

Review of: "Saponins and their synergistic antibacterial activity with traditional antibiotics against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*: Review"

Amira Moawad

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear colleagues,

I have read the review entitled "Saponins and their synergistic antibacterial activity with traditional antibiotics against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*: Review" thoroughly. In this review, **Amaha** and colleagues investigated the antibacterial activity of saponins as an alternative to overcome the increasing problem of antimicrobial resistance globally. This looks very promising!!

However, throughout the whole review, the authors should discuss if all effective synergistic activities are in a safe level to be used in human and veterinary medicine or not. This should be discussed for every single combination. Unless this point is clear, the results cannot be applicable.

Furtherly I have some few comments and would like to mention;

I would like to ask the authors kindly to write all organisms in italic manner.

The below sentence is totally false as methicillin resistance is quite rare in *S. aureus*. It exists for sure but as an exception not as a rule. The same with penicillin; this percentage is extremely exaggerated.

Reports indicate that 90–95% of *Staphylococcus aureus* strains worldwide are resistant to penicillin and 70–80% are resistant to methicillin.

The authors do not need to cite 18 previous studies. Only 2 or 3 would be enough

When FICI is less than or equal to 0.5, it is termed "synergistic"; FICI between 0.5 and 4 indicates "no interaction", and when the FICI value is greater than 4 the two compounds are termed "antagonistic"

Overall, I believe that the manuscript is very useful and giving promising alternatives to overcome the current situation all over the world. However, a critical point must be discussed to give a scientific significance.

Sincerely,

