholm et al., 2018). Furthermore, it is characterized by frequent release of antibiotic-resistant gram-negative microorganisms out of these cavities (Santajit & Indrawattana 2016).

According to the data of the WHO, nine out of twelve conditionally pathogenic pathogens which are in leading positions among polyresistant microorganisms are gram-negative bacteria (WHO, 2017). These are the carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae, *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Among the microorganisms which cause hospital-acquired infections, a leading position is taken by gram-negative bacteria. Out of six pathogens of ENSKAPE, two are gram-

positive and four are gram-negative: *Enterococcus faecium*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and different species of *Enterobacter* (Santajit & Indrawattana 2016; Lupo et al., 2018; Ramsamy et al., 2018). Stopping increase in the specific weight of polyresistant gram-negative infections has been partly achieved by undertaking epidemiologic monitoring in hospitals, introduction of new medical preparations, and improvement of hygiene. The difficulty of treatment against gram-negative pathogens consists in the special structure of their cellular membrane which functions as an additional protective barrier and obstructs the introduction of anti-bacterial preparations inside the cell (Malanovic et al., 2016; Ebbensgaard et al., 2018). Their cellular membrane contains two lipid membranes in contrast to the gram-positive bacteria with only one (Richter & Hergenrother, 2019). The external layer of the external membrane of gram-negative bacteria consists of lipopolysaccharides (LPS). Lipid A in its content and long oligosaccharide allows the LPS molecules to form dense aggregations and obstructs the passive diffusion of even small molecules of medical preparations. Penetration of small molecules through pores (canals) formed by transmembrane ion channel proteins (porins) remains possible. However, almost all introduced medical substances are removed from the cell by efflux pump (Santajit & Indrawattana 2016; Lupo et al., 2018; Ramsamy et al., 2018). In gram-negative microorganisms, the efflux pumps have three components (transporter, canal-forming protein and the protein which binds them) by contrast to one-component ones in gram-positive bacteria. Removal of medical substances occurs due to canal-forming protein which locates in the external membrane (Nikaido, 2011). Today, when antibiotic-resistance of microorganisms progresses, and the arsenal of efficient anti-microbial preparations is becoming depleted at a catastrophically pace, it is becoming a serious threat for mankind (Mitsakakis et al., 2018).

Among the potential varieties of alternative anti-bacterial preparations with notable anti-microbial properties against polyresistant pathogens, the advantage belongs to probiotic live bacteria and their exometabolites (Mimejad, 2013). Optimistic prognoses which were made earlier, and have been confirmed over recent years emerged due to a new approach to using products of vital activity of probiotic microorganisms for treatment and prevention of diseases of different genesis. Over several decades, more than fifty peptide bacteriocins with detailed characteristics of their biological composition and mechanisms of effect have been analyzed and presented. It was also determined that in low concentrations anti-bacterial substances produced by lactic bacteria efficiently affect gram-positive bacteria and microorganisms related to the primary producer strain (Nes et al., 2000). They have no effect on gram-negative pathogens. The results presented in contemporary scientific publications have confuted the earlier demonstrated data on the limited range of impact of anti-bacterial components obtained from probiotic microorganisms. It was determined that biologically active substances (anti-microbial peptides) can affect the cellular membrane, cellular wall, inhibit synthesis of protein/activity of enzyme or take effect inside the cell. Therefore, after the peptide reaches the cellular wall, cellular membrane or a target inside the cell, the difference in mechanism of effect on gram-negative and gram-positive microorganisms is not significant (Bechinger & Gorr, 2016). Anti-microbial effect of *L. casei* subsp. *rhamnosus* Lcr35 supernatant has been proven against representatives of *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Shigella flexneri*, *Salmonella typhimurium*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus faecalis* and *Clostridium difficile* (Forestier et al., 2001). A high extent of anti-fungicidal activity was demonstrated by biological substances from *Lactobacillus plantarum*, against *Aspergillus niger*, *Rhizopus stolonifer*, *Mucor racemosus* and *Penicillium chrysogenum* (Gupta et al., 2014). According to some scientists, antibacterial properties are conditioned by lactic acid and other organic acids. Alokomi et al. (2000) have proved the property of lactic acid produced by *Lactobacillus* to increase the sensitivity of pathogens to anti-microbial substances. Other authors are of a similar opinion, stating that anti-microbial effect against gram-positive and gram-negative microorganisms by biologically active substances from lactobacteria is conditioned not only by lactic acid and hydrogen peroxide (Nomoto, 2005; Portella et al., 2009). At the same time, the synergic effect of lactic acid and protein substances is also considered possible. There has

also been observed a strengthening of the effect at synergic use of two anti-bacterial substances, in comparison to their multi-component usage. The substances are nisin A produced by *Lactobacillus lactis* in 1928 and poly-L-lisin from *Streptomyces albulus* 346, which at combined application inhibit the antibiotic-resistant streptococcus *S. mutans*. Combined use of these anti-microbial substances contributed to complete elimination of the resistant *Streptococcus* along with less inhibitory effect on the general aerobic microflora of the oral cavity (Badaoui et al., 2009).

Products of vital activity of probiotic microorganisms provide additional interest to scientists due to their polyfunctional abilities: they prevent growth, breeding, affect the process of biofilm formation and damage pre-formed biofilms of gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria and fungi (Wang et al., 2017). According to numerous scientific studies, the range of activity of bacteriocins, exometabolites, probiotic microorganisms has enlarged, the possibilities of using substances with high anti-bacterial properties have been extended, which allows them to be successfully used for treatment of genitourinary, nasopharyngeal, wound infections and for preventing allergies.

After we had analyzed domestic and foreign studies as well as the obtained information, as test-objects we selected pathogens with multi resistance to medications, isolated from patients with inflammatory and pus-inflammatory diseases of the respiratory tract. The objective of the study was creating anti-microbial substances against etiologically significant antibiotic-resistant gram-negative conditionally pathogenic bacteria on the basis of metabolites from lactobacteria and saccharomycetes obtained from cultivation of the primary producers in disintegrates of probiotic strains of microorganisms.

## Materials and methods

For obtaining biologically active substances we used the derivative cultures of bacteria and fungi:

1) *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* (LGG®) ATCC 53103 (*L. rhamnosus* GG), "Preema®" symbiotic drug (Schonen, Switzerland), registration in Ukraine No 05.03.02-03/28238.

2) *Saccharomyces boulardii* CNCM I-745, Bulardi® preparation (Schonen, Switzerland), registration in Ukraine No 05.03.02-03/58212. Studied material:

1) filtrates of ultrasound disintegrates of lactobacteria (L) and saccharomycetes (S) (contain structural components of bacterial cells);

2) filtrates of cultures of lactobacteria (ML), saccharomycetes (MS, LS), and combined cultures of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes (MLS), obtained by cultivating the primary producers in ultrasound disintegrates (contain structural-metabolite complexes of bacterial cells and fungi).

For obtaining disintegrates and metabolites, which were biologically active substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii*, we prepared weighed amounts of microorganisms using McFarland scales (10.0 units of McF) on a Densi-La-Meter device (PLIVA-Lachema Diagnostika, (Czech Republic)).

Obtaining of disintegrates (structural components) of industrial cultures of bacteria and fungi: using a G3-109 low-frequency generator loaded on circular piezoelectric converters, we affected the suspensions of *L. rhamnosus* GG or *S. boulardii* probiotic strains for obtaining disintegrates or structural components of *L. rhamnosus* GG (sample L) or *S. boulardii* (sample S).

Obtaining of metabolites (structural-metabolite substances) from bacteria and fungi in disintegrates of probiotic cultures:

1) metabolites from *Lactobacillus* were obtained by cultivation of suspensions of *L. rhamnosus* GG with optical density of 10.0 units according to McF scale in their disintegrates (sample ML) (Isajenko et al., 2017);

2) metabolites from *Saccharomyces* were isolated in a similar way, by growing suspensions of *S. boulardii* in their disintegrates of fungi (sample MS);

3) metabolites from *Saccharomyces*, differed from the previous by cultivating suspensions of fungi in disintegrate of bacteria (*L. rhamnosus*) (sample LS);

4) combination of metabolites from *Lactobacillus* and *Saccharomyces* were obtained by combined growing of microbial cells of *L.*

*rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* in disintegrate of lactobacteria (Sample MLS) (Isajenko et al., 2018).

The impact of disintegrates of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* and their metabolites on growth and reproduction of conditionally pathogenic representatives was studied on test-cultures of gram-negative bacteria with multiple anti-microbial resistance (to levofloxacin, ceftriaxone, ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, ampicillin): *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PR, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* PR, *Lelliottia amnigena* (*Enterobacter amnigenus*) PR).

Strains were taken from the collection of microorganisms of the laboratory of prevention of airborne infections of State Institution I. I. Mechnikov Institute of Microbiology and Immunology of National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Bacterial weighed amounts of test cultures were prepared using the transparency standard of Densi-La-Meter device (PLIVA-Lachema Diagnostika, (Czech Republic)), using McFarland scale.

The impact of filtrates of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* on growth and reproduction of test strains was studied using the spectrophotometric method according to Buharin (1999). For this purpose, to the experimental weighed amounts of test cultures of pathogen and filtrate of disintegrate or metabolites of probiotic microorganism, we added universal growth medium and then cultivated it. According to changes in the indicators of optical density of final samples compared to the initial, we evaluated the character of the impact of biologically active substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* on growth and reproduction of cells of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The idea of the experiment was determining the inhibiting activity of a new class of metabolites in favourable conditions of growth/reproduction of test cultures of the microorganisms.

The method was applied in polystyrene 96 well microplates manufactured by Eximcargotrade Ltd, Ukraine. Into all experimental samples, we added microbial suspensions of polyresistant gram-negative test cultures and filtrate of disintegrate or metabolite in 1:9 proportion. Considering the results of the high level of anti-microbial activity of the studied substances of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes against pathogenic and conditionally pathogenic microorganisms obtained in previous experiments (Isajenko et al., 2017, 2018), the final concentration of test culture was increased up to  $10^6$  CFU/mL, which was 10 times higher than the amount of microorganisms recommended according to the method (MOZ, 2007). In the control samples, we added to the bacteria cultures isotonic solution of sodium chloride (0.9 %) instead of metabolites; this was positive control – control of growth of the studied test strain.

Wells with negative control contained only isotonic solution of sodium chloride (0.9 %). After the microplates had been maintained for an hour at temperature  $37 \pm 1$  °C, we added meat-peptone broth (MPB) with 1% glucose to all wells and measured optical density of the initial samples using Lisa ScanRM EM analyzer (Erba Mannheim, Czech Republic) at 630 nm wave length. Then the microplates were incubated at temperature  $37 \pm 1$  °C and the values of optical density measured after 5 and 24 hours of cultivation of the studied samples. Measurements of the values of optical density compared to the control indicated an impact of substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* on the studied pathogens. Inhibition of growth and reproduction of the studied cultures of bacteria was expressed in the percentage of inhibition of increment (In Inc) of polyresistant gram-negative test strains under the impact of biologically active substances of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes, calculation of which was made using the formula (Buharin, 1999):

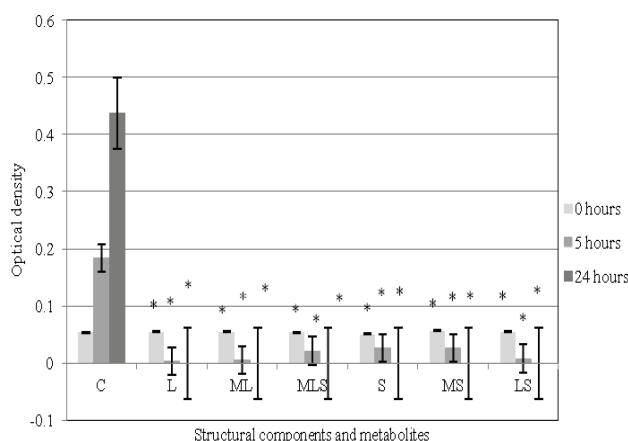
In Inc =  $(OD_{cg} - OD_{edm}) \times 100 \% / OD_{cg}$ , at  $OD_{cg} = OD_c - OD_{ac}$ ;  $OD_{edm} = OD_e - OD_{ac}$ , where  $OD_c$  – average of three experiments for the control strain;  $OD_e$  – average of three experiments for the experimental strain;  $OD_{ac}$  – average of three experiments for negative control;  $OD_{cg}$  – averaged values of three experiments in three replications for optical density of the examined test culture of the microorganism after 5/24 hours of growth in the control (control of growth of studied test culture);  $OD_{edm}$  – averaged values of three experiments in three replications for optical density of examined test culture of microorganism after 5/24 hours of growth in the experiment (under the impact of disintegrates and metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii*).

The tests were made three times in three replications. The data were analyzed in Statistica 8.0 (StatSoft Inc., USA). We calculated mean arithmetic ( $\bar{x}$ ) and standard deviation of mean arithmetic value (SD). The reliability of the differences between obtained data was determined using the non-parametric U-criterion of Mann-Whitney. Difference between the experimental samples and the control was considered probable at  $P < 0.05$ .

## Results

The conducted studies revealed that under the impact of the studied probiotic products from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii*, growth of *P. aeruginosa* PR test culture was statistically reliably inhibited, which manifested in reduction of optical density (Fig. 1). Extent of inhibition of growth of *P. aeruginosa* PR depended on duration of cultivation. After 5-hour incubation, we observed significant inhibition of growth properties of the pathogen, which did not depend on the examined biologically active substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii*. Maximum inhibition of the microorganism was observed under the impact of metabolites from lactobacteria, obtained at cultivation of primary producers in their disintegrate (ML) – by 95.7 % ( $P < 0.05$ ). The rest of the studied substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* affected growth and reproduction of *P. aeruginosa* PR to a lower extent. At the same time, we found statistically reliable inhibition – within 73.9–92.5% ( $P < 0.05$ ), which indicates a high extent of anti-microbial activity of the filtrates of probiotic strains against this antibiotic-resistant culture of *Pseudomonas*.

When exposure to the cultivation was prolonged to 24 hours, all examined samples of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* had a lethal effect on *P. aeruginosa* PR: 100% inhibition of this strain was observed.



**Fig. 1.** Anti-microbial activity of filtrates of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG and *Saccharomyces boulardii* against polyresistant *P. aeruginosa* PR strain cultivated in growth media: optical density  $\bar{x} \pm SD$ ,  $n = 9$ ;

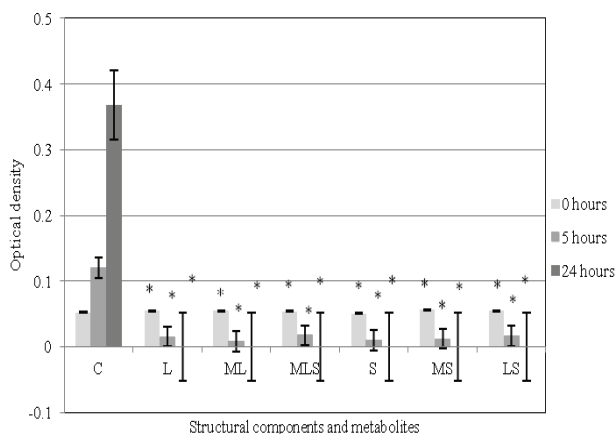
C – control, L – filtrates of disintegrates (structural components) of lactobacteria, ML – metabolites from lactobacteria, MLS – combination of metabolites and saccharomycetes, S – filtrates of disintegrates (structural components) of saccharomycetes, MS – metabolites from saccharomycetes, obtained through cultivation of saccharomycetes in their disintegrates, LS – metabolites from saccharomycetes, obtained through cultivation of saccharomycetes in disintegrates of lactobacteria;

\* – difference of experimental samples compared to control was statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ )

Inhibition of growth and reproduction of *L. amnigena* (*E. amnigenus*) PR polyresistant strain after five-hour exposure was observed under the impact of all biologically active substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* (Fig. 2). According to the obtained results, maximum inhibition of growth of the pathogen was observed in presence of metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* (ML) (by 93.4%), which confirms previous results. The presented data indicate that among the examined filtrates of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes, the most notable effect of inhibition of antibiotic-resistant gram-negative test cultures in the logarithmic growth phase was demonstrated by metabolites from

lactobacteria. Study of impact of biologically active substances of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* on growth of *L. amnigena* PR after 24-hour incubation demonstrated 100% inhibition of growth of the examined test culture (Fig. 2).

In stable conditions of cultivation, in which the microbial cells of the two studied microorganisms (*P. aeruginosa* PR or *L. amnigena* PR) were kept, we observed partial inhibition of bacteria after 5 hours, and complete inhibition after 24 hours. At the same time, the extent of inhibition of reproduction of the studied pathogens directly proportionally depended on the duration of incubation of the pathogen with the examined probiotic substances. We determined a direct correlational dependence between inhibition of growth and duration of exposure of the influence for disintegrates of lactobacteria (+0.789), metabolites from lactobacteria (+0.955), combination of metabolites from lactobacteria and saccharomycetes (+0.789), disintegrates of saccharomycetes (+0.926), metabolites from saccharomycetes, obtained through cultivation of fungi in disintegrates of lactobacteria (+0.991). The obtained data allow us to draw preliminary conclusions: filtrates of disintegrates and metabolites from probiotic microorganisms have ability to inhibit growth of polyresistant test strains. At the same time the number of microbial cells of bacteria on which the examined substances took effect was higher than the one recommended in methodological documents (Nakaz MOZ Ukraine 167, 2007). The obtained results indicate the high extent of anti-microbial activity of the experimental samples, which in favourable conditions of cultivation of test cultures cause death to bacteria resistant to many antibacterial preparations, which allows us to consider the studied substances promising preparations for alternative therapy of infectious pathologies of different genesis.

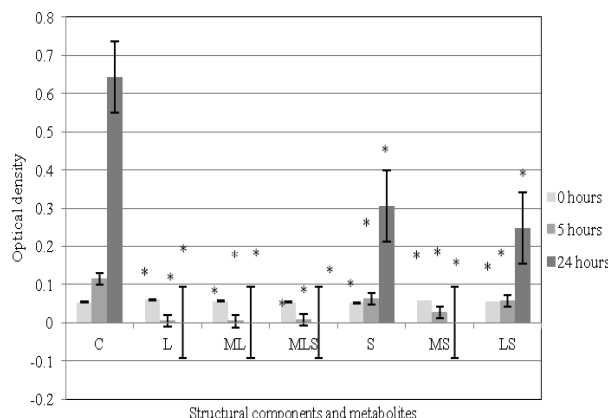


**Fig. 2.** Anti-microbial activity of filtrates of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG and *Saccharomyces boulardii* against *L. amnigena* PR cultivated in growth media, optical density ( $\bar{x} \pm SD$ ,  $n = 9$ ): see Fig. 1

Filtrates of probiotic strains demonstrated anti-microbial activity also against culture of *K. pneumoniae* PR polyresistant strain. At the same time *K. pneumoniae* PR was observed to be more sensitive to samples of probiotic lactobacteria than to substances of saccharomycetes (Fig. 3). Impact of disintegrate and metabolites of *L. rhamnosus* GG on *K. pneumoniae* PR contributed to manifested inhibition of growth of the microorganism. In all studied samples of *L. rhamnosus* GG, after five-hour incubation, we observed significant inhibition of growth and reproduction of this test culture; indicators were within the range of 92.7–96.7%. After 24-hour exposure, unfavourable impact on *K. pneumoniae* PR was caused by all samples of lactobacteria and combination of metabolites of fungi and bacteria, which manifested in 100% death of the studied conditionally pathogenic microorganism.

Polyresistant strain *K. pneumoniae* PR demonstrated lower sensitivity to *S. boulardii* compared to *P. aeruginosa* PR and *L. amnigena* PR (Fig. 3). Five-hour exposure of *K. pneumoniae* PR in filtrates of saccharomycetes slowed the growth of the microorganism by 45.1–76.8%. Change in the duration of incubation from 5 hours to 24 hours was accompanied by intensification of inhibition of growth of the pathogen. Filtrates of cultures of saccharomycetes (disintegrate (S) and metabolites, obtained through cultivation of fungi in lactobacteria (LS))

took inhibitory effect also after 24 hours of cultivation (52.7–61.6%). Products of vital activity of *S. boulardii* (MS) after 24 hours of incubation lethally affected this strain. Taking into account the results, we can draw a conclusion that the intensity of the influence of filtrates of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes on growth and reproduction of test culture depends on individual sensitivity of the species/strain of microorganism.



**Fig. 3.** Anti-microbial activity of filtrates of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG and *Saccharomyces boulardii* against *K. pneumoniae* PR cultivated in growth media, optical density ( $\bar{x} \pm SD$ ,  $n = 9$ ): see Fig. 1

Against the background of decrease in activity of active antibacterial preparations, and also, taking into account the obtained results of significant reduction of reproduction of the studied polyresistant cultures of bacteria up to complete inhibition of their growth, the biologically active substances *L. rhamnosus* GG and *Saccharomyces* can be considered promising agents for creating anti-microbial preparations of a new generation.

## Discussion

This study is a fragment of a wider research project devoted to investigating activity of metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* and *S. boulardii* probiotic strains, which are promising for developing new therapeutic and preventive preparations against diseases caused by antibiotic-resistant conditionally pathogenic and pathogenic microorganisms, and could be used universally. For the first time, we have demonstrated results of anti-bacterial effect of filtrates of structural components and cultures of probiotics, grown in disintegrates of probiotic strains, against etiologically significant gram-negative microorganisms, determined using the spectrophotometric method. Earlier, we studied the anti-microbial properties of metabolites from probiotic cultures of lactobacteria against polyresistant conditionally pathogenic gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, determining the amount of vital microbial cells by inoculation and count of colony-forming units (CFU) in growth media after pre-incubation of test-cultures with the studied substances. Antibacterial activity of metabolites from saccharomycetes, obtained according to author's method, has not been studied before. In previous experiments, manifested anti-microbial properties of products of vital activity of lactobacteria and combination of metabolites had been proven. According to the literature data, the methods we used (spectrophotometric and count of vital microorganisms), despite partial similarity of studies, give different results. Confirmation of the high level of anti-microbial activity of the samples of lactobacteria studied using different methods, and also demonstration of antibacterial properties of filtrates of saccharomycetes, allow us to state with certainty that the suggested method of obtaining biologically active substances of probiotic origin, without use of traditional growth media, has revealed a promising orientation in developing preparations of metabolite type of new generation with possibility of alternative or additional therapy of diseases caused by pathogens with resistance to a broad range of medications.

The demonstrated data corroborate the anti-microbial effect of disintegrates and metabolites, obtained through cultivation of saccharomycetes in ultrasound disintegrates of probiotic cultures, and correlate well

with the results of studies by other authors (Bai et al., 2016; Stier & Bischoff, 2016). Our use of ultrasound waves for disintegrate of *S. boulardii* partly coincides with the report by Ali et al. (2012). The scientists used ultrasound effect on cells of *S. boulardii*, which were in cold distilled water, and then centrifuged them (5 minutes, 5500 rpm). The obtained supernatant of *S. boulardii*, as in our case, had anti-microbial activity, which was determined in relation to *Escherichia coli* and *Candida albicans*.

Other authors proved that metabolites from *S. boulardii* had a bacteriostatic effect on cells of *S. aureus* in amount of 0.1 mL and showed no activity against *E. coli* (Stefania et al., 2017). Individual sensitivity of test cultures to substances of saccharomycetes, observed by Stefania et al. (2017), has been confirmed by our results. The polyresistant strain *K. pneumoniae* PR demonstrated higher sensitivity to biologically active substances of *L. rhamnosus* GG compared to disintegrates and metabolites from *S. boulardii*.

By adding silver nitrate (AgNO<sub>3</sub>) to supernatant of *S. boulardii*, Sahib et al. (2017) obtained a biologically active substance that demonstrated anti-bacterial properties against a number of polyresistant microorganisms: *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*, *E. aerogenes*, *S. typhi*, *A. baumannii*, *P. aeruginosa* and *P. mirabilis*. Anti-microbial effect of the products of vital activity of saccharomycetes against antibiotic-resistant bacteria corresponded to the results of our experiments. At the same time, metabolites obtained according to the author's method, without using growth media, had antibacterial properties from the start and therefore this needs no additional elaboration.

The demonstrated data on the high level of anti-microbial activity of filtrates of disintegrates of saccharomycetes and filtrates of cultures of saccharomycetes, obtained through cultivation of primary producers in disintegrates, and also with cultivation of fungi in disintegrates of lactobacteria, indicate prospects of constructing anti-microbial preparations of a new generation.

Anti-microbial effect of derivatives and products of vital activity of *L. rhamnosus* GG against a broad range of microorganisms was determined by a number of authors (Maňušková et al., 2017; Oliveira et al., 2017). Hagen Frickmann (2018) confirmed impact of supernatant of *L. rhamnosus* GG on vital activity of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *S. epidermidis*. Daba & Saidi (2015) determined antibacterial properties of metabolites of probiotic strains against *P. aeruginosa* and *Escherichia coli*. Liévin-Le & Servin (2014) demonstrated absence of anti-microbial effect of probiotic strains of *Lactobacillus* against pathogenic microorganisms along with bactericidal effect of their supernatants. After 4 hours of exposure to products of *L. rhamnosus* GG, vital activity of *Shigella* was observed to be reduced by ~4 log CFU/mL, *Listeria* and enteropathogenic *E. coli* from 3 to 4 log CFU/mL, and the number of *Salmonella typhimurium* decreased by ~5 log CFU/mL (Liévin-Le & Servin, 2014). The filtrates we demonstrated showed more notable anti-microbial effect and after 5 hours of influence inhibited growth of bacteria polyresistant to anti-bacterial preparations by 85.6–96.7%. Twenty-four hour incubation of microorganisms in the studied samples of lactobacteria was accompanied by 100% inhibition of test cultures.

The data we obtained well correlate with the results of studies by Sambanthamoorthy (2014), who studied anti-microbial properties of metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* and *L. jensenii* against microorganisms resistant to a broad range of medications: *A. baumannii*, *E. coli* and *S. aureus*. Efficiency of products of vital activity of *L. rhamnosus* equaled 96–97% against *A. baumannii* and 72–85% against *E. coli*. For two examined strains of *S. aureus*, the activity was observed within 80% and 93%. Similar results were obtained for *K. pneumoniae*. In our experiments, the high level of anti-microbial activity of metabolites from lactobacteria was confirmed; it manifested in inhibition of growth of *P. aeruginosa* PR by 88.3–95.7%, *L. amnigena* PR by 85.6–93.4%, *K. pneumoniae* PR by 92.7–96.7% after 5 hours of incubation and complete death of all pathogens after 24 hours.

The individual sensitivity of polyresistant strains of microorganisms to substances of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes demonstrated in this paper, is corroborated by the results obtained by other authors. Thus, exopolysaccharides obtained from 10<sup>8</sup> CFU/mL of *L. rhamnosus* GG inhibited growth of *C. albicans* over 24 hours. Lower initial concentra-

tion of lactobacteria (10<sup>7</sup> CFU) was observed to be insufficient for producing metabolites with anti-fungicidal activity (Allonsius et al., 2017). It should be mentioned that initial concentration of cells of probiotic strains, from which the authors obtained metabolites with high anti-fungicidal properties, corresponded to the amount of the primary producer used in our experiment.

In the next study the scientists examined supernatant and concentrated metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* 231 culture grown over 18 hours in MRS medium, which manifested notable anti-microbial properties against *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *E. aerogenes*, *S. aureus*, *Salmonella* spp., *Helicobacter pylori*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Bacillus cereus*, *B. megaterium* and *Listeria monocytogenes*. Concentration of the primary producer equaled 10<sup>8</sup> microbial cells per 1 mL, which also corresponded to the results of our experiments (Ambalam et al., 2009).

The presented data about the impact of the derivatives of *L. rhamnosus* probiotic strain on pseudomonads also correlate with the results of a study by Al-Malkey et al. (2017). The authors determined: metabolites obtained from *L. rhamnosus* through cultivation in MRS broth over 24 hours at 37 °C 5–10% CO<sub>2</sub> manifested anti-microbial effect against *P. aeruginosa* resistant to a broad range of drugs. At the same time, metabolites from *L. acidophilus*, obtained in a similar way, had no anti-microbial properties against the examined polyresistant pathogen. The described results confirm the data of Brzozowski et al. (2011), according to whom *L. rhamnosus* CCM 1825 strain produced a higher number of anti-microbial protein substances with polysaccharides and phosphates than *L. fermenti* 126 culture. Unlike the above mentioned studies, the method we used for obtaining metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* and their combination without using traditional growth media, allows one to obtain biologically active substances with notable anti-microbial effect from different strains of bacteria and fungi (Isajenko et al., 2017; Isajenko et al., 2018).

Comparing extent of anti-microbial activity of the studied ultrasound disintegrates and metabolites from *S. boulardii* and *L. rhamnosus* GG with similar studies performed by other scientists suggests high antibacterial properties of products of vital activity of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes with a possibility of promising development of preventive and therapeutic preparations of a new generation.

## Conclusions

We characterized a high level of anti-microbial activity of products of vital activity and structural components of probiotic strains of lactobacteria and saccharomycetes using the spectrophotometric method, the extent of the impact of which depended on duration of incubation. The manifested antimicrobial effect of biologically active substances from *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii* against antibiotic-resistant microorganisms in logarithmic growth phase, in presence of nutrients, was observed to be reduction by 45.1–95.0%. Twenty four hour exposure of polyresistant strains in *L. rhamnosus* GG samples was accompanied by 100% death of the test cultures, and with filtrates of *S. boulardii* – reduction by 52.7–100.0%. Among all of the examined substances, maximum inhibiting effect against all studied polyresistant representatives was observed under the impact of metabolites from *L. rhamnosus* GG. The suggested method of obtaining biologically active substances of probiotic origin, without using traditional growth media, has revealed a promising orientation for developing metabolite type preparations of a new generation with a possibility of alternative or additional therapy for diseases caused by pathogens resistant to broad range of medications. The metabolite complexes of *L. rhamnosus* GG and *S. boulardii*, demonstrated by the authors, despite the necessity for further comprehensive study, can be considered promising substances for creating anti-microbial preparations of a new generation.

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