



## Antibacterial activity of skin secretion of toad *Bufo melanostictus* and frog *Rana cyanophyllicitus*

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### Abstract

Many disease initiated by the Bacteria in mammals, therefore they may effect on immune system, that's why it is important to search for new types of antibacterial agents. The main purpose of this study is to test antibacterial activity of skin secretion derived from two species of anurans endemic found in India (Sirohi), *Bufo melanostictus* and *Rana cyanophyllicitus*. The toads and frogs were induced to secrete skin secretion without using any stimulant. The collected skin secretion was filtered and sterilized and finally subjected to antibacterial assay. Results showed that skin secretion of some toads and frogs has antibacterial activity against the *Clarithromycin*. Some chemical compounds with high potential activity were detected in skin secretion include fatty acids, steroids and amines. Therefore, the toad and frog skin secretion has the potential to be developed as a source of antibacterial agents.

**Keywords:** antibacterial agents, *bufo melanostictus* and *rana cyanophyllicitus*, *clarithromycin*, bacteria

### Introduction

The global decline in amphibian's population is increasingly day by day. Habitat destruction, introduction of predators and direct exposure to toxins has been implicated in this decline [8-11]. Bacteria is an important cause of human, animal and plant disease. Treatment of bacteria disease is quite possible due to lack of antibacterial agents [15-17]. In stress condition amphibians secrete some specific chemicals from granular glands, which are usually dispersed throughout the dorsal surface [18-21]. These chemicals include alkaloids, biogenic amines, peptides and some specific proteins. These chemicals provide protection against many microorganisms [1-5]. In this way chemical secretion of toad and frog skin might also be a benefit to human health with its antibacterial, antiprotozoal and other therapeutic properties. Skin secretion of many anurans (frogs and toads) contains peptides with antibacterial activity [6-8]. Now a day; scientists are now exploring the therapeutic potential of various toad and frog skin secretions and extracts. India is a country with diverse geographical variation [9-12].

### Materials and Methods

Animals were collected from Pindwara, Sirohi, India. Frogs and Toads were transferred first in a container full of water. No stimulators were given to the experimental animal. A simplest method was used to remove peptide or antibacterial skin material from animals. Animals were taken in hand and one by one their upper skin part was rubbed along with water. The processes were repeated 3-4 times with each animal. Water with skin extract was preserved in 50ml flask. It was followed by autoclave before use. The antibacterial activity assay was carried out using a modified method. As much as 50ml of each bacteria culture was mixed with warm Mueller

Hinton agar medium (30.0% beet infusion, 1.75% casein hydrolyses, 0.15% starch, 1.7% agar, pH 7.0) followed by incubation until the medium solidified. Formation of clear zone around treated area shows the antibacterial activity of each sample. Ranges of diameter were observed around each sample it shows the antibacterial activity<sup>21-24</sup>. Holes were made to which the toad or frog skin secretion was applied<sup>22-24</sup>. 0.4mg (40µl), 1ml (40µl) was used as a control. The culture plates were put in incubator for 24h at 28°C.

### Results and Discussion

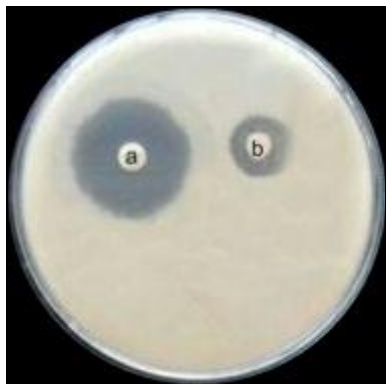
We tested specimens of *Bufo melanostitus* and *Rana cyanophyllicitu*. The average snout Vent Length (SVL) of the *Bufo melanostitus* was 22.3±4.8mm, with average body mass of 4.9±0.9g. The average SVL of the *Rana cyanophyllicitus* was 39.7±1.8mm average body mass was 6.9±1.2g. The average dry weight of skin secretion of *Bufo melanostictus* will be 264±266mg. On the other hand, the average dry weight of *Rana cyanophyllicitus* skin secretion were 123±171mg.

#### Antibacterial Activity of Toad and Frog Skin Secretion

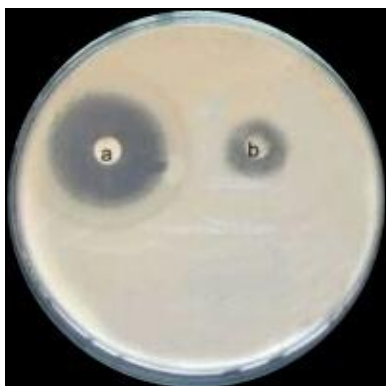
Antibacterial activity was shown by some skin secretions of *Bufo melanostitus* and *Rana cyanophyllicitus*. The average diameter of the clear zone of frog skin secretions of *Bufo melanostitus* against fungus *Clarithromycin* was 12.5±2.9mm, while that of *Rana cyanophyllicitus* was 8.9±4.3mm.

There are many methods to collect the skin secretion of frog, but the frog and toad were sacrificed for their skin. The components of the skin secretion are required for bioactivity assay and chemical analysis and not every component of toad or frog integument. Frog skin secretes different types of compounds such as fatty acids, amines, peptides, proteins, alkaloids and steroids. Fatty acids and their derivatives have

been reported to possess antibacterial activity. Fatty acids target the cell membrane of bacteria. Fatty acids cause an increase in membrane fluidity that leads to conformational changes in membrane proteins, the release of intracellular components, cytoplasmic disorder, cell disintegration and eventually cell death.



**Fig 1:** The skin secretions of frog were compared A=*Clarithromycin*, B=*Bufo melanostictus*. The formation of clear zone around the treated area indicated antibacterial activity.



**Fig 2:** The skin secretions of frog was compared A=*Clarithromycin*, B=*Rana acyanophylctitus*. The formation of clear zone around the treated area indicated antibacterial activity.



**Fig 3:** The skin secretions of frog was compared A=*Bufo melanostictus*. B=*Rana cyanophylctitus*. The formation of clear zone around the treated area indicated antibacterial activity. Toad skin (*Bufo melanostictus*) showed the highest antibacterial activity as compared to frog (*Rana cyanophylctitus*).

## Conclusion

We conclude that release of skin secretion of toad, *Bufo melanostictus* and *Rana cyanophylctitus* has the potential to develop as a source of antibacterial agents.

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