



**A REVIEW ON ZINC AND ZINC OXIDE NANOPARTICLES; BIOSYNTHESIS,
CHARACTERIZATION AND APPLICATIONS.**

BY

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A RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
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DECLARATION

I NADUNGA SANDRA, hereby declare that this report is an original review of work presented by different researchers on the topic ZINC AND ZINC OXIDE NANOPARTICLES; BIOSYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND APPLICATIONS. All the work referred to has been properly acknowledged according to the Busitema University guidelines on research and projects.

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DEDICATION.

I dedicate my piece of work to many of my friends, a special feeling of gratitude to my loving parents, Mr. TANDIGA ROBERT AND NAMBOZO TOPISTER whose words of encouragement and endless efforts have enabled me reach to this point. My dear brothers and sisters whose words of encouragement never left me the same. And to all my family members that supported me financially and emotionally

This research project review paper is also dedicated to all the Chemistry lecturers of Busitema University, Nagongera campus for laboring with me in an appropriate way and bringing me up morally upright in this profession. Special appreciation is directed to my supervisor DR. ANDIMA MOSES in particular for his efforts towards my project research, he has supported me throughout the process and I will always appreciate all he has done, especially guidance that helped me develop my technological skills, thinking skills and creativity.

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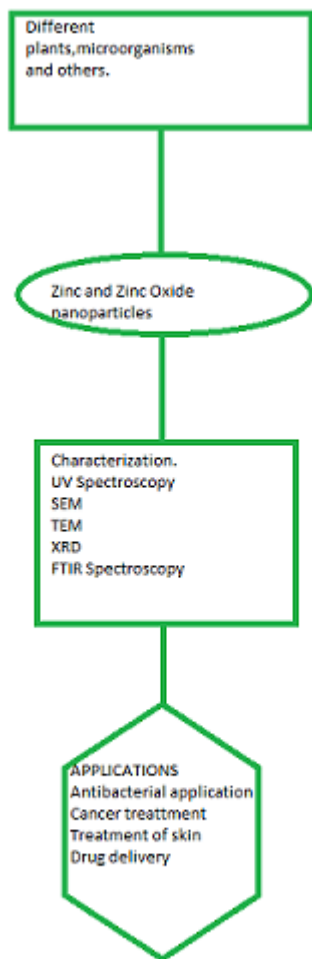
ABSTRACT.

Nanoparticles are particles of very small size from 1nm to 1000nm but of great importance. Zinc oxide nanoparticles are widely applied in various fields such as medicine, food packing, cosmetics, sun screening lotions and many others due to their properties.

ZnO-NPs show excellent antibacterial properties because of its high surface area as a result of their small particle size and therefore high surface activity. Zinc Oxide is highly bio-safe with photo-oxidizing and photocatalysis effect on several biological species.

A number of infections and diseases caused by several bacteria have for long become hard to cure because of resistance of the pathogens to drugs and therefore antibacterial suture is by far a solution to infections like surgical site infection (SSI), which is an infection mainly caused by (*S.aureu*) and (*E.coli*) and to a number of unique properties of nano-zinc oxide, the nanoparticles of Zinc oxide are excellent antibacterial agents in antibacterial suture since ZnO-NP coated sutures have a tremendous bacterial inactivation and also in many other ways. ZnO-NPs were synthesized and have an average size of around 112nm.

Zinc oxide nanoparticles have proved to have a high antibacterial action against bacteria *S. aureus* and *E. coli* and their activity can last up to five days. The ZnO NP-coated exhibited a high performance on bacterial inactivation



Keywords. Antibacterial activity, ZnO-NPs, Biosynthesis, Toxicity, Eco-friendly, Biomedical

Abbreviations.

Word	Meaning
NPs	Nanoparticles
Zn	Zinc
ZnO	Zinc Oxide
Nm	Nanometer
UV	Ultraviolet

1.0. INTRODUCTION.

1.1. Background.

Nanotechnology is a science that deals with research and innovation concerned with development of materials that are so tiny and cannot be further simplified. It is the study and use of particles with dimension ranging from 1 to 1000 nm. Therefore nanoparticles are very small particles of size ranging from 1nm to 1000 nm (Chaudhary et al., 2019)(S. Tabrez, J. Musarrat, 2016).

Basing on their size ranging from small size to bulk, nanoparticles have different properties, leading to a wide range of application in many fields such as in electronics, energy, environment and health and many others.(S. Tabrez, J. Musarrat, 2016)

Nanoparticles can be synthesized in a number of ways which include, chemical, physical and biological. Physical and chemical methods of synthesis of nanoparticles are not largely applied because they require a lot of expenses and some of the materials formed are toxic making bio synthesis more efficient since the method is less toxic and cost friendly. (Chaudhary et al., 2019)

Biosynthesis of Nanoparticles uses plant extract or microorganisms. Synthesis from microorganisms is classified into intracellular and extracellular synthesis which involves mixture of specific ions of interest for example gold, silver, zinc, copper and many others with the extract. Zinc oxide and zinc nanoparticles can also be synthesized from different biomaterials including plant and microbial extracts.(Chaudhary et al., 2019)(K. Elumalai, 2015)

Plants such as Aloe barbadensis, Parthenium hysterophorus, Borassus flabellifer fruit, Plectranthus amboinicus have been used to produce zinc and zinc oxide nanoparticles.(V. Nachiyar, S. Sunkar, 2015). Among microbes, bacteria and fungi or their extracts have also been utilized to synthesize nanoparticles either intracellularly or extracellularly.(A. Yadav, K. Kon, G. Kratosova, N. Duran, A. P. Ingle, 2015)(Agarwal et al., 2017b)(Yusof et al., 2019)

Various techniques are used to measure properties of these nanoparticles and they include Ultra violet (UV) Spectroscopy, Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy, and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM), Fourier Transformed Infrared (FTIR)

spectroscopy, Zeta- sizer Nano ZS90 X-ray Diffraction (XRD) and many others. Biosynthesized Zinc Oxide nanoparticles are highly crystalline and the average crystallite size of the nanoparticles is about 17 nm. These nanoparticles have tremendous UV absorption and a strong yellow-orange color emission at room temperature.(Hidayat Mohd Yusofl, Nor'Aini Abdul Rahman , Rosfarizan Mohamad, 2020) (Alamdari & , Morteza Sasani Ghamsari , Chan Lee , Wooje Han , Hyung-Ho Park * , Majid Jafar Tafreshi, 2020)

Biosynthesized Zinc and Zinc oxide nanoparticles show excellent antimicrobial activity against a number of bacteria and fungi making them a potential application in medicine and the activity of this nanoparticles is based on properties such as size, shape, concentration and exposure time to the bacterial cell.(Agarwal et al., 2017a)(Chaudhary et al., 2019)

According to literature, zinc oxide nanoparticles are applied in animal and poultry feeds as a feed supplement and there is evidence that their application leads to improved growth, productivity, health and an enhancement in Antioxidation.(Yusof et al., 2019)

In poultry, integration of these nanomaterials in feeds improves the egg quality. (Hidayat Mohd Yusofl, Nor'Aini Abdul Rahman , Rosfarizan Mohamad, 2020). Zinc oxide nanoparticles are also applied in cosmetics, food packaging and sunscreen lotions since they have ability to absorb toxic radiations and prevent bacterial growth in food. (Ibrahim Kahramano ̃glu, 2019)(Alamdari & , Morteza Sasani Ghamsari , Chan Lee , Wooje Han , Hyung-Ho Park * , Majid Jafar Tafreshi, 2020)

Zinc is an important element in all living organisms leading to sufficient evidence that zinc oxide nanoparticles have a great potential in various biological applications preferably antimicrobial activity. Owing to the fact that these nanoparticles have the tremendous ability to inhibit the growth of many pathogens, nanoparticles are being used as an antibiotics. (Chaudhary et al., 2019).

Upon encounter with bacteria, the nanoparticles first damage the cell wall which enables them to penetrate and accumulate in the membrane of the cell which eventually causes ultimate death by disorganizing the metabolic activity of the microbe. In addition to the above, zinc is a trace mineral element of great importance that plays vital roles in many physiological processes in the body hence integration of its nanoparticles in feeds increases its absorption and use in the

body.(L. Fu, 2015) (S. Ambika, 2015a)(Amna Sirelkhatim, Shahrom Mahmud & Mohamad, Noor Haida Mohamad Kaus, Ling Chuo Ann, Siti Khadijah Mohd Bakhori, 2015)

1.2 The Problem.

Microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites are the cause of most illnesses in human beings. These microbes change in ways that render the medicine used to cure the diseases ineffective hence resulting into resistance to conventional drugs. This is a major concern since a resistant infection that spreads to others may kill the infected individuals and causes huge costs to the infected persons and the society at large.

Antimicrobial resistance refers to resistance of different types of microorganisms and involves resistance to antibacterial, antiviral, antiparasitic and antifungal drugs., Resistance occurs naturally but can also be caused by inappropriate use of medicines. For example, Malaria is one of the leading causes of death in tropical Africa but the disease has become increasingly resistant to common antimalarial drugs..

Mycobacterium tuberculosis is a bacterial infection treated with use of different antibacterial drugs but some bacteria have developed resistance to the two most potent TB drugs; Rifampicin and isoniazid. The Enterococi commonly found in the colon have increasingly developed resistance to vanomycin. Therefore due to increasing resistance of microbes to first and second line antimicrobials, there is a world wide call for development of alternative therapies treatment of most microbial infections.

Metals and metal ions play many important physiological functions in the body. In particular transition metal complexes exhibit unique and interesting properties such as changing oxidation states and the ability to form specific interactions with other biomolecules (V. Nachiyar, S. Sunkar, 2015)(Chaudhary et al., 2019).

Thus transition metals and their complexes have been used for the development of drugs with promising pharmacological applications and may offer unique therapeutic opportunities (S. Rajeshkumar, C. Malarkodi, M. Vanaja, 2016)(A.S. Hameed, C. Karthikeyan, A.P. Ahamed, N. Thajuddin, N.S. Alharbi, 2016).

It was shown that some metal-drug complexes are more potent as compared to pure drug. Towards this hypothesis, the interactions of some antibiotics with transition metals have been

studied.(Mirzaei & Darroudi, 2017). Among them, zinc is known to exhibit antibacterial activity.(Chaudhary et al., 2019). Zinc oxide (ZnO) nanoparticles have been demonstrated to be even more efficient along with reduced human toxicity. (Alamdari & , Morteza Sasani Ghamsari , Chan Lee , Wooje Han , Hyung-Ho Park * , Majid Jafar Tafreshi, 2020)

The focus of this review therefore is on biosynthesis of zinc and zinc oxide nanoparticles, characterization and the biomedical applications of the nanoparticles. This review is divided into four parts; the first part discusses the methods of synthesis of the nanoparticles focusing on the biosynthetic methods while highlighting the examples, advantages and disadvantages.

In section two, the general methods of characterization are discussed and particular attention is given to the basic principle of the methods used for characterization. Section three focusses on the biomedical applications of the nanoparticles. In the last section, general discussions and future prospects are discussed. This research will help to solve the problem of drug resistance of bacteria and fungi since nanoparticles show great importance.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

Data for this research was obtained from scientific databases using googlescholar search engine using a combination of key words such as; “zinc nanoparticles”, “zinc oxide nanoparticles” Zinc AND nanoparticles AND synthesis, Zinc oxide AND nanoparticles AND Synthesis, Zinc AND Zinc oxide AND Nanaoparticles AND application. Articles that matched the key words were retrieved and studied for content appropriateness. Artilces that described exactly the key words were studied in detail to compile this report.

Among these articles, articles published between 2010 and 2021 and cited more than 80 times. were considered and these were thoroughly examined and data is presented in the following sections.

2.1. Synthesis.

By using the key words “zinc and zinc oxide nnanoparticles” and “synthesis” articles were searched on google scholar

These explained different methods used to in the synthesis of zinc and zinc oxide nanoparticles but since many articles were accessed, only articles that were published between 2010 and 2021 were considered, amongst these, articles that received more than 80 citations and whose data

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