

ALTERNATIVE ANTIBIOFILM TREATMENT STRATEGIES

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The antimicrobial tolerance of microbial cells established within biofilms makes control especially difficult and although the activity of conventional topical agents has been tested in a wide range of model systems, few have been shown to exhibit realistic potential. Hence innovative antibiofilm agents are still needed. One approach has been to re-evaluate former antimicrobial wound remedies for their ability to inhibit biofilms. Three strategies have recently been evaluated. Maggots and honey are ancient wound remedies that have been re-introduced into modern wound care practice, and bacteriophage are predatory viruses for bacteria. Each of these interventions has antibacterial activity, and laboratory tests to demonstrate antibiofilm activity will be reviewed in this presentation.