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New derivatives of pyridoxine exhibit high antibacterial activity against biofilm-embedded staphylococcus cells

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Abstract

© 2015 Airat R. Kayumov et al. Opportunistic bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* often form rigid biofilms on tissues and inorganic surfaces. In the biofilm bacterial cells are embedded in a self-produced polysaccharide matrix and thereby are inaccessible to biocides, antibiotics, or host immune system. Here we show the antibacterial activity of newly synthesized cationic biocides, the quaternary ammonium, and bisphosphonium salts of pyridoxine (vitamin B6) against biofilm-embedded *Staphylococci*. The derivatives of 6-hydroxymethylpyridoxine were ineffective against biofilm-embedded *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* at concentrations up to 64 g/mL, although all compounds tested exhibited low MICs (2 g/mL) against planktonic cells. In contrast, the quaternary ammonium salt of pyridoxine (N,N-dimethyl-N-((2,2,8-trimethyl-4H-[1,3]dioxino[4,5-c]pyridin-5-yl)methyl)octadecan-1-aminium chloride (3)) demonstrated high biocidal activity against both planktonic and biofilm-embedded bacteria. Thus, the complete death of biofilm-embedded *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* cells was obtained at concentrations of 64 and 16 g/mL, respectively. We suggest that the quaternary ammonium salts of pyridoxine are perspective to design new synthetic antibiotics and disinfectants for external application against biofilm-embedded cells.

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