



A study of antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates

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A – research concept and design; B – collection and/or assembly of data; C – data analysis and interpretation; D – writing the article; E – critical revision of the article; F – final approval of the article

Bacteria and fungi are among the most ancient creatures found on Earth. Since the advent of medicine, humankind has always sought new means and ways to combat these microorganisms. In modern scientific society, the tendency to seek new antimicrobial and antifungal agents is only increasing. 1,2,4-triazole derivatives, among which effective drugs and new molecules have already been found, make quite an interesting platform for the creation of new antifungal and antimicrobial agents. A promising direction for the search for antimicrobial and antifungal agents are 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates.

The aim of work was the investigation of antimicrobial and antifungal activity among new 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates.

Materials and methods. The substances were synthesized at the Department of Natural Sciences for International Students and Toxicological Chemistry. The antimicrobial and antifungal activity of the newly synthesized 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates was studied with the method of serial dilutions. *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923, *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, and *Candida albicans* ATCC 885–653 were used as a set of standard test strains.

Results. As a result, the antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 14 new compounds was investigated. The most active compounds with antifungal effect are II–III. Substances II–III and II, III have moderate antimicrobial effect to *P. aeruginosa*.

Conclusions. Some results are obtained regarding “structure – antimicrobial and antifungal effect” dependence: the replacement of the ethyl radical with phenyl or methyl in the fourth position of the 1,2,4-triazole cycle in the 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-R-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid molecule results in reduction of the antimicrobial effect; conversion to 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts and the choice of dimethylammonium as cation leads to an increase in the antimicrobial and antifungal effect.

Key words: antimicrobial activity, antifungal activity, triazoles, acids, salts, heterocyclic compounds.

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Дослідження протимікробної та протигрибкової активності 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-заміщених-4H-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетатів

А. А. Сафонов, А. В. Невмивака

Бактерії та грибки – одні з найдавніших істот на Землі. З появою медицини людство шукає нові засоби та способи боротьби з цими мікроорганізмами. У сучасній науковій спільноті посилюється тенденція до пошуку нових протимікробних і протигрибкових засобів. Досить цікава платформа для створення нових протигрибкових і протимікробних засобів – похідні 1,2,4-тріазолу, серед них уже знайдені ефективні лікарські засоби та нові молекули. Перспективний напрям для пошуку протимікробних і протигрибкових засобів – 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-заміщених-4H-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетати.

Мета роботи – дослідити протимікробну та протигрибкову активність серед нових 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-заміщених-4H-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетатів.

Матеріали та методи. Речовини, що досліджували, синтезовані на кафедрі природничих дисциплін для іноземних студентів та токсикологічної хімії Запорізького державного медичного університету. Протимікробну та протигрибкову активність нових синтезованих 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-заміщених-4H-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетатів досліджували методом серійних розведень. Використали набір стандартних тестових штамів *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Candida albicans* ATCC 885-653.

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Key words: antimicrobial activity, antifungal activity, triazoles, acids, salts, heterocyclic compounds

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Результати. Дослідили протимікробну та протигрибкову активність 14 нових сполук. Найактивніші сполуки з протигрибковим ефектом – II f –II h . Речовини II f –II h та II j , II k мають помірну протимікробну дію на *P. aeruginosae*.

Висновки. Зробили висновки щодо залежності «структура – протимікробний і протигрибковий ефект»: заміна етилового радикала метиловим або феніловим у четвертому положенні 1,2,4-тріазолового циклу в молекулі 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-*R*-4*H*-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетатної кислоти призводить до зменшення антимікробного ефекту; перехід до солей 2-((5-(2-бромфеніл)-4-заміщених-4*H*-1,2,4-тріазол-3-іл)тіо)ацетатних кислот і вибір диметиламонію як катіону призводить до збільшення протимікробного та протигрибкового ефекту.

Ключові слова: протимікробна та протигрибкова активність, 1,2,4-тріазол, кислоти, солі, гетероциклічні сполуки.

Актуальні питання фармацевтичної і медичної науки та практики. 2020. Т. 13, № 3(34). С. 359–364

Исследование противомикробной и противогрибковой активности 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-замещенных-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетатов

А. А. Сафонов, А. В. Невмывака

Бактерии и грибки – одни из самых древних существ на Земле. С появлением медицины человечество искало новые средства и способы борьбы с этими микроорганизмами. В современном научном сообществе тенденция к поиску новых противомикробных и противогрибковых средств только увеличивается.

Достаточно интересной платформой для создания новых противогрибковых и противомикробных средств являются производные 1,2,4-триазола, среди которых уже найдены эффективные лекарственные средства и новые молекулы. Перспективным направлением для поиска противомикробных и противогрибковых средств являются 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-замещенных-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетаты.

Цель работы – исследование противомикробной и противогрибковой активности среди синтезированных ранее 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-замещенных-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетатов.

Материалы и методы. Исследуемые вещества синтезированы на кафедре естественных дисциплин для иностранных студентов и токсикологической химии. Противомикробную и противогрибковую активность новых синтезированных 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-замещенных-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетатов исследовали методом серийных разведений. Использован набор стандартных тестовых штаммов *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Candida albicans* ATCC 885-653.

Результаты. Исследовано противомикробное и противогрибковое действие 14 новых соединений. Самые активные соединения с противогрибковым эффектом – II f –II h . Вещества II f –II h и II j , II k имеют умеренное противомикробное действие на *P. aeruginosae*.

Выводы. Сделаны выводы о зависимости «структура – противомикробный и противогрибковый эффект»: замена этилового радикала метиловым или фениловым в четвертом положении 1,2,4-триазолового цикла в молекуле 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-*R*-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетатной кислоты приводит к уменьшению противомикробного эффекта; переход к солям 2-((5-(2-бромфенил)-4-замещенных-4*H*-1,2,4-триазол-3-ил)тио)ацетатных кислот и выбор диметиламония как катиона ведет к увеличению противомикробного и противогрибкового эффекта.

Ключевые слова: противомикробная и противогрибковая активность, 1,2,4-триазол, кислоты, соли, гетероциклические соединения.

Актуальные вопросы фармацевтической и медицинской науки и практики. 2020. Т. 13, № 3(34). С. 359–364

Modern people probably cannot imagine their lives without vitamins, painkillers, antimicrobials, antivirals, antifungals, etc. As a result, bacteria that used to be eliminated with conventional penicillin in the 20th century, at present have become resistant even to more sophisticated antibiotics.

The thirst for existence and the constant transformation of bacteria encourages scientists around the world to create new and new antimicrobials. Certainly, it is much easier to create an active molecule on an already known platform, which has proven itself as a biologically active nucleus [1–4].

New 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates have been insufficiently studied by far [5–13].

Aim

That's why the aim of this work is to investigate antimicrobial and antifungal activity of new 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates.

Materials and methods

Antimicrobial and antifungal activity of the newly synthesized 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates was investigated with the method of serial dilutions according to guidelines [14]. The synthesized compounds were prepared by double serial dilutions, with the initial concentration of 1 mg/ml in Mueller–Hinton broth, in the volume of 1 ml. Then 0.1 ml of microbial curtain (106 μ /ml) was added. Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was determined without visible growth in a test tube with a minimum concentration of the drug; the minimum bactericidal/fungicidal concentration (MBC $_c$, MFC $_c$) was determined without growth on agar after inoculation from transparent tubes. The synthesized compounds were dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide.

A set of standard test strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922, *Candida albicans* ATCC

885-653 was used. CHLORHEXEDINE-ZDOROV`E® (Ukraine) and FLUCONAZOLE-DARNYTSYA® (Ukraine) were used as comparative drugs.

Results

As a result, the antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 14 new compounds was investigated.

The most active compounds with antifungal effect are IIf–IIh. Substances IIf–IIh and IIj, IIk have moderate antimicrobial effect to *P. aeruginosa*.

Some conclusions have been made regarding “structure – biological activity” dependence.

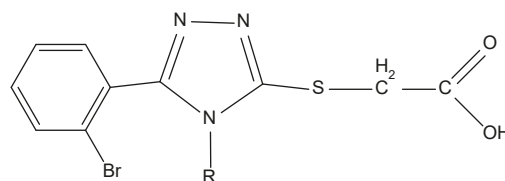
Discussion

The antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acids is moderate. The most active compound is Ib (2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-ethyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid) (Table 1, 2).

The replacement of the ethyl radical with phenyl or methyl in the fourth position of the 1,2,4-triazole cycle in the 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-R-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid molecule results in antimicrobial effect reduction (Fig. 1).

Considering the antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts, the compounds IIf, IIg, IIh demonstrate antifungal effect, respectively, MIC 31.25 µg/ml, MFcC 32.25 µg/ml. Replacement of the potassium cation either with sodium or

Table 1. “Structure – effect” dependence between 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acids



Substance	R	Antimicrobial effect	Antifungal effect
Ia	CH ₃	↔	↔
Ib	C ₂ H ₅	↔	↔
Ic	C ₆ H ₅	↔	↔

dimethylammonium or 2-aminoethanol reduces antifungal activity (Table 3).

A study of the antimicrobial activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts showed that the most active compounds to *P. aeruginosa* are substances IIf – IIh and IIj, IIk. Thus, the introduction of dimethylammonium cation to the molecule of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid leads to an increase in the antimicrobial effect. Also, the introduction of ethyl and phenyl radical in position 4 to the 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid molecule leads to a positive antimicrobial effect (Fig. 2)

Table 2. Antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acids and salts

	Antimicrobial activity						Antifungal activity	
	<i>E. coli</i> ATCC 25922		<i>S. aureus</i> ATCC 25923		<i>P. aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853		<i>C. albicans</i>	
	MIC, µg/ml	MBcC µg/ml	MIC, µg/ml	MBcC µg/ml	MIC, µg/ml	MBcC µg/ml	MIC, µg/ml	MFcC, µg/ml
Chlorhexidine	–	25.0	–	18.8	–	200	–	–
Fluconazole							15.6	31.25
Ia	125	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
Ib	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
Ic	125	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
IIa	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
IIb	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	62.5
IIc	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	62.5
IId	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
IIe	125	250	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125
IIf	62.5	62.5	62.5	125	31.25	62.5	31.25	31.25
IIg	62.5	125	62.5	125	31.25	62.5	31.25	31.25
IIh	62.5	125	62.5	125	31.25	62.5	31.25	31.25
IIi	62.5	125	62.5	125	62.5	125	31.25	62.5
IIj	62.5	125	62.5	125	31.25	62.5	125	125
IIk	62.5	125	62.5	125	31.25	62.5	125	125

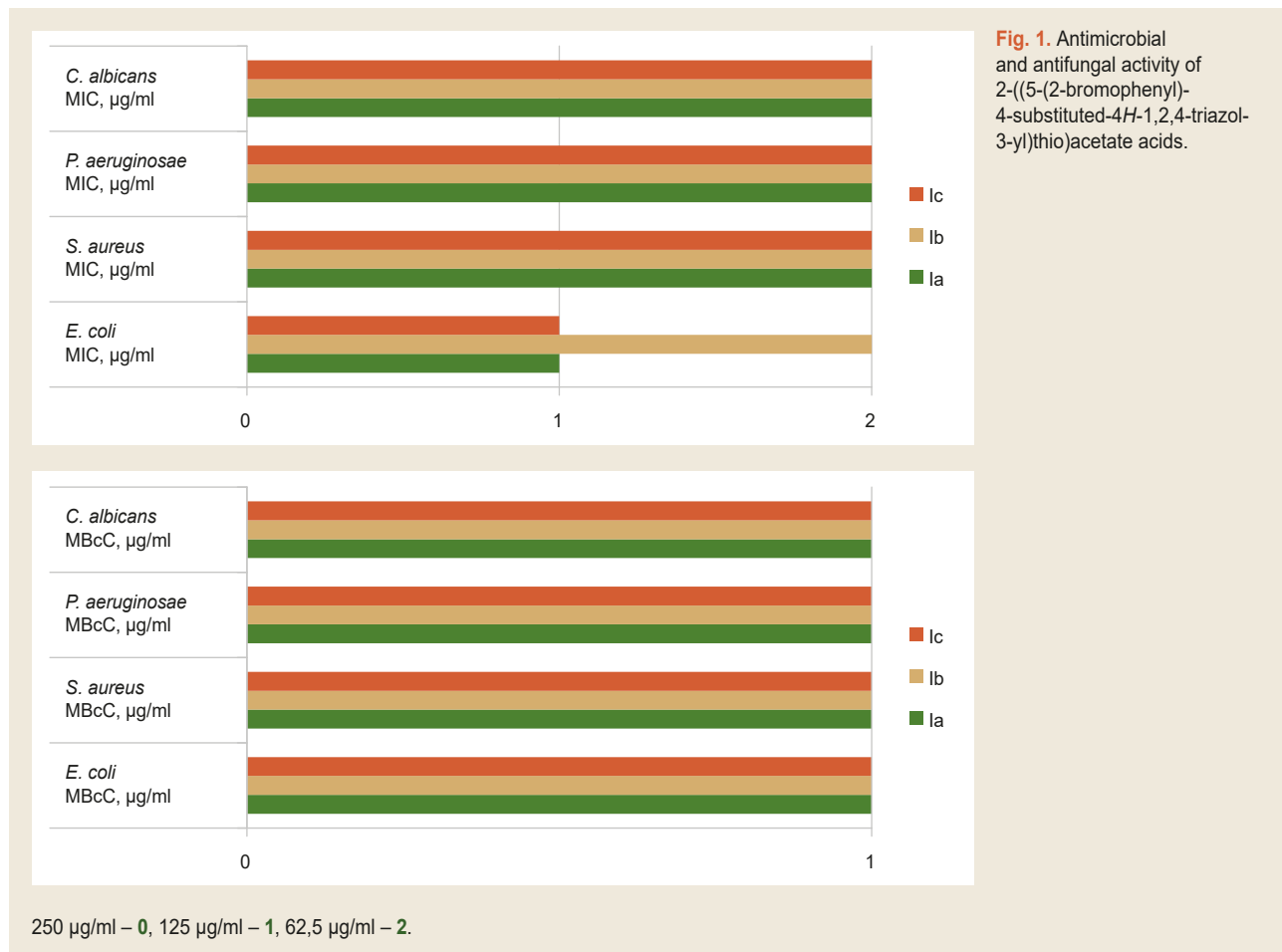
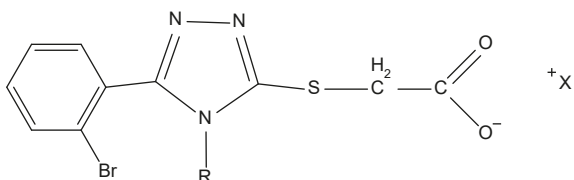


Fig. 1. Antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acids.

Table 3. “Structure – activity” dependence between 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts



Substance	R	X	Antimicrobial effect	Antifungal effect
IIa	CH ₃	K	↔	↔
IIb	CH ₃	Na	↔	↔
IIc	CH ₃	(CH ₃) ₂ NH	↔	↔
IId	CH ₃	2-aminoethanol	↔	↔
IIf	C ₂ H ₅	Na	↓	↔
IIg	C ₂ H ₅	(CH ₃) ₂ NH	↑	↑
IIh	C ₆ H ₅	morpholine	↑	↑
IIi	C ₆ H ₅	K	↑	↑
IIj	C ₆ H ₅	Na	↔	↑
IIk	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₃) ₂ NH	↑	↔
IIl	C ₆ H ₅	2-aminoethanol	↑	↔

It should be noted that the compound IIf (dimethylammonium 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-ethyl-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate), while investigating the antimicrobial activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts against *E. coli*, has a slightly stronger bactericidal effect comparing to other compounds.

The antimicrobial activity to *S. aureus* is moderate and similar to all 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts.

As a result of the research it should be noted that the conversion to 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts and the choice of dimethylammonium as cation leads to an increase in the antimicrobial and antifungal effects.

Conclusions

As a result, the antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 14 new 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4*H*-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetates has been investigated.

Compounds with antifungal effect are IIf–IIIh. Substances IIf–IIIh and IIj, IIk have moderate antimicrobial effect to *P. aeruginosae*. But none of the compounds surpasses the comparison drug.

Some conclusions are drawn regarding the “structure – antimicrobial and antifungal effect” dependence:

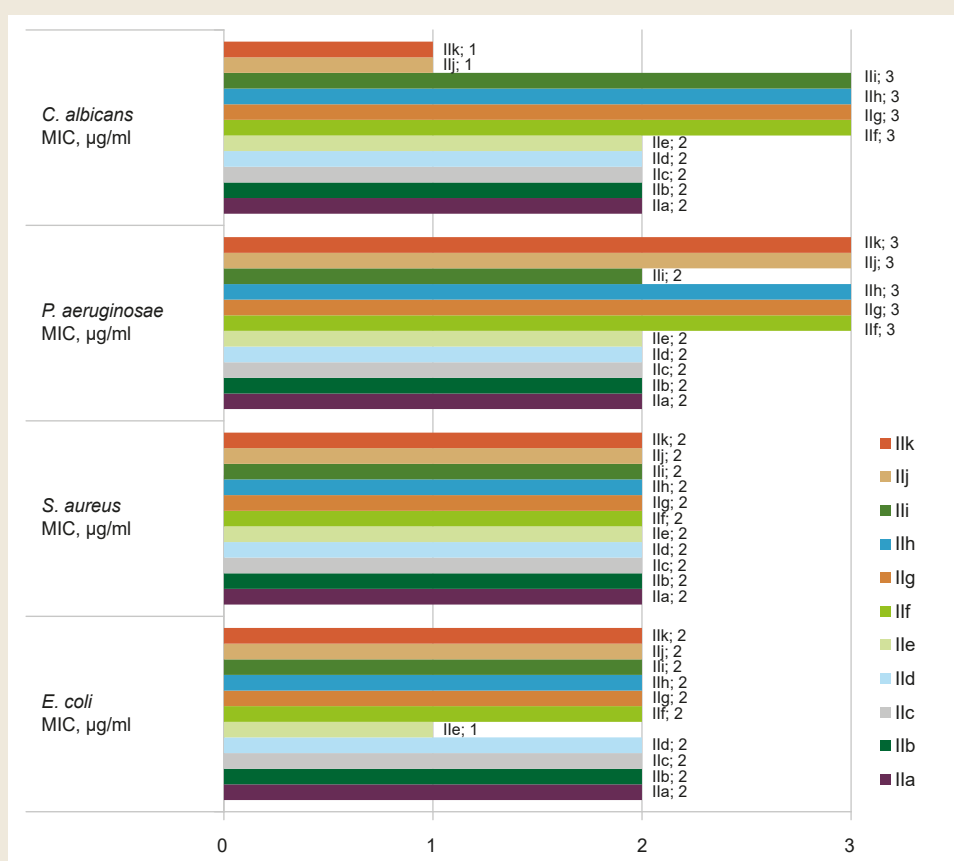
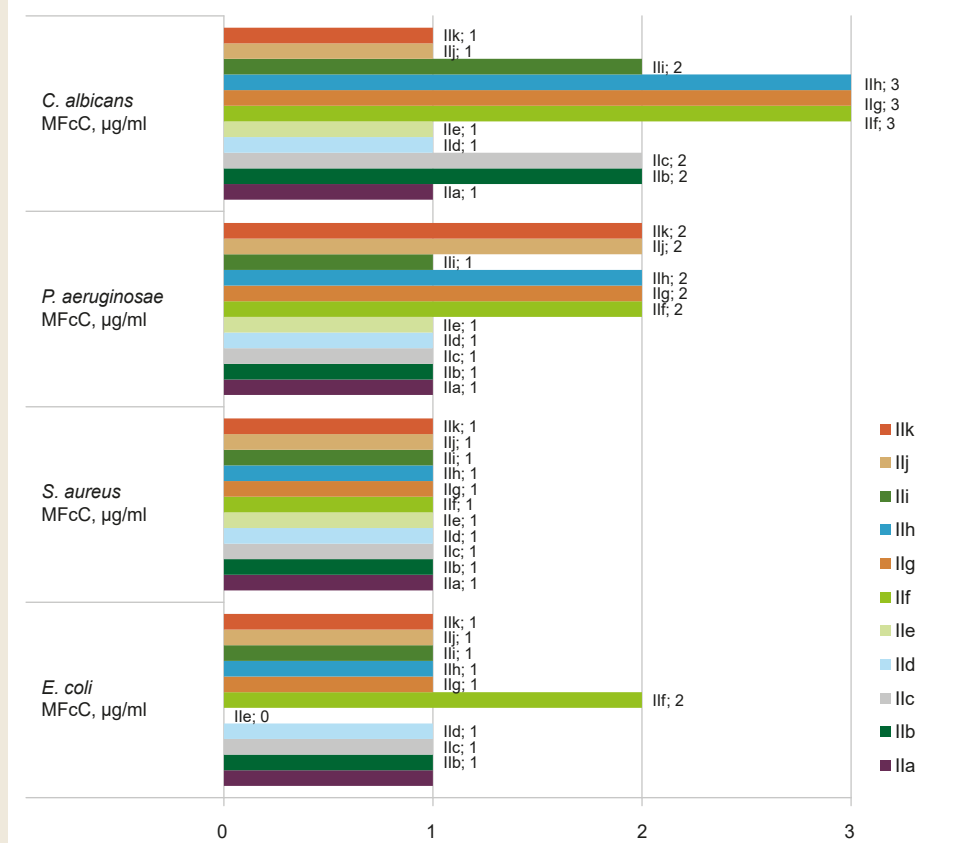


Fig. 2. Antimicrobial and antifungal activity of 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts.



250 µg/ml – 0, 125 µg/ml – 1, 62.5 µg/ml – 2, 31.25 µg/ml – 3.

– the replacement of the ethyl radical with methyl or phenyl in the fourth position of the 1,2,4-triazole cycle in the 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-R-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate acid molecule results in the antimicrobial effect reduction;

– conversion to 2-((5-(2-bromophenyl)-4-substituted-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl)thio)acetate salts and the choice of dimethylammonium as a cation leads to an increase in the antimicrobial and antifungal effect.

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