

BIODEGRADATION OF CARBAMAZEPINE USING FUNGI AND BACTERIAN. M. Nasir¹, S. A. Talib², S. N. Hashim³ and C. C. Tay^{1,2,*}

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ABSTRACT

Carbamazepine is an anti-epileptic pharmaceutical compound which is frequently detected in wastewater. However, this compound is hardly degraded naturally due to its persistency. Thus, carbamazepine presents in water stream and household water supply as well as wastewater treatment plant. This paper focuses on various species of fungi and bacteria used in carbamazepine biodegradation and the carbamazepine degrading-enzymes involved in the degradation pathways. Selected research papers on carbamazepine biodegradation using fungi and bacteria were reviewed. The efficiency and approaches in term of methodologies and technologies used were highlighted in this paper. Such study sheds light on gaps of study and future research direction on carbamazepine biodegradation.

Keywords: biodegradation; carbamazepine; method; pharmaceuticals.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Emerging pollutants are new chemicals without regulatory status and the impacts on health and environment are poorly understood [1]. An example of emerging pollutants is pharmaceutical carbamazepine.

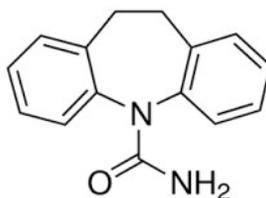


Fig.1. Carbamazepine structure

Carbamazepine (5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepine-5-carboxamide) is an anticonvulsant pharmaceutical commonly used in treatment of epilepsy, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and trigeminal neuralgia [2]. Upon consumption by patients, approximately 72% of carbamazepine was absorbed, metabolized and excreted through urine. However, 28% failed to transform and discharged into water through faeces[3]. This compound eventually flows into wastewater.

Carbamazepine is frequently detected in wastewater and difficult to be degraded due to its complex structure and resistance to biodegradation [3]. Current wastewater treatment plants are not designed for removal of pharmaceuticals. Thus, this compound presents in treated wastewater at concentration ranging from ngL^{-1} to μgL^{-1} [2].

Carbamazepine in wastewater causes negative effects to environment and animals. Carbamazepine was detected in embryo of pregnant mice when the mother was exposed to environmental concentration of carbamazepine through drinking water [4]. Exposure of carbamazepine on fish *Jenynsia multidentata* caused irregular cortisol activity and aggressive behaviour[5]. A study conducted on other fishes species *Pimephales notatus* and *Ictalurus punctatus* showed detection of carbamazepine in brain, liver, plasma and white muscle after exposed to carbamazepine for 28 days [2]. Another study on insect, midge *Chironomus riparius* showed an increase in mortality of the species when carbamazepine was applied [6]. Since various studies demonstrated that carbamazepine causes adverse effects on animals, biodegradation of this compound is crucial to protect animals and the environment.

Biodegradation is an effective method for carbamazepine degradation [3]. However, complete degradation of this compound is hardly achieved. This paper focuses on efficiency of

carbamazepine biodegradation using variety of fungi and bacteria. Both fungi and bacteria have extracellular enzymes that function to cleave the complex compound bonds, hence reducing carbamazepine concentration. This paper also provides list of carbamazepine-degrading enzymes involve in biodegradation.

2. BIODEGRADATION USING FUNGI

Biodegradation of carbamazepine using fungi is conducted since fungi are known to have capabilities in degrading persistent pollutants [7]. The fungi species used in carbamazepine biodegradation include *Trichoderma harzianum* [8], *Pleurotus ostreatus* (normal strain [8], AC9 [9]), immobilized *Trametes versicolor* [10], *Trametes versicolor* (ATCC [11], ATCC 42530 [12], ATCC 7731 [13] and NRRL 66313 [14]), *Aspergillus niger* [15], *Cunninghamella elegans* ATCC 9254 [16], *Umbelopsis ramanniana* R-56 [16] and *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* (mobilized strain F-1767 [17] and immobilized strain F-1767 [18]).

Summary of carbamazepine degradation by fungi according to species is listed in Table 1. Efficiency, different types of system applied, experimental condition and enzyme involved were discussed in following sections.

Table 1. Fungal degradation of carbamazepine

Fungi	Efficiency	System Applied	Condition	Enzyme Involved	References
<i>Trichoderma harzianum</i>	72%	Culture: Batch flask Extraction: SPE HLB cartridge Analysis: Liquid chromatography-high resolution tandem mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: $4\mu\text{gL}^{-1}$ Period: 15 days Temperature: 25 °C pH: 7.6 Medium: Murashige and Skoog media (liquid)	Cytochrome P450 enzymes	[8]
<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	68%	Culture: Batch flask Extraction: SPE HLB	Initial concentration: $4\mu\text{gL}^{-1}$	Cytochrome P450	[8]

		cartridge	Period: 15 days	enzymes	
		Analysis: Liquid chromatography-high resolution tandem mass spectrometry	Temperature: 25 °C pH: 7.6 Medium: Murashige and Skoog media (liquid)		
Pleurotus ostreatus PC9	GP: 99%	Culture: Glucose peptone (GP), solid state fermentation using cotton stalk	GP: Initial concentration: 37 mmolg ⁻¹ Period: 25 days Temperature: 28 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Glucose peptone media (liquid) SSF on cotton stalk	Cytochrome P450 enzymes, epoxide hydrolase	[9]
		Extraction: Not stated Analysis: Liquid chromatography-high resolution mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: 110 mmolg ⁻¹ Period: 60 days Temperature: 28 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Cotton stalk (solid)		
		Solid state fermentation (SSF) using cotton stalk:			
		More than 80%			
Pleurotus ostreatus PC9	No inhibitor: 99%	Culture: Flask culture of cytochrome P450 (CYP450) enzyme inhibitor, flask culture of manganese peroxidase inhibitor	Initial concentration: 10 mgL ⁻¹ , 1 µgL ⁻¹ Period: 32 days Temperature: 28 °C pH: 4.5 Medium: Glucose peptone media (liquid)	Manganese peroxidase, versatile peroxidase	[19]
		CYP450 inhibitor: 30%			

		Analysis: Liquid			
	Manganese	chromatography-mass spectrometry			
	peroxidase inhibitor:	99.7%			
Trametes versicolor	57%	Culture: Batch flask	Initial concentration:	Laccase	[12]
ATCC 42530		Extraction: Not stated	0.067 mgg ⁻¹		
		Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Period: 72 hours		
			Temperature: 25 °C		
			pH: 4.5		
			Medium: Bioslurry (solid)		
			Carbon source: Glucose		
Trametes versicolor	Batch flask: 94% for 9 mgL ⁻¹ and 61% for 50 µgL ⁻¹	Culture: Batch flask and bioreactor	Batch flask: Initial concentration: 9 mgL ⁻¹ , 50 µgL ⁻¹	Laccase	[11]
ATCC		Extraction: Solid phase extraction (SPE)	Period: 6 days, 7 days		
		Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-UV	Temperature: 25 °C		
			pH: 4.5		
			Medium: Kirk medium (liquid)		
			Bioreactor: Initial concentration: 200 µgL ⁻¹		
			Period: 15 days		
			Temperature: 25 °C		
			pH: 4.5		

			Medium: Kirk medium (liquid) Carbon source: Glucose		
Trametes versicolor (immobilized laccase on TiO ₂ nanoparticles)	Biocatalytic membrane reactor: 40% Membrane hybrid reactor: 68%	Culture: Biocatalytic membrane reactor, membrane hybrid reactor Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Biocatalytic membrane reactor Initial concentration: 20µM Period: 96 hours pH: 7 Medium: Permeate media (liquid) Membrane hybrid reactor: Initial concentration: 20 µM Period: 96 hours pH: 7 Medium: Permeate media (liquid) *temperature not stated	Laccase	[10]
Trametes versicolor (immobilized laccase on chitosan nanoparticles)	0%	Culture: Magnetic biocatalyst Extraction: Not stated Analysis: Not stated	Initial concentration: 100 µgL ⁻¹ Period: 12 hours Temperature: 20 °C pH: 7 Medium: Sodium acetate buffer (liquid)	Laccase	[20]

Trametes versicolor NRRL 66313	Less than 60%	Culture: Aerated batch reactor Extraction: Liquid-liquid extraction Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-phot odiode array detection, gas chromatography-time- of-flight mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: 350 μgL^{-1} Period: 8 days Temperature: 25 \pm 2 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ pH: 4.5 Medium: Kirk media (liquid) Carbon source: glucose (5 gL^{-1})	Laccase, lignin peroxidase and manganese peroxidase	[14]
Trametes versicolor ATCC 7731	10%	Culture: Batch flask Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-UV	Initial concentration: 930 μgL^{-1} Period: 22 hours Temperature: 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ pH: 4.5 Medium: Liquid	Laccase	[13]
Cunningh amellaele gans ATCC 9254	43%	Culture: Batch flask Extraction: Ethyl acetate and sodium sulphate Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: 1 μM Period: 25 days Temperature: 28 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ pH: Not stated Medium: Potato dextrose broth (liquid)	Not stated	[16]

Umbelop sisramann iana R-56	26%	Culture: Batch flask Extraction: Ethyl acetate and sodium sulphate Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: 1 μM Period: 25 days Temperature: 28 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Potato dextrose broth (liquid)	Not stated	[16]
Phanero chaetochry sosporiu m BKM F-1767	60-80%	Culture: Sequence plate bioreactor Extraction: 0.25 μm membrane Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 5 mgL^{-1} and 1 mgL^{-1} Period: 100 days Temperature: 34-37 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Kirk media (liquid)	Lignin peroxidase , manganese peroxidase	[17]
Phanero chaetochry sosporiu m BKM F-1767 (immobili zed)	80%	Culture: Countercurrent seepage bioreactor Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 1000 μgL^{-1} Period: 165 days Temperature: 30 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Modified Kirk media (liquid)	Manganese peroxidase	[21]
Phanero chaetochry sosporiu m BKM F-1767	More than 90%	Culture: Rotating suspension cartridge reactor Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High	Initial concentration: 1000 μgL^{-1} Period: 160 days Temperature: 25 °C pH: Not stated	Lignin peroxidase , manganese peroxidase	[18]

(immobilized)		performance liquid chromatography	Medium: Modified Kirk media (liquid)		
Aspergillus niger	9%	Culture: Batch flask culture	Initial concentration: 11.4 mgL ⁻¹	Not stated	[15]
		Extraction:	Period: 7 days		
		Centrifugation (retain supernatant)	Temperature: 26 °C		
		Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-diode array detector	pH: Not stated		
			Medium: Minimum mineral salt media (liquid)		
			Additional carbon: 3 gL ⁻¹ glucose		

2.1. Efficiency of Fungi Degradation According to Methods

Different types of methods used in carbamazepine biodegradation include batch culture, bioreactor, biocatalyst and solid state fermentation.

2.1.1. Batch Culture

Fungi *Trichoderma reesei* degraded 72% of carbamazepine within 15 days, meanwhile *Pleurotus ostreatus* degraded 68% of the compound within 15 days at similar condition in Murashige and Skoog media [8]. Another study conducted by [9] showed *Pleurotus ostreatus* of strain PC9 managed to degrade 99% of carbamazepine in 25 days when glucose peptone (GP) media was used for degradation experiment. Another study also showed consistent result where *Trametes versicolor* strain ATCC 42530 degraded 57% of carbamazepine within 72 hours in bioslurry medium with glucose as additional carbon source [12].

Different types of media affect degradation efficiency. Since Murashige and Skoog media contains limited minerals, fungi utilize carbamazepine as sole carbon source immediately for growth and result in fast degradation. Glucose peptone contains carbon source for fungi growth. Thus, fungi in this media utilized both carbon source from glucose peptone and carbamazepine slowly, resulted in slower but higher degradation percentage. Fungi *Aspergillus niger* reported only managed to degrade 9% of carbamazepine after 7 days even though additional carbon of 3 gL⁻¹ glucose was added [15]. This reveals that different

types of fungi species require different types of carbon source.

For effects of enzymes on carbamazepine degradation, fungi *Pleurotusostreatus* PC9 demonstrated 99% carbamazepine degradation within 32 days when enzyme inhibitor was absent in the culture. When enzyme inhibitors were added, degradation efficiency changed. The culture with cytochrome P450 enzyme inhibitor experienced reduction in degradation efficiency resulted in only 30% degradation. Favourably, another system with manganese peroxidase inhibitor resulted in a slight increment with degradation efficiency of 99.7% [19]. This suggests that addition of enzyme inhibitor has positive or negative effect on fungi carbamazepine degradation as it depends on fungi metabolism system.

Next, there are also studies that investigated the effect of different initial concentration on degradation efficiency. Fungi *Trametesversicolor* of strain ATCC resulted in 94% of 9 mgL^{-1} carbamazepine degradation within 6 days. However, this fungi species only degraded 61% of $50 \text{ }\mu\text{gL}^{-1}$ carbamazepine at similar condition [11]. It can be hypothesized that high concentration of carbamazepine provided more carbon source, hence the degradation was more efficient. Another study also showed relatively the similar findings where *Trametesversicolor* of strain ATCC 7731 managed to degrade only 10% of low concentration $930 \text{ }\mu\text{gL}^{-1}$ carbamazepine within 22 hours [13].

There is also study that investigated the potential of non-ligninolytic and ligninolytic fungi for carbamazepine degradation. Fungi *Cunninghamellaelegans* ATCC 9254 and *Umbelopsisramanniana* R-56 resulted in only 43% and 26% of carbamazepine degradation respectively after 25 days at similar condition [16]. The result showed non-ligninolytic fungi only capable to degrade less than 50% degradation. From the study, it can be hypothesized that ligninolyticfungi was more efficient in degrading carbamazepine where the efficiency reached 99% when ligninolytic fungi *Pleurotusostreatus* was used [19].

2.1.2. Bioreactor

Different types of bioreactor used in carbamazepine biodegradation include:

2.1.2.1. Standard Bioreactor

Trametesversicolor ATCC resulted in 54% carbamazepine degradation after 15 days with glucose as additional carbon source [11].

2.1.2.2. Biocatalytic Membrane Bioreactor

Laccase of *Trametes versicolor* immobilized on titanium oxide (TiO₂) only resulted in 40% carbamazepine degradation after 96 hours [10].

2.1.2.3. Membrane Hybrid Bioreactor

Laccase of *Trametes versicolor* immobilized on titanium oxide (TiO₂) resulted in 68% carbamazepine degradation at similar condition as biocatalytic membrane bioreactor [10].

2.1.2.4. Aerated Batch Bioreactor

Trametes versicolor NRRL 66313 degraded less than 60% carbamazepine after 8 days. Additional carbon source of 5 gL⁻¹ glucose was supplied [14].

2.1.2.5. Sequence Plate Bioreactor

Fungi *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* BKM F-1767 resulted in 60-80% carbamazepine degradation after 100 days [17].

2.1.2.6. Countercurrent Seepage Bioreactor

Immobilized *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* BKM F-1767 degraded 80% of carbamazepine within 165 days [21].

2.1.2.7. Rotating Suspension Cartridge Bioreactor

Immobilized *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* BKM F-1767 managed to degrade more than 90% of carbamazepine after 160 days [18].

2.1.2.8. Biocatalyst

Magnetic biocatalyst was conducted using immobilized laccase of *Trametes versicolor* on chitosan nanoparticles failed to degrade carbamazepine after 12 hours [20].

2.1.2.9. Solid State Fermentation

Fungi *Pleurotus ostreatus* PC9 was used for solid state fermentation using cotton stalk and able to degrade more than 80% carbamazepine after 60 days [9].

2.1.2.10. Summary

Among all methods used in degradation of carbamazepine using fungi, *Pleurotus ostreatus* in batch culture was the most effective where 99% degradation was achieved. Membrane hybrid bioreactor was also effective since laccase of fungi *Trametes versicolor* capable to degrade carbamazepine with 60% efficiency within short time which was 96 hours. Sequence plate

bioreactor, countercurrent seepage bioreactor, rotating suspension cartridge bioreactor and solid state fermentation using cotton stalk also resulted in high degradation efficiency. However, these experimental methods were time consuming.

2.2. Carbamazepine Degrading Enzymes from Fungi

Carbamazepine-degrading enzymes produced by fungi include:

- Cytochrome P450 enzyme [8, 19]
- Manganese peroxidase [14, 17-19]
- Versatile peroxidase [19]
- Laccase [10-14, 20]
- Lignin peroxidase [14, 18, 22]

All of the conducted studies on carbamazepine degrading enzymes are qualitative study. These enzymes play important role in carbamazepine degradation pathways. A study by [16] proposed that carbamazepine degraded through mixed mono-oxidation reactions (hydroxylation and epoxidation). Both fungi *Cunninghamella elegans* ATCC 9254 and *Umbelopsis ramanniana* R-56 produced 10,11-dihydro-10,11-epoxycarbamazepine (CBZ-EP) as major metabolite and 3-hydroxycarbamazepine as one of the minor metabolites. *C. elegans* also produced 2-hydroxycarbamazepine, while *U. ramanniana* exhibited new metabolites of hydroxycarbamazepine and 4-hydroxycarbamazepine.

Another study proposed a detailed pathway, where 24 metabolites were identified during carbamazepine degradation [9]. The three pathways involved were oxidation, hydrolysis and methoxylation. The main pathway was oxidation of carbamazepine into 10,11-dihydro-10,11-epoxycarbamazepine (CBZ-EP). This reaction was aided by enzymes cytochrome oxidase and manganese peroxidase. Then, hydrolysis reaction converted the metabolite to dihydroxide carbamazepine (diOH-CBZ). It was suggested that epoxide hydrolase involved in this reaction. The process was followed by methoxylation resulting in formation of 10-methoxy-carbamazepine. The major metabolite identified in this study is similar to [16].

3. BIODEGRADATION USING BACTERIA

Bacteria are also one of the microorganisms group which capable to degrade organic

pollutants [7]. Since bacteria grow rapidly, application of this microorganism group can result in fast degradation of carbamazepine. Studies on biodegradation of carbamazepine using bacteria are limited. There were various carbamazepine biodegradation studies that utilized bacteria such as *Streptomyces* MIUG 4.89 [23-24], *Streptomyces* SNA [24], *Serratia* sp. [25], *Rhodococcus* rhodochrous [15], *Pseudomonas* CBZ-4 [3], mixed culture of *Aquicella* sp., *Microvirga* sp. and family *Rhodobacteraceae* [26], mixed culture of *Spinghomonas* sp., unclassified family of *Spinghomonadaceae* and *Xanthomonadaceae* [26], mixed culture of *Acetobacter* US1, *Bacillus* halodurans, *Micrococcus* SBS-8 and *Pseudomonas putida* [27], mixed culture of *Spinghobacterium* sp., *Chryseobacterium* sp. and *Alcaligenes* sp. [28] and *Paraburkholderia* xenovorans LB400 [29].

Table 2 showed summary of carbamazepine degradation by various bacteria species. This table is classified according to efficiency, different types of system applied, experimental condition and enzyme involved.

Table 2. Bacterial degradation of carbamazepine

Bacteria	Efficiency	System Applied	Condition	Enzyme Involved	References
<i>Streptomyces</i> MIUG 4.89	30%	Culture: Batch reactor Extraction: Centrifugation (supernatant retain) Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 0.2 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 7 days Temperature: 25 °C pH: 6 Medium: Basal media (liquid) Additional carbon: 6.5 gL ⁻¹ glucose, 2 gL ⁻¹ yeast	Not stated	[23]
<i>Streptomyces</i> MIUG 4.89	35%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Not stated	Initial concentration: 0.2 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 7 days	Laccase Phenoloxidase	[24]

		Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Temperature: 25 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Minimal media (liquid) Additional carbon: 5 gL ⁻¹ glucose		
Streptomycetes SNA	30%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 0.2 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 7 days Temperature: 25 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Minimal media (liquid) Additional carbon: 5 gL ⁻¹ glucose	Laccase	[24]
Rhodococcus rhodochrous	15%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Centrifugation (retain supernatant) Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-diode array detector	Initial concentration: 9.5 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 7 days Temperature: 26 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Minimum mineral salt media (liquid) Additional carbon: 3 gL ⁻¹ glucose	Not stated	[15]
Pseudomonas CBZ-4	46.6%	Culture: Aerobic batch flask culture Extraction: Ethyl acetate	Initial concentration: 9.5 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 144 hours	Not stated	[3]

		Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Temperature: 10 °C pH: 7 Medium: Dominic and Graham media (liquid)		
Serratiasp.	0%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Chloroform application Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 0.75 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 20 days Temperature: Not stated pH: Not stated Medium: Bushnell Haas media (liquid)	Not stated	[25]
Aquicellasp., Microvirgas p., Rhodobacter aceae mixed bacteria culture	Aerob ic: 12.8- 14.5 %	Culture: Aerobic and anaerobic batch amber bottle culture Extraction: QuECHERS for soil extraction followed by solid phase extraction for liquid Analysis: Liquid chromatography mass spectrometry	Initial concentration: 50 ngg ⁻¹ , 500 ngg ⁻¹ , 5000 ngg ⁻¹ Period: 14 days Temperature: Not stated pH: Not stated Medium: Soil (solid)	Not stated	[26]
Spinghomon assp., unclass ified family of Spinghomon adaceae and	More than 25%	Culture: Aerobic and anaerobic batch amber bottle culture Extraction: QuECHERS for soil extraction followed by solid phase	Initial concentration: 5000 ngg ⁻¹ Period: 14 days Temperature: Not stated pH: Not stated	Not stated	[26]

Xanthomona ndaceae mixed bacteria culture		extraction for liquid Analysis: Liquid chromatography mass spectrometry	Medium: Soil (solid)		
Acetinoacte r US1., Bacillus halodurans, Micrococcus SBS-8, Pseudomona s putida mixed bacteria culture	60%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Solid phase extraction Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography	Initial concentration: 100 µgL ⁻¹ Period: 12 days Temperature: 30 °C pH: 7 Medium: LB media (liquid)	Not stated	[27]
Sphingobact erium sp., Chryseobact erium sp., Alcaligeness p. mixed bacteria culture	With acetat e: 20%	Culture: Batch flask culture Extraction: Not stated Analysis: High performance liquid chromatography-diode array detector	Initial concentration: 25 µgmL ⁻¹ Period: 14 days Temperature: 25 °C pH: Not stated Medium: Minimal media (liquid) Additional carbon: 100 µgmL ⁻¹ acetate	Not stated	[28]
Paraburkhol deriaxenovor ansLB400	100%	Culture: Batch serum bottle culture (direct biological method) Extraction: Ethyl acetate	Initial concentration: 10 mgL ⁻¹ Period: 24 hours Temperature: 25 °C	Biphenyl dioxygen ase, dihydrodi	[29]

Analysis: High	pH: 7	ol
performance liquid	Medium: Phosphate	dehydrog
chromatography-diode	buffer (liquid)	enase
array detector, High		
performance liquid		
chromatography-mass		
spectrometry, gas		
chromatography-mass		
spectrometry		

3.1. Efficiency of Bacteria Degradation According to Methods

Different types of methods used in carbamazepine biodegradation using bacteria include batch flask culture, bioreactor, batch amber culture bottle and batch serum culture bottle.

3.1.1. Batch Flask Culture

Bacteria *Streptomyces* MIUG 4.89 degraded only 35% carbamazepine during 7 days of experimental period when 5 gL⁻¹ of glucose was added as carbon source [24]. Meanwhile, bacteria *Streptomyces* SNA resulted in lower carbamazepine degradation which is 30% during similar experimental period and condition. Bacteria *Rhodococcus* rhodochrous managed to degrade only 15% of carbamazepine after 7 days even though additional carbon source of 3 gL⁻¹ glucose was added [15]. Another study demonstrated that *Pseudomonas* CBZ-4 capable to degrade only 46.6% of carbamazepine after 144 hours period [3]. Bacteria *Serratia* sp. failed to degrade carbamazepine even though it was cultured during a long period of 20 days [25].

Individual flask culture study was less efficient in degrading carbamazepine. None of the individual flask culture study achieved more than 50% degradation. Moreover, addition of carbon source did not enhance degradation of carbamazepine.

Next, mixed bacteria culture studies were also conducted. Mixed bacteria culture of *Acetobacter* US1, *Bacillus* halodurans, *Micrococcus* SBS-8 and *Pseudomonas* putida degraded 60% of bacteria within 7 days of experimental period [27]. This revealed that mixed bacteria was more efficient compared to individual flask culture study. However, another mixed bacteria culture study of *Spinghobacterium* sp., *Chryseobacterium* sp. and *Alcaligenes*

sp. only able to degrade 20% of carbamazepine when $100 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ of acetate was added as additional carbon source. Meanwhile, biodegradation efficiency decreased to 10% when acetate was absence [28]. Mixed bacteria culture may provide synergistic effects or antagonistic effects depending on bacteria species. Additional nutrient source effect study is limited and further investigation should be continued.

3.1.2. Bioreactor

Standard bioreactor was used to degrade carbamazepine using bacteria *Streptomyces* MIUG 4.89. This strain only degraded 30% of carbamazepine after 7 days with additional carbon source of 6.5 g L^{-1} glucose and 2 g L^{-1} yeast [23].

3.1.3. Batch amber Bottle Culture

Degradation experiment was conducted by comparing aerobic and anaerobic condition of batch amber bottle culture in soil medium. Mixed bacteria culture of *Aquicella* sp., *Microvirga* sp. and family *Rhodobacteraceae* only degraded 12.8-14.5% of carbamazepine in aerobic condition within 14 days and only degraded 6.2-14.9% of carbamazepine in anaerobic condition within the same experimental period and condition. Another mixed bacteria culture study of *Spinghobacterium* sp., *Chryseobacterium* sp. and *Alcaligenes* sp. only managed to degrade more than 25% of carbamazepine in soil medium within 14 days [26].

3.1.4. Batch Serum Bottle Culture

Bacteria *Paraburkholderia xenovorans* LB400 achieved complete degradation of carbamazepine within 24 hours [29].

3.1.5. Summary

Based on various studies, different biodegradation methods have no significant effects on carbamazepine degradation by bacteria. Bacteria *Paraburkholderia xenovorans* LB400 degraded 100% carbamazepine due to its ability to release various types of enzymes that play important roles in carbamazepine degradation. Mixed bacteria culture of *Acetivibrio* US1, *Bacillus halodurans*, *Micrococcus* SBS-8 and *Pseudomonas putida* also showed efficient degradation with 60% degradation rate. Other individual culture and mixed bacteria culture only degraded less than 50% carbamazepine. In mixed bacteria culture, there was limited nutrient, thus, bacteria die and resulted in inefficient degradation. Hence, bacteria characteristics and its adaptability in carbamazepine environment need to be determine before

study is conducted.

3.2. Carbamazepine Degrading Enzymes of Bacteria

Carbamazepine-degrading enzymes produced by bacteria include:

- Laccase[24]
- Phenoloxidase[24]
- Biphenyl dioxygenase[29]
- Dihydrodiol dehydrogenase [29]

In [29] proposed a pathway of carbamazepine degradation by bacteria *Paraburkholderia xenovorans* LB400. The main metabolites include *cis*-10,11-dihydroxy-10,11-dihydrocarbamazepine and *cis*-2,3-dihydroxy-2,3-dihydrocarbamazepine. The enzyme involved was biphenyl dioxygenase. Further reaction utilized dihydrodiol dehydrogenase enzyme and converted the *cis*-dihydrodiols into carbamazepine-diol and 2-hydroxycarbamazepine. For laccase and phenoloxidase enzymes, the study only identified the presence of enzymes qualitatively hence, no pathway is proposed.

4. CONCLUSION

Various fungi and bacteria are capable in degrading carbamazepine. The difference in degradation efficiency is mainly affected by fungi and bacteria properties and its ability to release enzymes that aid in carbamazepine degradation. For fungi, different types of methods affect degradation efficiency. Meanwhile, for bacteria applications of advanced methods do not necessarily enhance the degradation efficiency. There are gaps of study in addition of carbon source utilization by both fungi and bacteria. Utilization of carbon source differs according to species. Thus, further study is needed on this topic. Next, for enzymes study, to authors' best knowledge, there is no proposed pathway that involved laccase enzyme in carbamazepine degradation using bacteria and fungi. Hence, detailed study on pathways involving this enzyme is needed. This study leads to further development and application of carbamazepine bioremediation.

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