



Emerging Use of *Sarcophyte piriei* Against Human Pathogens: Towards Combating Antimicrobial Resistance.

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ABSTRACT

Antimicrobial resistance is gradually increasing and becoming a global threat to public health. Hence, there is a need for continuous search and development of potent antimicrobial agents for the treatment of infectious diseases. In the recent past, plants have shown exciting antimicrobial activity because of their immense phytochemical constituents. The challenges facing the utilization of ethnomedicine are, among others, the lack of sufficient studies to ascertain their quality, safety and efficacy. *Sarcophyte* is a holoparasite plant and trophic guild parasite. Its native ranges from Southern parts of Ethiopia to South Africa. It has a vital medicinal value in managing various disorders. This presentation purposes to give an up-to-date understanding of the *Sarcophyte* genus medicinal values that have been outlined in grey and published literature. Literature has been reviewed using search engines such as Google Scholar, HINARI, Science Direct, PubChem, Sciverse, EBSCO and Scopus. *Sarcophyte piriei* is

employed to treat diseases such as sores, bruises, sore throat, swollen glands, toothache, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, shingles, cancer, snake bites and menstrual disorders. Alkaloids, flavonoids, phenols, saponins, terpenoids and tannins have been shown to be the major phytochemical constituents associated with inhibitory effects against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Klebsiella pneumonia* and *Proteus mirabilis*. Its safety and toxicity have not been well established hence the need for evaluation. More studies are required to elucidate more phytochemical composition, medicinal values, efficacy, potency, safety and toxicity. This lecture will present the *Sarcophyte* genus as an emerging source of bio-actives with activity against common human pathogens. It thus plays a central role in combating antimicrobial resistance due to the synergistic activity of its secondary metabolites.