

Abstract

Traditional plants are in broad consumption, due to their higher biological impact, minimal side effects, and comparatively low cost. In this study, two plants *Mentha spicata* (Mint) and *Allium sativum* (Garlic) were used for the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles. The emergence of antibacterial resistance forces us to reconsider the herbal remedies which provides us suitable and acceptable solutions. This current study aimed to investigate the comparative analysis of antibacterial activity of *Mentha spicata* and *Allium sativum* conjugated silver nanoparticles (M-AgNPs and G-AgNPs) against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Aeromonas veronii* by agar well diffusion method at 2 mg/ml, 4 mg/ml and 8 mg/ml concentrations. They demonstrated the excellent antibacterial activity and the significant zone of growth inhibition (23 ± 0.2 mm) was observed at 8 mg/ml against *S. aureus* and the less significant zone of growth inhibition (4.0 ± 0.2 mm) was observed at 2 mg/ml against *A. veronii*. The stability of M-AgNPs and G-AgNPs was analyzed at various pH values (4, 7 and 11). With *Mentha spicata* conjugated silver nanoparticles (M-AgNPs), the significant zones of growth inhibition (11.3 ± 0.3 mm, 8.3 ± 0.3 mm, 14.3 ± 0.3 mm, and 7.6 ± 0.2 mm) were observed at pH 11 against *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *K. pneumoniae*, respectively. With *Allium sativum* conjugated silver nanoparticles (G-AgNPs), the highly significant zones of growth inhibition (10.0 ± 0.8 mm, 11.0 ± 0.2 mm, and 13.0 ± 0.5 mm) were observed against *B. subtilis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa*, respectively at pH 11. The M-AgNPs and G-AgNPs were synthesized at different temperatures including 25°C, 40°C, 37°C, 75°C and their analyzed their antibacterial activity. The significant zones of growth inhibition (14.0 ± 0.5 mm and 13.0 ± 0.5 mm) were observed against *B. subtilis* and *S. aureus* at 25°C when bacterial strains were exposed to *Mentha spicata* (Mint) conjugated silver nanoparticles while *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *A. veronii* gave maximum zones of growth inhibition (10.0 ± 0.5 mm and 9.0 ± 0.5 mm) at 75°C when exposed with *Allium sativum* (Garlic) conjugated silver nanoparticles. The antioxidant potential of *Mentha spicata* and *Allium sativum* conjugated silver nanoparticles was assessed at 2 mg/ml and 4 mg/ml by DPPH assay. We observed the highest free radical scavenging activity of *Mentha spicata* and *Allium sativum* at 4 mg/ml ($38.66 \pm 0.2\%$) and ($25.6 \pm 0.5\%$), respectively. It is concluded that conjugated silver nanoparticles have the ability to fight against bacterial infections and to combat the effects of free radicals in DPPH. However, *Mentha spicata* has higher antibacterial effects and antioxidant potential than *Allium sativum*.