



# Antibacterial Activities of Bacteriogenic Silver Nanoparticles Against Nosocomial *Acinetobacter baumannii*

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Abstract

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*Acinetobacter baumannii* has emerged as one of the major nosocomial pathogens implicated in variety of severe infections and mortality. It is rapidly developing multi-drug resistance and also possesses surface colonization ability, which make it most difficult to treat through traditional antibiotics. This is an extensive study to describe the antibacterial activity of bacteriogenic silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) against *A. baumannii* ATCC 49619 in planktonic and biofilm mode. Minimum inhibitory concentration of antibiotics were in the range of 1 to 4096  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  whereas AgNPs inhibited planktonic bacteria at concentration of 16  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ . Fractional inhibitory concentration index revealed the synergistic interaction of AgNPs with doxycycline, tetracycline and erythromycin. Nanoparticles exhibited significant biofilm disruption activity with minimum biofilm eradication concentration of 2 mg/ml. Eradication of mature biofilm was enhanced on exposure to combination of AgNPs and antibiotics. These nanoparticles affected bacterial growth and distorted cellular morphology. Intracellular oxidative stress, induced in presence of AgNPs, also rendered bacteria susceptible to killing by nanoparticles. Besides this, AgNPs were found to interact with thiol-groups, which indicate their potential to interact with cellular proteins to exhibit antimicrobial activity.

**Keywords:** Acinetobacter; Biofilm; Mechanism; Silver Nanoparticles (AgNPs); Synergy

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