



Oddziaływanie przeciwdrobnoustrojowych peptydów z jonami metali - Relacja między chemią koordynacyjną, strukturą, termodynamiką a sposobem działania = The interaction of antimicrobial peptides with metal ions - The relationship between coordination chemistry, structure, thermodynamics and mode of action

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Increasing bacterial and fungal drug resistance makes novel, effective

antimicrobial treatments actively sought. Because of the general lack of resistance

towards antimicrobial peptides (AMPs), they are being relied on as a novel class of

therapeutics aimed to conquer drug-resistant bacteria and fungi.

There are numerous ways in which AMPs might interact with pathogens, such

as membrane disruption, production of reactive oxygen species, inhibition of cell

wall, nucleic acid and protein synthesis or by the withdrawal of essential metal ions.

Biologically indispensable metal ions, such as Zn(II) and Cu(II), which are the key

players of this project, have a dual effect on the activity of antimicrobial peptides: (i)

AMPs bind them, so that microbes cannot get enough metals essential for their life

and virulence (withdrawal of metal ions, nutritional immunity) or (ii) AMPs need the

given metal ion as a booster of their antimicrobial activity (metal ions affect the AMP

charge and/or structure).

In this chapter, we discuss the impact of the coordination of Cu(II) and Zn(II) to

several antimicrobial peptides, focusing on the thermodynamics, structure and

coordination chemistry. The comparison of these data to the outcome of biological

growth studies (determination of minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) of metalAMP complexes and their derivatives allows to draw conclusions about the relationship between the metal-antimicrobial peptide complex structure, stability mode of action and efficacy. In the nearest future, the most efficient complexes may serve as templates for a rational design of novel, more potent AMP-based therapeutics. Further improvement can be reached through the modification of the most promising AMP complexes using (i) specifically targeted antimicrobial peptides, in which the AMP will be covalently linked to a targeting peptide (Figure 1) or (ii) chimeric compounds comprising AMPs bound to conventional antimicrobials or peptidomimetic modifications (Figure 2).

Słowa kluczowe

antimicrobial peptides, metal coordination, antibiotic resistance
peptydy przeciwdrobnoustrojowe, koordynacja metali,
antybiotykooporność

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