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RESEARCH ARTICLE

RECOMBINANT PROBIOTIC SACCHAROMYCES CEREVISIAE VAR. BOULARDII AS BIO-MEDICINE: A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Strategies have been developing to treat and prevent physiological and metabolic disorders by use of genetically modified microorganisms as a nutritional supplement. The present review focuses on the recombinant probiotics of Saccharomyces cerevisiae var. boulardii, which plays a major role in human gastric conditions like high temperature, low pH, mixtures of organic acids, maximum bile, high concentrations of gastric juices, and anaerobic conditions. Along with this tolerance, recombinant probiotics can absorb zinc sulfate, enhance vitamin B6 productivity, convert CIN into COU, and resist 5-fluoroorotic acid, uracil, and uridine by the expression of desired enzymes, whereas in the wild type it is not observed. Probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae, in addition to its probiotic activity, has been showing a few therapeutic applications in humans, like enhanced antimicrobial and prophylactic activity by point mutations and by the expression of serum albumin, insulin, transferrin, hirudin, urate oxidase enzymes, and GM-CSF. After genetic manipulation in the probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae, it enhanced immunological effects in the host for the expressed antigens like β-lactamase, S. aureus nuclease A, TSST-I, the A-chain of Shiga-like toxin, heat-labile enterotoxin, cholera toxin-B, ASPs, Bloom and Werner's syndrome, HBsAg, HCV, PEDV, cervical cancer, CD4+, and CD8+. Similar findings were noted with recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae in veterinary applications like phytate degradation, bovine interferon, growth hormone expression, and immunization to IBD, porcine pleuropneumonia, PPV, ETEC antigens, etc. In the fishery field, recombinant Saccharomyces cerevisiae is used as a probiotic for nutritional supplements, for the expression of growth hormone, for immunization to Vibrio harveyi, and for pancreatic necrosis. Slight modifications in the gene sequence and by expression of specific genes in beneficial organisms like the probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae may result in reduction of metabolic disorders in the living forms.

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INTRODUCTION

Genera of Saccharomyces, Kluyveromyces and some other yeast strains are animal and environmentally friendly microorganisms (Kopp Hoolihan, 2001). These strains have been applied to nutritional, clinical, therapeutic and industrial processes. These are highly specialized microorganisms as they utilize ecological niches for their potential growth (Querol et al., 2003). For adapting to these conditions, microorganisms were exposed to traditional (mutations) and applied genetic modifications (recombinant DNA technology) (Primrose, 1986) to develop safe mutant for several applications. Now a days, these recombinant microorganisms are administered orally for several medical applications as biodrug therapy (Alric et al., 2000; Blanquet et al., 2001; Corthier et al., 1999). Xenobiotics like pesticides, procarcinogens, and chemical additives were detoxified by expressing cytochrome p450 enzyme (Fahl et al., 1999; Srinivas et 2021). Another important property of recombinant microorganisms is activation of prodrug into drug in the digestive tract directly (Blanquet et al., 2001), corrects metabolic disorders like gastric enzymes deficiency (Drouault et al., 2002) and organ failure

(kidney) (Prakash et al., 2000). Genetically modified microorganisms, such as bacteria and yeast act as a new delivery vehicle to the gastrointestinal tract of human and animals for development of innovative drugs (Blanquet et al., 2001). Among these organisms Saccharomyces cerevisiae var. boulardii is selected (Corthier et al., 1999; Canganella et al., 1997), because heterologous genes can be functionally expressed especially in the eukaryotic environment (Corthier et al., 1999). S. cerevisiae, has also been used as a probiotic for human (Canganella et al., 1997) applications, as it is "generally recognized as safe", eukaryotic, and it tolerates digestive secretions (Blanquet et al., 2003). Recombinant yeast strains show highest viability in human upper gastrointestinal tract and viability decreases 1% for 24hrs in the large intestine (Blehaut et al., 1989). An attractive and alternative commonly used route of vaccination is oral vaccination, because yeast has potential live delivery system and it is inherently non -pathogen (Yu et al., 1996; Scott., D. et al., 1998; Andressa Ardiani et al., 2010). Saccharomyces has the ability to perform eukaryotic post translational modifications and express a wide range of therapeutic proteins and growth hormones in humans (Lauren., H. et al., 2015), veterinary and fishery field (Ellis et al.,

APPLICATIONS OF RECOMBINANT PROBIOTIC SACCHAROMYCES CEREVISIAE VAR. BOULARDII:

Revolutionary impact in the area of human healthcare has been made by the development of recombinant DNA (rDNA) technology by production of large-scale rDNA products. Now a days, numerous rDNA products like hormones of therapeutic interest, haemopoietic growth factors, blood coagulation products, thrombolytic agents, anticoagulants, interferons, and therapeutic enzymes are being produced for human applications (Bhopale *et al.*, 2005). To reduce economical values in scale up production, probiotic *S. cerevisiae* has to utilize economically cheaper substrates such as agro waste. Wild *S. cerevisiae* can't utilize cellulolytic medium, where as recombinant strain can utilize by expressing cellulose degrading enzymes such as endoglucanase, exoglycanase and β-glucosidase (Dae Kyun Chung *et al.*, 1997).

Human Gastrointestinal Applications: Probiotic characteristics of free-living Saccharomyces cerevisiae is that it must adapt to stress conditions like temperature, (Daquinag et al., 2007) mixture of organic acids, pH, bile (Hassan Hamedi et al., 2013), high concentration of digestive secretions like trypsin, amylase, pepsin and toxic ions (Trabalzini et al., 2003; Platara et al., 2006, Srinivas et al., 2017). Viability of mutant or recombinant Saccharomyces boulardii is higher than wild, when cultured in anaerobic gastric environment (Lauren., H. et al., 2015). Surveillance of wild and recombinant Saccharomyces boulardii at pH 3.0 and 0.3% bile concentration is 4.7; 7.7 log CFU and 5.0; 8.3 logs CFU respectively. Recombinants can also tolerate 5% bile and alkaline pH (Abdel et al., 2007). 100mM acetic acid at pH 4.5 creates toxic environment to wild type Saccharomyces cerevisiae, but it favors the viability of recombinants, 0.4-1.8% Zinc Sulphate absorption was observed in wild type and 2.2-3.5% in recombinant (Nuno et al., 2010). Vitamin B6 productivity of wild type Saccharomyces boulardii is 0.8mg/g biomass but in recombinant it is 1.13mg/g (Ahmed Nageb Sharaf et al., 2009).

Survival rate in digestive secretions of Cytochrome p450 73A1 expressing recombinant Saccharomyces cerevisiae is 95.6% ± 10.1% and (Klein et al., 1993) for wild type is $36\% \pm 0.31\%$ (Pecquet et al., 1991; Yu et al., 1996) after 4hrs of digestion. Bioconversion rate of trans-cinnamic acid (CIN) into p-coumaric acid (COU) 35.9% ± 2.7%, $41.0\% \pm 5.8\%$, $8.9\% \pm 1.6\%$, $13.8\% \pm 3.3\%$, $11.8\% \pm 3.4\%$, $6.5\% \pm 1.0\%$ and too weak in colonic conditions, small intestine, stomach, duodenum, jejunum, ileum and large intestine respectively and 15% of CIN break down was observed with (is it a construct) plant cytochrome p450 73A1 expressing Saccharomyces cerevisiae (Blanquet et al., 2003; Garrait et al., 2007). Wild type Saccharomyces boulardii is sensitive to 5-Fluoroorotic acid, uracil and uridine due to the presence of URA3 gene (Umezu et al., 1971), but in mutant type it is resistant to 5-Fluoroorotic acid and grows well in the presence of uracil and uridine as it acts as a potential host for the production of pharmaceutical products in intestinal lumen (Arino., J. et al., 2010) (Table 1 & Fig. 2).

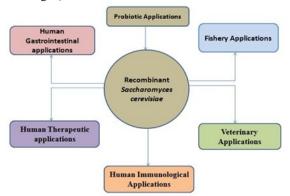


Fig. 1. Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Human Therapeutic Applications: Both therapeutic and biomanufacturing applications with animal free recombinant proteins offer effective and safe substitute to the tissue or serum derived

products (Christopher et al., 2010). Antimicrobial activity of Saccharomyces boulardii on B. cereus is 8mm, S. aureus is 5mm and it is absent in case of E. coli and P. aeruginosa (Kuhle et al., 2005), but mutant or recombinant shows enhanced antimicrobial activity on P. aeruginosa, B. cereus and S. aureus as 9mm, 11mm and 10mm respectively (Nuno et al., 2010; Lauren., H. et al., 2015). In addition to these, an important biopharmaceuticals like human serum albumin recombination pathways were reviewed by Jens., N. 2013. Various approaches have been developed for recombinant biologically active human insulin expression in Saccharomyces cerevisiae pYT7810 vector and ADH1 promoter (Stepien, 1983). Recombinant Saccharomyces boulardii plays a novel therapeutic prophylactic role in intestinal neoplasia by inhibiting its epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) and other tyrosine kinase signaling receptors (Xinhua chen et al., 2009).

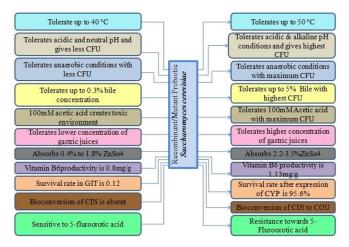


Fig. 2. Human Gastrointestinal Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

A therapeutically and diagnostically important enzyme Urate oxidase coding gene from *Aspergillus flavus* was cloned in pPICZαA vector and expressed in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* for the treatment of hyperuricemia conditions (Ramin Fazel *et al.*, 2014). Increased production of recombinant human albumin (rHA) by random mutations in ATPase cycle of Kar2p regulating genes *SIL1*, *LHS1*, *JEM1*, and *SCJ1* was observed (Payne *et al.*, 2008). Hirudin, a potent thrombin inhibitor coding gene of leech *Hirudo medicinalis* under the control of a glyceraldehyde- 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAP) promoter (Jutta., H. *et al.*, 1994) and Human, (h) murine (m) granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factors (GM-CSF) were expressed in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* by pHGM1 vector and α-factor for large scale production (Miyajima *et al.*, 1986) (Table 2 & Fig. 3).

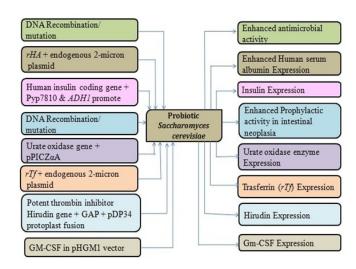


Fig. 3. Human Therapeutic Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Human Immunological Applications: The goal of therapeutic vaccines is to develop and activate patient's immune system as dynamically and enthusiastically and also offers potential prevention for disease reappearance. Saccharomyces cerevisiae based therapeutic vaccines were administrated in combination with cytotoxic drugs to achieve a greater clinical response in the host (Lauren., H. et al., 2015). Currently prokaryotic proteins like β-lactamase in pBR325 (Rainer., R. et al., 1981), Staphylococcus aureus nuclease A in Yep51vector, GAL 10 promoter (Pines., O. et al., 1991), Toxic Shock Syndrome Toxin-I (TSST-I) in pR600 vector (Robert et al., 1994), Shiga-like toxin I A-chain in pRSATT, GAL 1 promoter (Schonberger et al., 1991; Paul., L. P. et al., 2005), heat labile enterotoxin beta subunit in pYEGLTB vector, GAL1 promoter (Deresiewicz et al., 1992; Lim et al., 2009) and Cholera toxin B in pGETM-T (Mohsen., A. et al., 2005; Bita Bakhshi et al., 2014) were expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. Infective third-stage larvae (L3) of the hookworm recombinant Ancylostoma-secreted proteins (ASPs), Ancylostoma ceylanicum Ay-ASP-1 and Ay-ASP-2 were cloned into pPICZaA and expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae for the prevention of hookworm infections (Gaddam., N.G. et al., 2004). SGS1gene of Saccharomyces cerevisiae (Yu et al., 1996; Abdel et al., 2007) was cloned into pYC12 vector and expressed in S. pombe as well as Saccharomyces cerevisiae for immunization (Scott., D. et al., 1998). In this construct, two major hydrophobic fragments of hepatitis virus have been expressed on the surface of S. cerevisiae as a single fusion protein (Schreuder et al., 1996). Genetically modified HCV core E1E2 protein was cloned in pPICZaA and expressed in Pichia pastoris and S. cerevisiae for prevention of Hepatitis C Viral infection (Mehdi Fazlalipour et al., 2014).

Korean strain of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) neutralizing epitope of spike protein encoding gene K-COE was engineered with a signal peptide of rice amylase 1A (Ramyl 1A) and fused with carboxyterminal (320 amino acid residues) of alphaagglutinin, and cloned into pYEGPD vector for covalently anchoring on cell wall of S. cerevisiae with the help of glyceraldehyde-3phosphate dehydrogenase (dma) promoter (Seung., M.P. et al., 2007) to enhance immune response against PEDV. HPV 16 L1 coding sequence was cloned into YEGalpha-HIR525 vector and expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae, gene expression was regulated by GAL 1, HXT 5, PGK1, SML 1 and SSA 3 promoters (Walid., O. et al., 2005; Woo et al., 2008). For immunization of cervical cancer, viral specific engineered tumour or viral antigens CD4⁺, CD8⁺ were cloned in pGI-162 and expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae for an ideal therapeutic approach to reduce the risk of the disease (Andressa Ardiani et al., 2010; Elizabeth et al., 2008) (Table 3 & Fig. 4).

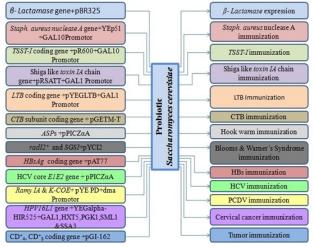


Fig. 4. Human Immunological Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Veterinary Applications: Phytate degradation was observed up to 60% in early gastric phase by sub cloning of PhyA gene of *Aspergillus niger* in pYES2 vector expressed in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* but no phytate degradation was observed in wild type (Haraldsson *et al.*, 2005; Hassan Hamedi *et al.*, 2013).

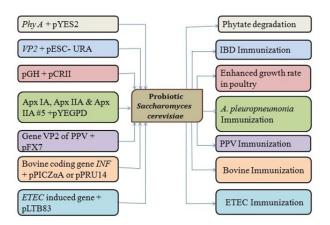


Fig. 5. Veterinary Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

An immunosuppressive disease Infectious bursal disease (IBD) in chicks was caused by *Birna virus*, which is responsible for higher economic loss in poultry industry worldwide. A major structural protein VP2 has cloned in pESC-URA vector and expressed in *S. cerevisiae* to induce immune response against IBD (Sohini Dey *et al.*, 2009). Porcine pleuropneumonia in pigs was caused by *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* and it induces significant economic

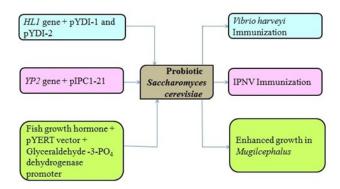


Fig. 6. Fishery Applications of recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

loss worldwide, so responsible genes ApxIA, ApxIIA and ApxIIA#5 were cloned in pYEGPD for surface display on S. cerevisiae to induce immune response in mice and pigs, against A. pleuropneumoniae (Min Kyoung Shin et al., 2013). Porcine parvovirus (PPV) is a causative agent of serious reproductive diseases of swine and death of piglets, capsid protein VP2 of PPV coding gene sequence of viral nucleic acid is cloned in to pFX7 and expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae to control Porcine parvovirus disease in swine and piglets (Paulius., L. T. et al., 2014). In piglets Enerotoxigenic Escherichio coli (ETEC) results in large economic loss worldwide by causing inflammation, diarrhoea and intestinal damage, β-galactomanan (βGM) and Saccharomyces cerevisiae var. boulardii show similar protective role against ETEC. mRNA of ETEC-induced gene was cloned in to pLTB83 vector and expressed (Roger., B. et al., 2012; Rezaee., M.A. et al., 2005). Interferons of bovine and swine origin can be used as therapeutic drugs for the treatment of bacterial and viral infections in animals when the interferon coding gene was cloned in to pPICZaA or pPRU14 vector and expressed in Saccharomyces cerevisiae (Anastasia Gradoboeva et al., 2005; James et al., 2000) (Table 4 & Fig. 5).

Fishery Applications: Potential live vaccination has been carried out in fishery field for early protection of flounder and significant protection of Turbot from *Vibrio harveyi* by surface expression of haemolysin protein, which was engineered by *HL 1* gene of *Vibrio harveyi* SF 1 is cloned in to pYDI-1 and pYDI-2 vector and expressed in *S. cerevisiae* (Kailing Zhu *et al.*, 2006). Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPNV) causes pancreatic necrosis in salmonid fish with significant loss in aquatic industry. Viral Capsid protein (VP2)

Table 1. Human Gastrointestinal Applications of Recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Sl. No.	Host organism for expression	Desired property	Reference
1	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Temperature tolerance	Daquinag et al., 2007
2	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Acid tolerance	Hassan Hamedi et al., 2013; Nuno et al., 2010
3	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	pH tolerance	Arino., J. et al., 2010; Abdel chaek et al., 2007
4	Saccharomyces boulardii	Bile tolerance	Hassan Hamedi et al., 2013; Abdel chaek et al., 2007
5	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Digestive enzymes tolerance	Trabalzini et al., 2003; Platara et al., 2006
6	Saccharomyces boulardii	Anaerobic condition tolerance	Lauren., H. et al., 2015
7	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Zinc Sulphate absorption	Nuno et al., 2010
8	Saccharomyces boulardii & Kluyveromyces lactis	Vitamin B6 productivity	Ahmed et al., 2009
9	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Cytochrome P450 73A1 expression	Yu et al., 1996; Klein et al., 1993; Pecquet et al., 1991
10	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Bioconversion rate of CIN to COU	Blanquet <i>et al.</i> , 2003; Garrait <i>et al.</i> , 2007
11	Saccharomyces boulardii	5-Fluoroorotic acid, uracil and uridine tolerance	Arino., J. et al., 2010

Table 2. Human Therapeutic Applications of Recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Sl. No.	Host organism for expression	Desired property	Reference
1	Saccharomyces boulardii	Enhanced antimicrobial activity	Lauren., H. et al., 2015; Nuno et al., 2010; Christopher et al., 2010; Kuhle et al., 2005
2	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Human serum albumin Expression	Christopher <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Jens., N. <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Payne <i>et al.</i> , 2008
3	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Insulin Expression	Stepien <i>et al.</i> , 1983
4	Saccharomyces boulardii	Therapeutic prophylactic activity	Xinhua et al., 2009
5	P. pastoris & Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Urate oxidase enzyme expression	Ramin et al., 2014
6	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Transferring (rTf) Expression	Stepien et al., 1983
7	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Hirudin Expression	Payne et al., 2008;
8	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	GM-CSF Expression	Jutta <i>et al.</i> , 1994 Miyajima <i>et al.</i> , 1986

Table 3. Human Immunological Applications of Recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Sl. No.	Host organism for expression	Desired property	Reference
1	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Enhancement of host own Immune System	Lauren., H. et al., 2015
2	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Beta lactamase expression	Rainer., R. et al., 1981
3	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Staphylococcus aureus nuclease A Immunization	Pines., O. et al., 1981;
4	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	TSST-I Immunization	Robert et al., 1994
5	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Shiga-like toxin I A-chain Immunization	Schonberger et al., 1991; Paul., L.P. et al., 2005
6	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Heat labile enterotoxin Immunization	Deresiewicz et al., 1992; Lim et al., 2009
7	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Cholera toxin B Immunization	Mohsen., A. et al., 2005; Bita Bakhshi et al., 2014
8	Pichia pastoris &	Hookwarm Immunization	Gaddam., N.G. et al., 2004
	Saccharomyces cerevisiae		
9	Saccharomyces Prombe &	Bloom's syndrome and Werner's syndrome	Yu et al., 1996; Scott., D. et al., 1998
	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Immunization	Abdel et al., 2007
10	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	HBS3 (HBsAg) Immunization	Atsushi., M. et al., 1983; Schreuder et al., 1986
11	Pichia pastoris &	Hepatitis C Immunization	Mehdi., F. et al., 2014
	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	1	, ,
12	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	PEDV Immunization	Seung., M.P. et al., 2007
13	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Cervical cancer vaccine Immunization	Walid., O. et al., 2005;
	-		Woo et al., 2008
14	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Tumour Immunization	Andressa et al., 2010;
	,		Lim et al., 2009

Table 4: Veterinary Applications of Recombinant Probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Sl. No.	Host organism for expression	Desired property	Reference
1	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Phytate degradation	Haraldsson et al., 2005; Yanming., H. et al., 1999
2	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	IBD Immunization	Sohini <i>et al.</i> , 2009
3	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Porcine pleuropneumonia Immunization	Min Kyoung Shin et al., 2013
4	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	PPV Immunization	Paulius., L.T. et al., 2014
5	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	ETEC Immunization	Roger., B. et al., 2012; Rezaee., M.A. et al., 2005
6	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Bovine Interferons expression	Anastasia et al., 2005; James et al., 2000
7	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	pGH Expression	Chen., C.M. et al., 2000

Table 5. Fishery Applications of Recombinant probiotic Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Sl. No.	Host organism for expression	Desired property	Reference
1	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Vibrio harveyi Immunization	Kailing Zhu et al., 2006
2	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Pancreatic necrosis Immunization	Thomas., A. et al., 2007
3	Saccharomyces cerevisiae	Fish growth hormone expression	Huai., J. T. et al., 1994

coding gene was cloned in to pIPC1-Z1 and expressed in *S. cerevisiae*, for inducing immunization in fishes. (Thomas., A. *et al.*, 2007). Fish growth hormone rainbow trout cDNA was cloned into pYERT vector and expressed in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* under the control of glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase promoter and it is orally administrated as food stuff for juvenile striped mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) for enhanced growth (Huai., J. T. *et al.*, 1994) (Table 5 & Fig. 6).

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

This knowledge is helpful for the development of different Bio-Medicines in future to intercept, prevent or control the diseases and establishment of innate normal flora to protect the host immune system from foreign agents.

CONCLUSION

In modern days humans and animals are regularly exposed to bombarding with numerous chemicals, microorganisms, foods produced by using fertilizers, pesticides and microbial fermentations. Synthetic chemicals and microorganisms muddle human and animal metabolisms, the metabolic disorders lead to infections and diseases. For the control of these disorders, again synthetic drugs were being used which accumulated in the organelles of living forms, and exerted side effects there by reducing the life span. Slight modifications in the gene sequence and by expression of specific genes in beneficial organisms like probiotic *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* may results in reduction of metabolic disorders in the living forms.

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ETHICAL APPROVAL: Animals were not used for the execution of this research work.

AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The concept of the article, article preparation and formatting has been done by SB with the help of RM, article has been reviewed by KC and EAM. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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