Investigation of antimicrobial silver nanomaterials from new angles: *resistance, shapes, and single-cell level*

Chengfang Pang Kamp 23-09-2014



Nanomaterials





Transmission electron microscope (TEM)



Ag nanoparticles of TEM images (Pang C, 2013)

Nanomaterials can be defined as materials possessing, at minimum, one external dimension measuring 1-100nm.

Nanomaterials

Surface effects

Quantum effects



Melting Point Depression: 2.5 nm Au particles 930 K, but bulk Au 1336 K.

Nanomateriasl have superior properties than the bulk substances:

Mechanical strength, thermal stability, catalytic activity, electrical conductivity, magnetic properties, optical properties

Nanomaterial applications



The very large surface-to-volume ratio of nanomaterials is especially useful in the medical field, which permits the bonding of cells and active ingredients

The antibacterial mechanism of silver nanoparticles



The antibacterial mechanism of silver nanoparticles



Although bacterial resistance to antibiotics has been extensively discussed in the literature, the possible development of resistance to silver nanoparticles has not been fully explored.

Bacterial resistance to silver nanoparticles

nature nanotechnology

ARTICLES

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-017-0013-y

Bacterial resistance to silver nanoparticles and how to overcome it

Aleš Panáček¹, Libor Kvítek¹*, Monika Smékalová¹, Renata Večeřová², Milan Kolář², Magdalena Röderová², Filip Dyčka³, Marek Šebela³, Robert Prucek¹, Ondřej Tomanec⁴ and Radek Zbořil¹*

Silver nanoparticles have already been successfully applied in various biomedical and antimicrobial technologies and products used in everyday life. Although bacterial resistance to antibiotics has been extensively discussed in the literature, the possible development of resistance to silver nanoparticles has not been fully explored. We report that the Gram-negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* 013, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* CCM 3955 and *E. coli* CCM 3954 can develop resistance to silver nanoparticles after repeated exposure. The resistance stems from the production of the adhesive flagellum protein flagellin, which triggers the aggregation of the nanoparticles. This resistance evolves without any genetic changes; only phenotypic change is needed to reduce the nanoparticles' colloidal stability and thus eliminate their antibacterial activity. The resistance mechanism cannot be overcome by additional stabilization of silver nanoparticles using surfactants or polymers. It is, however, strongly suppressed by inhibiting flagellin production with pomegranate rind extract.

ARTICLES

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-021-00929-w

nature nanotechnology

Check for updates

Role of bacterial motility in differential resistance mechanisms of silver nanoparticles and silver ions

Lisa M. Stabryla¹², Kathryn A. Johnston², Nathan A. Diemler², Vaughn S. Cooper³, Jill E. Millstone^{2,4,5}, Sarah-Jane Haig^{1,6} and Leanne M. Gilbertson^{1,4}²

Unlike conventional antimicrobials, the study of bacterial resistance to silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) remains in its infancy and the mechanism(s) through which it evolves are limited and inconclusive. The central question remains whether bacterial resistance is driven by the AgNPs, released Ag(I) ions or a combination of these and other factors. Here, we show a specific resistance in an *Escherichia coli* K-12 MG1655 strain to subinhibitory concentrations of AgNPs, and not Ag(I) ions, as indicated by a statistically significant greater-than-twofold increase in the minimum inhibitory concentration occurring after eight repeated passages that was maintained after the AgNPs were removed and reintroduced. Whole-population genome sequencing identified a *cusS* mutation associated with the heritable resistance that possibly increased silver ion efflux. Finally, we rule out the effect of particle aggregation on resistance and suggest that the mechanism of resistance may be enhanced or mediated by flagellum-based motility.

The increasing minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values show the gradual development of bacterial resistance against silver NPs.

Bacteria	MIC (mg l ⁻¹)																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
E. coli CCM 3954	3.38	6.75	3.38	6.75	6.75	13.5	13.5	54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54	>54
P. aeruginosa CCM 3955	1.69	3.38	0.89	1.69	3.38	3.38	1.69	1.69	3.38	3.38	6.75	27	54	>54	54	54	>54	54	>54	54
<i>E. coli</i> 013	13.5	27	13.5	27	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	27	27	54	>54	>54	>54	>54	54	>54	>54

Panáček, Aleš, et al. "Bacterial resistance to silver nanoparticles and how to overcome it." Nature nanotechnology 13.1 (2018): 65-71.

Bacterial resistance to silver nanoparticles



a,b, Pristine non-aggregated silver NPs

c,d, aggregated silver NPs after culturing for 24 hours with 'Ag-resistant' *Escherichia coli (E. coli) CCM 3954*.

e,f, Aggregation of silver NPs induced by resistant *E. coli CCM 3954*.

The aggregation of nanosilver is the main reason for the silver nanoparticle antimicrobial resistance

What will happen if there is no aggregation?



Part 1. Bacterial resistance induced by silver nanoparticles based on aggregation and no aggregation conditions

Hypothesis

Semi-permeable capsules (SPC) may be able to resolve the problem of aggregation of nanomaterials



A droplet microfluidic generated cells in semipermeable capsules (SPCs)





Generating bacteria (*E.coli*) into SPCs and Monitering SPC-*E.coli* from 0h to 24hs





Monitering SPC-*E.coli* from 0h to 24hs

- At 3 hrs: it is able to see *E.coli*
- At 5 hrs: *E.coli* is growing in SPCs, and SPCs start growing
- At 8 hrs: SPCs stop growing



The interactions of AgNPs with E.coli and SPC-E.coli

- Nanomaterials: 10 nm silver nanomaterials (AgNPs) (nanoCompsix, USA, OECD standard, 1mg/ml in water)
- Bacteria: E. coli ATCC 25922



E. coli ATCC 25922



Images of SPC-E.coli & AgNPs at 24hs



MIC of AgNPs to E.coli and SPC-E.coli (27-06)

AgNPs Concentration: 0, 3.125, 6.25, 12.5, 25, 50 ug/ml



Summary

1. Bacterial resistance induced by AgNPs (aggregation and no aggregation conditions)

- Dose-response issues: control the same number of initial bacteria
- Identify the AgNPs concentration in SPCs

2. Visualization of nanoparticles and bacteria in SPCs: quantum dots and GFP-labeled bacteria

3. MIC and gene detection of antimicrobial nanomaterials in single-cell exposure level







Part 2.

Bacterial resistance to silver nanomaterials based on the different shapes and size





The basic features of nanomaterials support their interactions with biological systems



Yagublu, Vugar, et al. "Overview of physicochemical properties of nanoparticles as drug carriers for targeted cancer therapy." Journal of Functional Biomaterials 13.4 (2022): 196.

Silver nanomaterials



Thank you!