

## **Flush with a flash: Natural three-component antimicrobial combinations based on S-nitrosothiols, controlled superoxide formation and “domino” reactions leading to peroxynitrite**

Rama Alhasan<sup>a†</sup>, Ammar Kharm<sup>a†</sup>, Muhammad Jawad Nasim<sup>a</sup>, Ahmad Yaman Abdin<sup>a</sup>, Justine Bonetti<sup>b</sup>, Philippe Giummelli<sup>b</sup>, Chukwunonso E.C.C. Ejike<sup>a,c</sup>, Pierre Leroy<sup>b</sup>, Caroline Gaucher<sup>b</sup> and Claus Jacob<sup>\*a</sup>

### **1. The Nitroblue Tetrazolium (NBT) assay**

#### **1.1 The riboflavin/day light system**

In this system  $O_2^{\bullet-}$  was generated by photo-sensitization of riboflavin employing the visible day light, and the generation of superoxide was confirmed using the NBT assay according to the procedure described in the literature with a few modifications.<sup>1,2</sup>

A mixture of 1000  $\mu$ M riboflavin, 200  $\mu$ M NBT and 20 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) was illuminated by a direct light source, whereby  $O_2^{\bullet-}$  reduces the yellow nitroblue tetrazolium (NBT) into blue formazan, which can be monitored spectrophotometrically at 560 nm on a Cary50 Bio UV/VIS spectrophotometer (Varian Australia Pty Ltd., Mulgrave, Australia), with 60 min time intervals. The highest absorbance peak ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) was recorded and the optimal concentrations were fixed and chosen according to the speed and intensity of the reaction.

#### **1.2 The xanthine/xanthine oxidase system**

$O_2^{\bullet-}$  was generated by enzymatic methods employing a xanthine and xanthine oxidase system according to the procedure described in the literature with a few modifications.<sup>1,2</sup> A mixture of 400  $\mu$ M xanthine, 200  $\mu$ M NBT, 50 mU/ml xanthine oxidase and 20 mM phosphate buffer (pH

7.4) was prepared,  $O_2^{\bullet-}$  reduces the yellow nitroblue tetrazolium (NBT) into blue formazan, which can be monitored spectrophotometrically at 560 nm on a Cary50 Bio UV/VIS spectrophotometer (Varian Australia Pty Ltd., Mulgrave, Australia), with three minute time intervals. The highest absorbance peak ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) was recorded and the optimal concentrations were chosen according to the speed and intensity of the reaction.

## **2. Antimicrobial activity against *Candida tropicalis***

The antimicrobial activity was carried out according to the general procedure described in the literature with few modifications.<sup>3-5</sup> The peroxyxynitrite formed in the *S*-nitrosothiol/riboflavin + day light system inhibited the growth of *C. tropicalis* by almost 50 % at higher concentrations, while there was no activity in the absence of the light source. The activity is less apparent in the *S*-nitrosothiol/xanthine + xanthine oxidase system due to the obvious sensitivity of microorganism against xanthine alone. A concentration dependence has also been observed for the riboflavin + day light system. The results are provided in Figures 1-6.

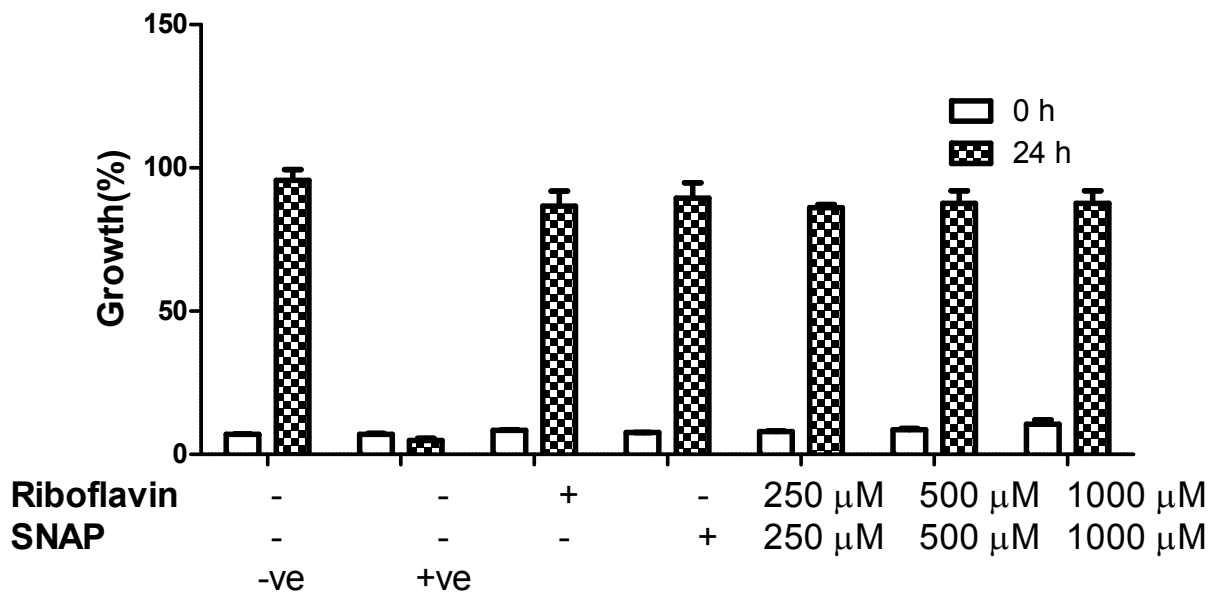


Figure 1: Activities of the three-component system containing SNAP and riboflavin (no day light) at 250 μM, 500 μM and 1000 μM concentrations against *C. tropicalis*.

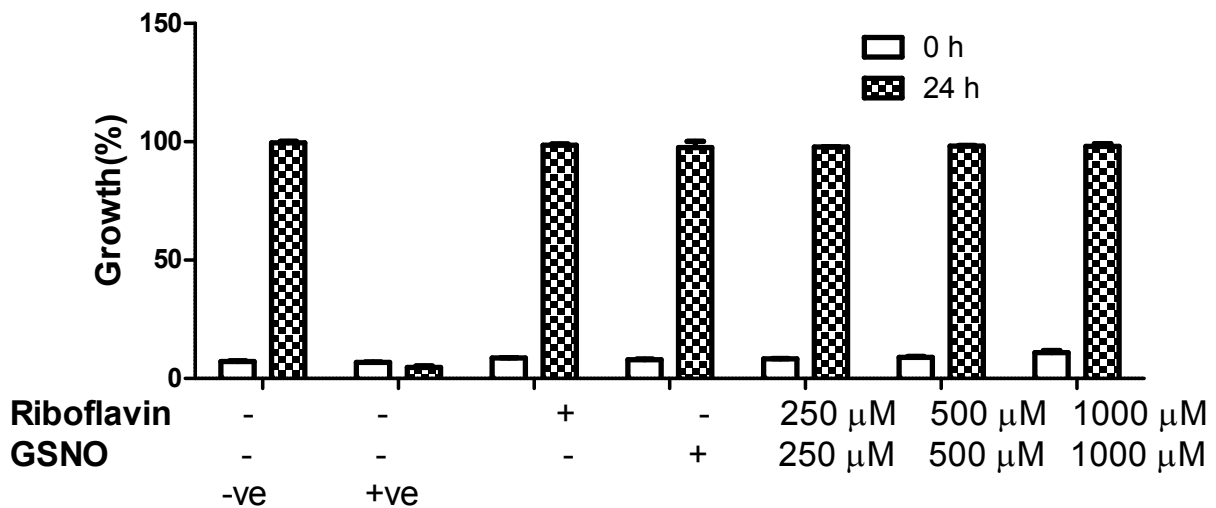


Figure 2: Activities of the three-component system containing GSNO and riboflavin (no day light) at 250 μM, 500 μM and 1000 μM concentrations against *C. tropicalis*.

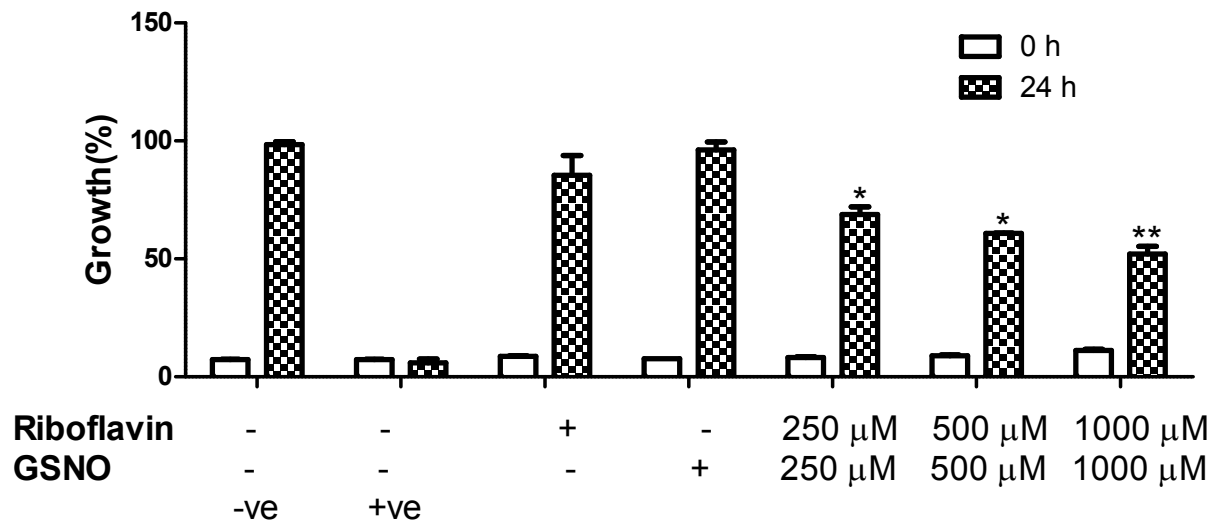


Figure 3: Activities of the three-component system containing GSNO and riboflavin + day light at 250 μM, 500 μM and 1000 μM concentrations against *C. tropicalis*.



Figure 4: Activities of the three-component system containing SNAP and riboflavin + day light at 250 μM, 500 μM and 1000 μM concentrations against *C. tropicalis*.

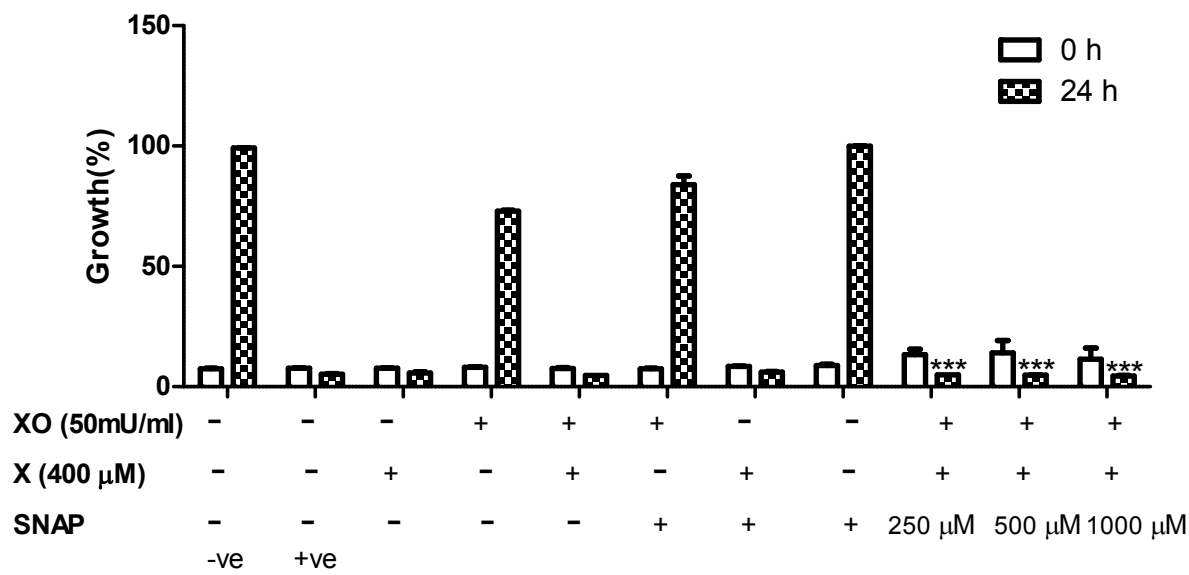


Figure 5: Activities of the three-component system containing SNAP and xanthine + xanthine oxidase against *C. tropicalis*.

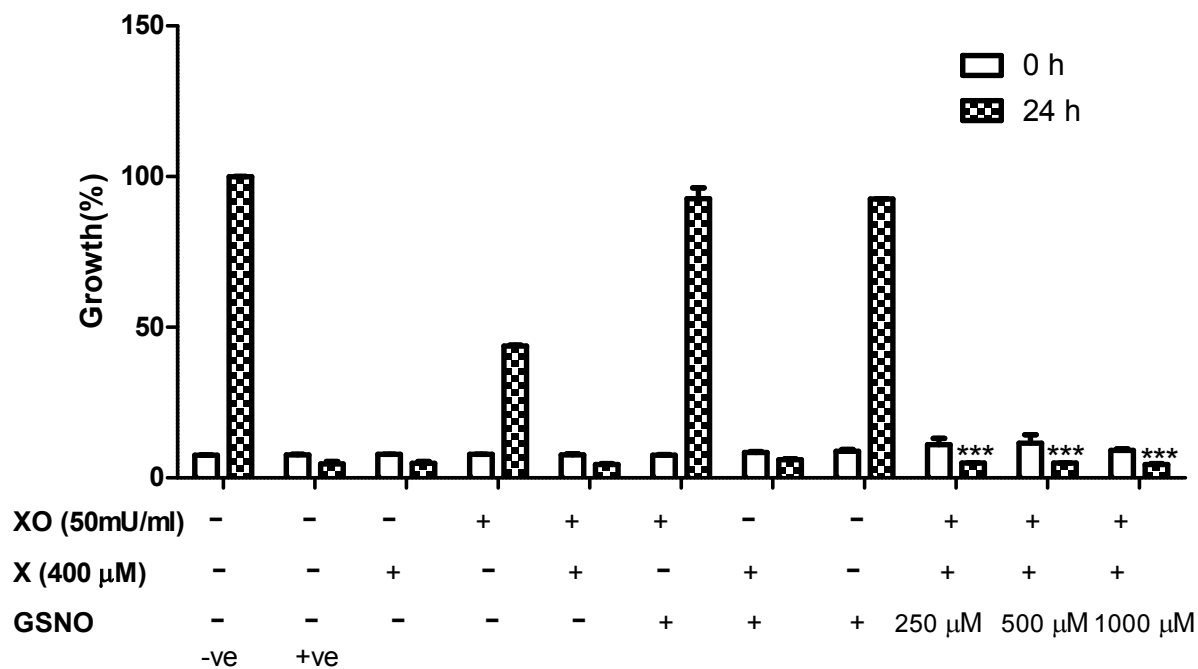


Figure 6: Activities of the three-component system containing GSNO and xanthine + xanthine oxidase against *C. tropicalis*.

### Antimicrobial activity against *B. cereus*:

The antimicrobial activity was carried out according to the general procedure described in the literature with few modifications.<sup>3-5</sup> The Xanthine and Xanthine oxidase system could not be applied to all microorganisms, as some of them were sensitive to 400 $\mu$ M concentrations of xanthine. In such cases, a concentration of 200  $\mu$ M xanthine was employed instead.

The following graphs provide the activity against the Gram-positive bacterium *Bacillus cereus*. Once the concentrations of xanthine were decreased, lower quantities of O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> were generated, which in turn caused a decrease in the ONOO<sup>-</sup> concentrations to ineffective levels.

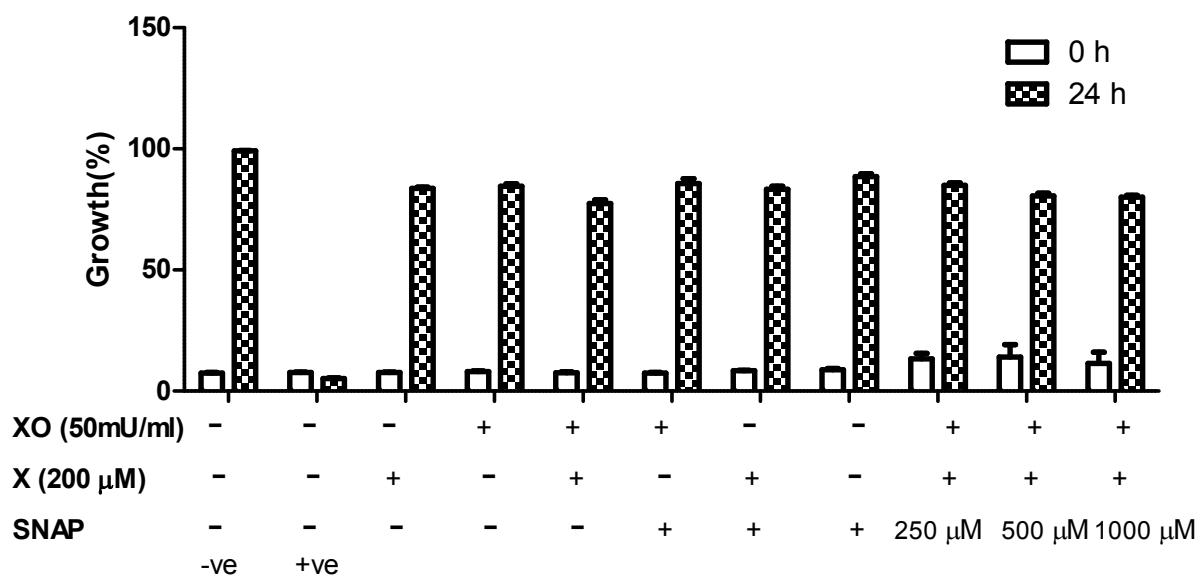


Figure 7: Activities of the three-component system containing SNAP and xanthine + xanthine oxidase against *B. cereus*.

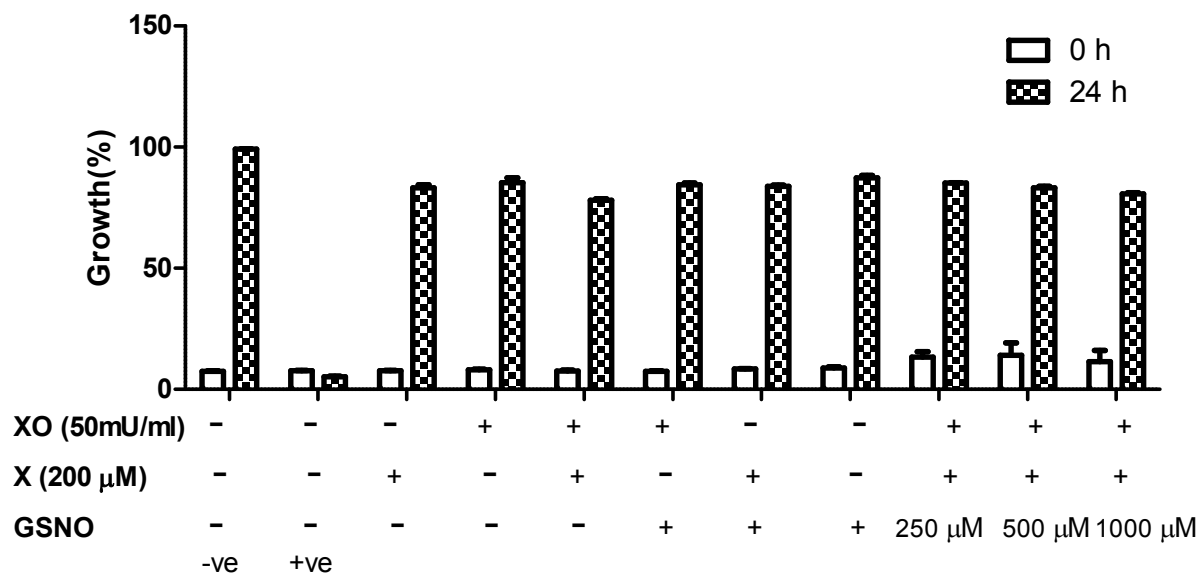


Figure 8: Activities of the three-component system containing GSNO and xanthine + xanthine oxidase against *B. cereus*.

## Literature

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