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**ATIVIDADE BIOLÓGICA DO EXTRATO DE MOLÉCULAS  
DE *EUTERPE OLERACEA* Mart. (AÇAÍ) SOBRE BIOFILME  
DE *Candida parapsilosis* e *tropicalis***

**LARISSA LIRA BRITO**

São Luís-MA.  
2017

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Dissertação de Mestrado apresentada ao Programa de Pós-Graduação em Saúde do Adulto e da Criança da Universidade Federal do Maranhão para obtenção do Título de Mestre em Saúde do Adulto e da Criança.

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Orientadora: Profa. Dra. Maria do Desterro Soares Brandão Nascimento

Coordenadora: Prof<sup>a</sup>. Dra. Maria do Desterro Soares Brandão Nascimento

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---

**Profa. Dra. Maria do desterro Soares Brandão Nascimento (Orientadora)**  
Universidade Federal do Maranhão

---

**Profa. Dra. Raquel Maria Trindade Fernandes (Examinador)**  
Universidade Federal do Maranhão

---

**Prof. Dra. Geusa Felipa de Barros Bezerra (Examinador)**  
Universidade Federal do Maranhão

---

**Prof. Dra Rita da Graça Carvalhal Frazão Correa (Examinador)**  
Universidade Federal do Maranhão

Dedico este trabalho a Deus e à minha mãe.

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“A tarefa não é tanto ver aquilo que ninguém viu, mas pensar o que ninguém ainda pensou sobre aquilo que todo mundo vê”.

**(Arthur Schopenhauer)**

## RESUMO

BRITO, Larissa Lira. Atividade biológica do extrato de moléculas de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart. (Açaí) sobre biofilme de *Candida parapsilosis e tropicalis*. 2017, 74 folhas. Tese (Mestrado) Universidade Federal do Maranhão.

A candidíase ocorre como consequência de um distúrbio imunológico do hospedeiro e dos fatores de virulência destas leveduras. A *Candida albicans* têm sido relatada como a mais prevalente, seguida de *C. parapsilosis*, *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis* e *C. krusei*. A resistência dos microrganismos vem aumentando em função do uso indiscriminado de antimicrobianos utilizados no tratamento de doenças infecciosas, impulsionando pesquisadores a estudarem novas substâncias antimicrobianas de várias fontes, incluindo as plantas medicinais. Esse estudo tem por função elucidar o potencial antifúngico do açaí sobre biofilmes de *Candida*. São designados biofilmes as formas de crescimento resistentes a medicamentos representando uma grave ameaça aos indivíduos imunocomprometidos. O objetivo deste trabalho foi avaliar a atividade antifúngica in vitro do extrato do açaí (*Euterpe Oleracea*) frente aos biofilmes formados por cepas de *Candida*. O extrato da casca e do caroço da *Euterpe* tem forte efeito na formação de biofilme por ambas as espécies *C. tropicallis* e *C. parapsilosis*, as quais inibiram a formação daquele em diferentes concentrações dos extratos, mostrando o efeito de produtos naturais, evidenciando fitoquímicos, atividades biológicas e potencial da *Euterpe* para futuras aplicações industriais.

**Palavras-chave:** Biofilme; *Candida* spp.; *C. albicans*; *C. parapsilosis*; *C. tropicallis*; *Euterpe oleracea* Mart.



## ABSTRACT

BRITO, Larissa Lira. Biological activity of the *Euterpe Oleracea* molecules extract Mart. (Açaí) about biofilme de *Candida parapsilosis e tropicalis*. 2017, 74 sheets. Thesis (Master degree) Federal University of Maranhão.

Candidiasis occurs as a consequence of an immune disorder of the host and of the virulence factors of these yeasts. *Candida albicans* has been reported as the most prevalent, followed by *C. parapsilosis*, *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. krusei*. The resistance of microorganisms is increasing due to the indiscriminate use of antimicrobials used in the treatment of infectious diseases. Prompted researchers to study new antimicrobial substances from various sources, including medicinal plants. This study aims to elucidate the antifungal potential of açaí on biofilms of *Candida*. Biofilms are designated as drug resistant growth forms representing a serious threat to immunocompromised individuals. The objective of this work was to evaluate the in vitro antifungal activity of açaí extract (*Euterpe Oleracea*) against biofilms formed by *Candida* strains. *Euterpe* peel and core extract has a strong effect on the formation of biofilms by both *C. tropicallis* and *C. parapsilosis* species, inhibiting its formation in different concentrations of the extracts, showing the effect of natural products, evidencing phytochemicals, Activities and potential of *Euterpe* for future industrial applications.

**Key words:** Biofilm; *Candida* spp.; *C. albicans*; *C.parapsilosis*; *C. tropicallis*; *Euterpe oleracea* Mart.

## LISTA DE FIGURAS E TABELAS

<b>Figura 1-</b> Figura 1. Genes de rede regulatória para os diferentes estádios de biofilme de <i>Candida albicans</i> , <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> , <i>Candida tropicalis</i> e <i>Candida glabrata</i> . (A) Aderência inicial. (B) Formação de camadas de microcolônia basal. (C) Biodefólio maduro constituído por células com diversas morfologias e matriz extracelular. (D) Desprendimento e dispersão de biofilmes .....	19
<b>Figura 2.</b> Cepas de <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> ATCC 1369 e <i>Candida tropicalis</i> ATCC 1369 oriundas da Plast-Labor Microbiologia® .....	27
<b>Tabela 1:</b> Associação entre os extratos de <i>Euterpe oleracea</i> e a formação de biofilme por <i>C. tropicalis</i> e <i>C. parapsilosis</i> .....	31
<b>Tabela 2:</b> Efeito do extrato da casca de <i>Euterpe oleracea</i> na aderência e formação de biofilme em <i>C. tropicalis</i> e <i>C. parapsilosis</i> de acordo com a absorvância .....	31
<b>Tabela 3:</b> Efeito do extrato do caroço de <i>Euterpe oleracea</i> na formação de biofilme por <i>C. tropicalis</i> e <i>C. parapsilosis</i> de acordo com a absorvância .....	32

## SUMÁRIO

RESUMO .....	7
ABSTRACT .....	8
LISTA DE FIGURAS E TABELAS .....	9
<b>1. INTRODUÇÃO</b> .....	11
<b>2. FUNDAMENTAÇÃO TEÓRICA</b> .....	13
<b>2.1. Candidíase</b> .....	13
<b>2.2. Aspectos gerais sobre <i>Candida tropicalis</i> e <i>Candida parapsilosis</i></b> .....	15
<b>2.3. Fatores de virulência e Patogenicidade</b> .....	17
<b>2.4. Atividade biológica de produtos naturais sobre Biofilme</b> .....	22
<b>3. OBJETIVOS</b> .....	25
<b>3.1. Objetivos Geral</b> .....	25
<b>3.2. Objetivos Específicos</b> .....	25
<b>4. METODOLOGIA</b> .....	26
<b>4.1. Obtenção do extrato hidroalcoólico liofilizado do fruto total, casca e caroço de <i>Euterpe oleracea</i> Mart.</b> .....	26
<b>4.2. Obtenção dos isolados de <i>Candida</i></b> .....	26
<b>4.3. Formação de Biofilme</b> .....	27
<b>4.4. Determinação de Susceptibilidade <i>in vitro</i> de <i>Euterpe oleracea</i> Mart.</b> .....	29
<b>4.5. Análise estatística</b> .....	30
<b>5. RESULTADOS</b> .....	31
<b>6. DISCUSSÃO</b> .....	33
<b>7. CONCLUSÃO</b> .....	36
REFERÊNCIAS .....	37
ANEXOS .....	48
ARTIGO CIENTÍFICO .....	
NORMAS DA REVISTA .....	

## 1. INTRODUÇÃO

Os fungos do gênero *Candida* naturalmente compõem a microbiota do corpo humano e animais, colonizando a pele e as mucosas dos tratos digestivo e urinário, bucal e vaginal. Aproximadamente 200 leveduras são encontradas incluídas no as do gênero *Candida*, sendo que destas, pouco mais de 20 espécies são responsáveis por infecções no homem, estas leveduras são consideradas o principal grupo de fungos patógenos oportunistas, representando cerca de 8-10% das causas de infecções sanguíneas nosocomias em Unidades de Terapia Intensiva (UTIs) (HOSSAIN *et al.*, 2003; BORG-VON *et al.* 2007; KUMAR *et al.* 2008; KARKOWSKA-KULETA *et al.* 2009; NEGRI *et al.* 2010).

Durante muitos anos a *Candida albicans* foi relatada como a espécie predominante responsável pela maioria (60-80%) das infecções causadas pelo gênero *Candida*, no entanto, as espécies não-*albicans*, como a *C. glabrata*, a e a *C. parapsilosis* foram frequentemente isoladas principalmente devido ao uso indiscriminado de agentes antifúngicos. (KRCMERY; BARNES, 2002; ARENDRUP, 2013; GUINEA, 2014).

As infecções por espécies de *Candida* ocorrem em decorrência de distúrbio imunológico do hospedeiro e dos fatores de virulência expressos por estas leveduras, que contribuem para habilidade de colonizar, penetrar e invadir o tecido, na maioria das vezes de origem endógena (BROWN; ODDDS; GOW, 2007; HOLLENBACH, 2008) desenvolvendo, assim, a Candidíase. Espécies não-*albicans* envolvidas nesse tipo de infecção, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis* e *C. krusei*, têm sido relatadas como a mais prevalentes (LU; LEE; CHUEN, 2004; ODDS *et al.*, 2006, PFALLER; DIEKEMA, 2007; PANIZO *et al.*, 2009).

Além dos fatores endógenos, o uso indiscriminado de antifúngicos de amplo espectro e ao aumento de dispositivos médicos implantados influenciam o aumento das candidíases por espécies não-*albicans* que surgem como segunda e terceira causa principal de Candidíase sistêmica. Geralmente, as espécies de *Candida*, são responsáveis por infecções fúngicas superficiais em imunocompetentes e sistêmicas em imunodeprimidos. Nesse mecanismo de infecção, ocorre a expressão de fatores de virulência que medeiam a relação hospedeiro e microbiota autócto, ou seja, do comensalismo à doença sistêmica fatal. A variedade de apresentações da doença leva à necessidade de utilização de diferentes métodos diagnósticos e esquemas terapêuticos (PAULA *et al.*, 1998; SANDAI *et al.*, 2016).

A patogênese da Candidíase é comum a todas as espécies de *Candida* sendo facilitada por uma série de fatores virulentos, dentre os quais podemos destacar: a capacidade de aderir a dispositivos médicos ou células hospedeiras, desenvolvimento de biofilmes e transição para a forma filamentosa (SILVA *et al.*, 2012). Como consequência do rompimento do equilíbrio parasita-hospedeiro pode ocorrer a Candidíase, que é desencadeada por alterações na barreira tecidual e na microbiota autóctone e pelo comprometimento das defesas naturais do organismo como a imunológica. Nas enfermidades que requerem uma permanência prolongada hospitalar há uma ocorrência maior do rompimento deste equilíbrio (PLAYFORD *et al.*, 2008).

Naqueles pacientes que sofrem traumatismos constantes devido a procedimentos médicos invasivos, como uso de cateteres intravenosos, nutrição parenteral, sondas e com extensas queimaduras, sofrem alterações na superfície epitelial ou de mucosas, possibilitando a proliferação ou mudança do sítio anatômico da levedura, contribuindo para a instalação e infecção por *Candida* no organismo do hospedeiro (PULCINI *et al.*, 2006; CELEBI *et al.*, 2008).

A resistência dos microrganismos vem aumentando em função do uso indiscriminado de antimicrobianos utilizados no tratamento de doenças infecciosas. Essa situação tem impulsionado pesquisadores a estudarem novas substâncias antimicrobianas de várias fontes, incluindo as plantas medicinais. Nesse sentido, considerando a ampla atividade biológica apresentada pela *Euterpe Oleracea* Mart., esse estudo tem por função elucidar o potencial antifúngico do açai e viabilizar um novo fármaco ou alimento funcional no tratamento dos biofilmes de *Candida*.

## 2. FUNDAMENTAÇÃO TEÓRICA

### 2.1. Candidíase

As espécies pertencentes ao gênero *Candida*, fazem parte do filo Ascomycota, da classe Hemiascomycetes, da ordem Saccharomycetales, englobando as leveduras de interesse clínico e científico (DIEZMANN *et al.*, 2004; CHAI; DENNING; WARN, 2010). Atualmente já foram descritas cerca de 300 espécies de *Candida* dentre as quais *A. C. albicans* é a mais frequente nas infecções humanas, entretanto espécies não-*albicans* estão avançando cada vez mais nas infecções oportunistas (LACHANCE *et al.*, 2011).

Em geral, as espécies do gênero *Candida* habitam o organismo humano e de outros animais, dessa forma são considerados comensais ou podem colonizar cerca de 50% dos indivíduos em um determinado momento de sua vida (LIONAKIS; NETEA, 2013). Neste sentido, essas espécies colonizam a pele, o trato gastrointestinal e o trato geniturinário, algumas vezes podem ser isolados no trato respiratório superior (EGGIMANN; GARBINO; PITTE, 2003). As condições normais de imunidade limitam o desenvolvimento de infecções por esse microrganismo, todavia, quando o indivíduo adquire uma baixa imunidade permite um ambiente favorável que permite conversão de espécies de *Candida* em patógeno oportunista, desenvolvendo a invasão nas mucosas e disseminação sanguínea (LIONAKIS; NETEA, 2013).

Nas últimas duas décadas houve um aumento na incidência de infecções por espécies de *Candida*, sendo esta a principal causa de infecções fúngicas em seres humanos (FOURNIER *et al.*, 2011). Este aumento tem sido atribuído, em parte, ao crescente número de pacientes portadores de neoplasias ou doenças degenerativas, indivíduos transplantados e portadores do vírus HIV (CONDE-ROSA *et al.*, 2010).

A invasão das células do hospedeiro inicia-se com a aderência dos blastósporos de *Candida* em células epiteliais, seguido da formação de hifa, penetrando na célula ativamente ou por endocitose, causando dano progressivo ao tecido (MODRZEWSKA; KURNATOWSKI, 2013). Em pacientes hospitalizados, *Candida* spp. pode acessar a corrente sanguínea via cateteres vasculares ou se disseminar a partir do intestino e provocar candidemia, doença associada com elevada mortalidade (FILLER, 2012).

O cenário atual das infecções pelo gênero *Candida* vêm ganhando destaque para as espécies não-*albicans* que avançam em diversos tipos de infecções, dentre as quais as mais frequentes são *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. parapsilosis* e *C. krusei* (WILLIAMS; LEWIS, 2011; DE LUCA *et al.*, 2012; SPAMPINATO; LEONARDI, 2013). Estudos apontam que a *C. glabrata* é frequentemente isolada de pacientes idosos, pacientes com câncer e aqueles expostos primariamente a fluconazol, piperacilina-tazobactam ou vancomicina. Relatam que a *C. parapsilosis* é predominante nas infecções de neonatos, de pacientes transplantados e nas infecções associadas ao uso de cateter venoso. Além disso, *C. parapsilosis* também pode ter relação com infecções adquiridas pelo uso de nutrição parenteral, pois tais fungos crescem em soluções extremamente ricas em glicose. Observa-se também um aumento nos casos de infecção por *C. tropicalis* associada a doenças hematológicas. E mostram ainda que *C. krusei* é a quinta espécie com resistência intrínseca ao fluconazol, tornando-se um fator de risco para candidemias nosocomiais (ALANGADEN, 2011).

O Programa ARTEMIS de Vigilância Antifúngica Global (ARTEMIS Global Antifungal Surveillance Program), nos EUA, mostrou *C. glabrata* (44%), *C. tropicalis* (6%). O impacto da doença fúngica na saúde humana foi, portanto, aumentando em especial devido ao número crescente de pacientes imunocomprometidos, resultado da epidemia de Aids, aumento do transplante de órgãos e quimioterapia para câncer e uso indiscriminado de antibióticos que causou um grande impacto sobre a microbiota humana. Espécies de *Candida*, representam um componente importante da carga de doenças causadas por fungos e são a quarta causa mais comum de infecções nosocomiais em hospitais norte-americanos (SELLAM; WHITEWAY, 2016).

A imunidade celular desempenha um papel importante na infecção causada pelas espécies *Candida*, determinando a susceptibilidade ou resistência dos indivíduos à infecção por este microrganismo. O sistema imune elabora mecanismos de defesa específicos e inespecíficos contra as leveduras com o intuito de impedir a proliferação e progressão de candidíases. Dentre os mecanismos envolvidos com esta defesa, as imunoglobulinas da classe IgA presentes nas secreções e saliva desempenham papel fundamental. Nas infecções por *Candida* das superfícies epiteliais, a IgA-s (secretora) age promovendo agregação dos fungos e inibe sua aderência às células epiteliais da mucosa, impedindo, conseqüentemente, sua proliferação. Pacientes com candidíase recorrente apresentam uma baixa resposta imune celular para antígenos de *C. albicans*. Este fato contribui para o entendimento acerca da patogênese da candidíase recorrente, abrindo perspectivas para a utilização de agentes

imunomoduladores com a finalidade de restaurar a resposta imune destes pacientes. Clinicamente, a doença pode surgir como manifestações em mucosas até quadros sistêmicos, com a invasão de diversos órgãos. As mucosas oral, vaginal e esofágica são as mais acometidas em quadros de candidíases e de forma geral, a colonização é controlada por antagonismo competitivo da microbiota comensal, por competições nutritivas e pela produção de substâncias tóxicas que podem também interferir no mecanismo de aderência dessas leveduras às células epiteliais. A manutenção do pH salivar e a produção de ácido láctico por essas células são fatores limitantes da colonização dessas leveduras. Com relação às infecções sistêmicas, pode-se observar a participação ativa do endotélio vascular, havendo interação entre receptores presentes nas células endoteliais e adesinas expressas pelas leveduras, podendo levar a disseminação hematogênica e causar microabscessos por todo corpo (CASTRO, 2010).

## **2.2. Aspectos gerais sobre *Candida tropicalis* e *Candida parapsilosis***

### **a) *Candida tropicalis***

Inicialmente a *Candida tropicalis*, era denominada de *Oidium tropicale*, a partir de 1910 foi diferenciada das demais espécies de *Candida*, pelo patologista e bacteriologista italiano Aldo Castellani. Desde então, recebeu outros como *Monilia tropicalis*, *Candida vulgaris*, *Mycotorula dimorpha*, *Candida paratropicalis* e outros 58 sinônimos. E só a partir de 1923, adquiriu o nome atual, o qual foi denominado por Christine Marie Berkhout (NEGRI *et al.*, 2012a; OLIVEIRA, 2011).

A partir de 1960, *C. tropicalis* ganhou importância clínica desde então, é considerada a espécie causadora de candidíases invasivas graves. As infecções causadas por espécies podem ser adquiridas endogenamente, principal via de infecções, ou exogenamente, por meio do contato com pessoas ou fômites contaminados e estão relacionadas com fatores predisponentes como leucemia aguda, neutropenia e terapia anti-neoplásica, podendo ser infecções superficiais e localizadas de mucosa vaginal, do trato urinário, e infecções invasivas e disseminadas (CHAI; DENNING; WARN, 2010; NEGRI *et al.*, 2012a).

Dessa forma, a *C. tropicalis* é considerada uma das espécies de *Candida* não-albicans mais prevalente nas infecções sanguíneas (candidemia) e do trato urinário (candidúria)



podendo ser a primeira ou segunda espécie mais isolada (COLOMBO et al., 2006; NUCCI *et al.*, 2013; YISMAW *et al.*, 2013), com frequência entre 3 a 66% das espécies de *Candida* isoladas de infecções de corrente sanguínea no mundo (CHAI; DENNING; WARN, 2010). Além disso, *C. tropicalis* demonstra ter mais sucesso na invasão da superfície de mucosas ou na colonização de cateteres intravasculares que as espécies *C. albicans* e *C. glabrata* (CHEN *et al.*, 2012), apresentando também a habilidade de disseminação rápida após a colonização em hospedeiros imunocompetentes, causando alta mortalidade (CHAI; DENNING; WARN, 2010). Entre as espécies de *Candida* não-*albicans*, *C. tropicalis* vem sendo considerada a espécie mais frequente isolada de candidíases na região Ásia-Pacífico, Brasil e Europa (NEGRI *et al.*, 2012a). Vários estudos mostram a frequência com que *C. tropicalis* é isolada de casos de candidíase no Brasil (COLOMBO et al., 2006; DA SILVA *et al.*, 2014; DA COSTA *et al.*, 2009; BRUDER-NASCIMENTO *et al.*, 2010; NUCCI *et al.*, 2013). Nos hospitais terciários brasileiros, *C. tropicalis* é apontada como a causa de 33-48% das infecções da corrente sanguínea por *Candida* (MORALEZ *et al.*, 2013). Em 1998, 53% dos casos de candidúria no Hospital das Clínicas da Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto-SP, no Brasil, foram causados por *C. tropicalis* (OLIVEIRA; MAFFEI; MARTINEZ, 2001). Um estudo prospectivo realizado por Colombo *et al.* (2006) em onze centros médicos brasileiros mostrou que espécies de *Candida* não-*albicans* foram mais frequentemente isoladas (59%), sendo que *C. tropicalis* (21%), *C. parapsilosis* (21%) e *C. glabrata* (5%) foram as mais isoladas.

#### **b) *Candida parapsilosis***

Estudos sobre *Candida parapsilosis* surgiram a parti de 1928 quando Ashford em Porto Rico isolou das fezes diarreicas de um paciente, então nesta época foi pela primeira vez denominada por ele de *Monilia parapsilosis*, caracterizava-se por ser incapaz de fermentar a maltose. Esta nomenclatura permitiu distingui-la de *Monilia psilosis*, nomenclatura dada na época para *Candida albicans* (NOSEK *et al.*, 2002; ALVAREZ-LERMA *et al.*, 2003).

Morfologicamente esta espécie apresenta formas ovulares, redondas ou cilíndricas. Seu isolamento em Agar Sabouraud dextrose mostra colônias brancas e cremosas, brilhante e lisa ou rugosa. Podemos diferenciá-la de outras espécies do gênero *Candida* por não formar hifas verdadeiras e suas múltiplas formas fenotípicas que na fase leveduriforme forma fenótipos coloniais com textura lisa com forma neve, e na forma pseudohifal formam colônias concêntricas em forma crepe. Acredita-se que o desenvolvimento de pseudohifa nesta espécie está associado a um conjunto de aminoácidos como a citrulina, que causam

mudanças na sua morfologia celular e fenotípica da colônia (LAFHEY; BUTTER, 2005; KIM; BISSATI; BEM MAMOUN, 2006).

Inicialmente, esta espécie não foi considerada patogênica, mas estudos relatam o seu isolamento como agente etiológico de infecções desde 1940 (JOACHIM; POLAYES, 1940), e atualmente o aumento nos quadros infecciosos exógenos é favorecido pelo uso de instrumentos médico-hospitalares invasivos e soluções utilizadas em alimentação parenteral (KUHN, *et al.*, 2004).

Os avanços nos estudos de *C. parapsilosis* permitiu a separação desta espécie em três grupos (I, II e III) até 2005. Atualmente mais estudos, embasados em características genéticas revelaram que há características genéticas distintas nesta espécie e permitiu outra classificação separando-a em espécies distintas intimamente relacionadas e foram denominadas em *Candida parapsilosis*, *Candida orthopsilosis*, *Candida metapsilosis* (TAVANTI, *et al.*, 2005).

Entretanto, essa espécie possui um padrão de distribuição bem distinto e atualmente é considerado um patógeno em potencial, comumente isola-se de diferentes amostras clínicas de humanos e de outras fontes, como animais domésticos, água doce e salgada, solo, insetos. Um dos motivos para o avanço nas infecções pode ser o fato de esta espécie ser um comensal humano normal, este fator favorece a prevalência de infecções como infecção do trato urinário, fungemia, endocardites, meningites, peritonites, artrites, infecções oculares, otomicoses e onicomicoses (ÁLVARES; SVIDZINSKI; CONSOLARO, 2007; TROFA; GÁCSEK; NOSANCHUK, 2008) e pode está associado ao fato de suas características genéticas (TOZZO; GRAZZIONE, 2012; BERTINI, *et al.*, 2013). No Brasil, a *C. Parapsilosis* está entre primeira ou a segunda causa mais comum das lesões de onicomicose (FIGUEREDO, *et al.*, 2007; MARTINS *et al.*, 2007) e está cada vez mais frequente nos pacientes imunocomprometidos (JAYATILAKE, *et al.*, 2009).

### **2.3. Fatores de virulência e Patogenicidade**

Podemos entender como fatores de virulência as características requeridas pelo microrganismo para desenvolver a doença (YANG, 2003). Dessa forma, considera-se a propriedade de aderência como o primeiro passo para o desenvolvimento de biofilme, durante neste processo de aderência, várias proteínas, denominadas adesinas, medeiam o

reconhecimento e a ligação das células fúngicas às superfícies celulares e às superfícies inertes, entretanto (DA COSTA *et al.*, 2009; LI *et al.*, 2007).

As espécies de *Candida* podem expressar uma variedade de fatores de virulência que contribuem para sua patogenicidade (LIONAKIS; NETEA, 2013), entre esses fatores podemos citar a aderência nas células do hospedeiro por meio de adesinas, transição morfológica, hidrofobicidade da superfície celular e secreção de enzimas hidrolíticas como fosfolipases, lipases e proteases (NEGRI *et al.*, 2010; DE LUCA *et al.*, 2012; COSTA *et al.*, 2012). Outro importante fator de virulência de espécies de *Candida* é a formação de biofilme, tanto em tecidos do hospedeiro como em dispositivos médicos intracorpóreos (NEGRI *et al.*, 2012b; RAMAGE *et al.*, 2012). Vários mecanismos de patogenicidade já foram associados a *C. tropicalis*, como a adesão a diferentes superfícies, formação de biofilme, capacidade de disseminação, secreção de fator hemolítico e a produção de enzimas hidrolíticas (SILVA *et al.*, 2012; FAVERO *et al.*, 2011; NEGRI *et al.*, 2012a; GALÁN-LADERO *et al.*, 2013).

Biofilmes são comunidades de microorganismos devidamente organizados e incorporados em uma matriz extracelular. Este modo de crescimento é um potente fator de virulência para todas as espécies de *Candida*. Além disso, os isolados *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. tropicalis* e *C. glabrata* são bons formadores de biofilmes. Durante a infecção a presença de biofilmes tem sido relacionada as maiores taxas morbidade e de mortalidade em comparação com isolados incapazes de formar biofilmes. A formação de biofilme é um fenômeno sequencial que envolve a aderência, a maturação e desprendimento como ilustrado na Figura 1. A formação de biofilme é um fenômeno sequencial que envolve a aderência, a maturação e desprendimento, como ilustrado na Figura 1. Aderência e colonização de células de *Candida* a um superfície abiótica e / ou biótica é a primeiro passo para o desenvolvimento do biofilme (Figura 1A). Após aderência inicial das células de *Candida* segue a divisão celular, essa proliferação leva à formação basal de uma camada de microcolônias de ancoragem (Figura 1B), e depois maturação subsequente do biofilme (Figura 1C). A maturação do biofilme é, geralmente, caracterizada pela presença de estrutura filamentosa.

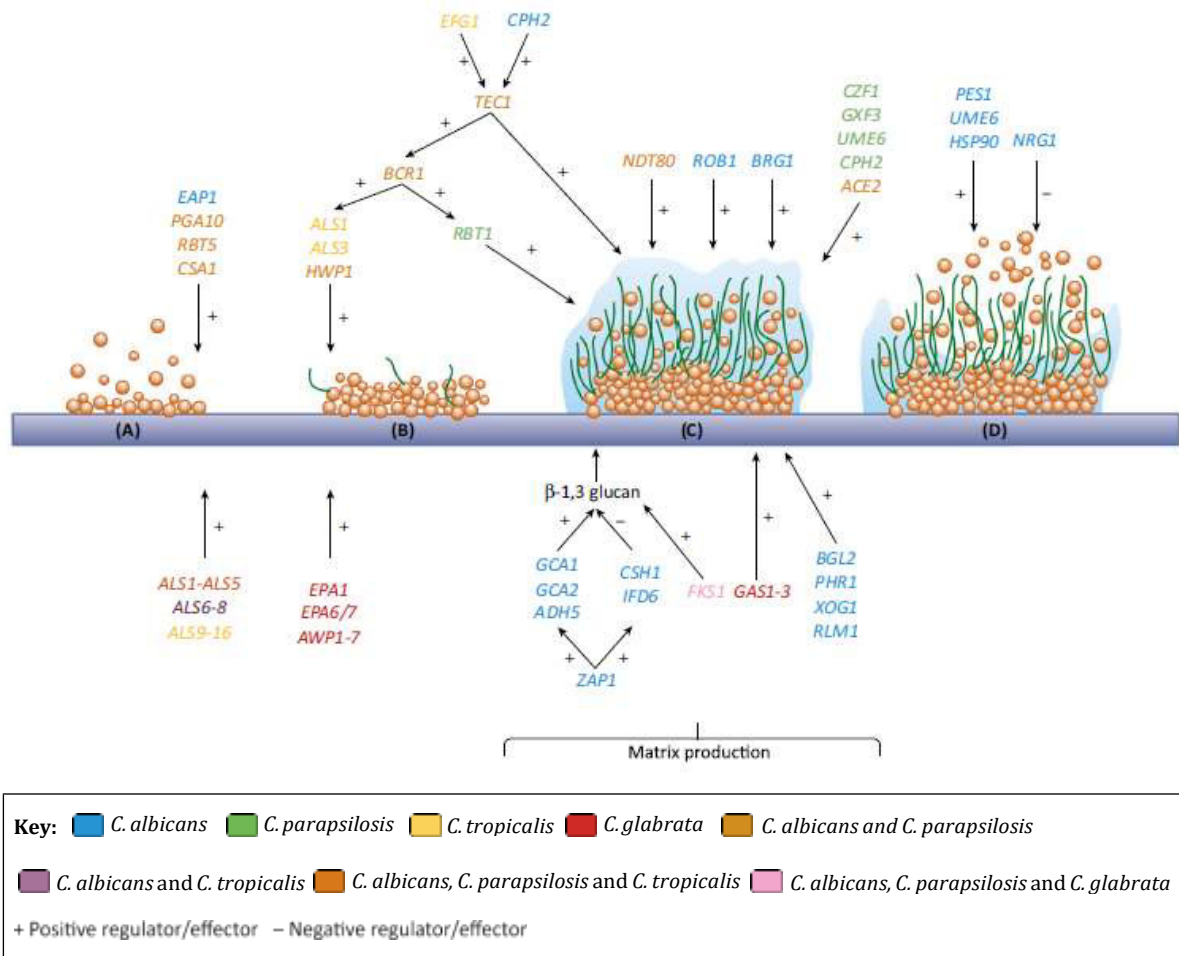


Figura 1. Genes de rede regulatória para os diferentes estádios de biofilme de *Candida albicans*, *Candida parapsilosis*, *Candida tropicalis* e *Candidaglabrata*. (A) Aderência inicial. (B) Formação de camadas de microcolônia basal. (C) Biodefólio maduro constituído por células com diversas morfologias e matriz extracelular. (D) Desprendimento e dispersão de biofilmes. Adaptado de ARAÚJO; HENRIQUES; SILVA, 2017.

Portanto, a formação de biofilme é um processo complexo, que envolve múltiplos tipos de células e fases. Recentemente, uma rede de regulação transcricional foi identificada na gênese da formação de biofilme, que inclui vários fatores de transcrição e circuitos interligados de controle (NOBILE *et al.*, 2012; NOBILE; JONHSON, 2015).

Experimentos *in vitro* demonstraram que o desenvolvimento de biofilme ocorre em uma série de passos sequenciais ao longo de um período de 24-48 horas. O passo inicial consiste na aderência de células leveduriformes de fungos individuais para formar uma camada basal de células. Em seguida vem a fase de proliferação celular em toda superfície e filamentos, que formam projeções alongadas que continuam a crescer em forma de hifas filamentosas. A produção de hifas é um marcador do início da formação de biofilme, seguido por um acúmulo da matriz extracelular de polissacarídeo culminando na maturação do

biofilme. O último passo consiste na liberação de células de levedura não aderentes a partir do biofilme em um ambiente onde podem colonizar outras superfícies (TSUI *et al.*, 2016).

Investigações quantitativas e qualitativas das propriedades de biofilmes demonstraram que a maioria das células dispersadas são filamentosas, sugerindo que a transição de filamentosa para hifa pode ser revertida para dispersão. Esse achado indica que em tese, as células liberadas durante a etapa de dispersão são designadas exclusivamente para semear novos biofilmes e novos sítios de infecção. A análise genética indica que ambas as células, leveduras e hifas, são cruciais para formação de biopelícula, sugerindo que cada tipo de célula tem um papel exclusivo no processo (TSUI *et al.*, 2016).

As investigações sobre a regulação temporal da formação de biofilme expandiu o circuito inicial, mostrando que não só são os complexos de controle transcricional, mas também a modificação ao longo do tempo de como o biofilme progride do estágio inicial até a maturidade. No entanto, a regulação da transcrição não é o único processo que contribui para regulação e formação de biofilme. O circuito de transcrição pode ser ligado à rede de Hsp90, já implicado em vários processos celulares (DIEZMANN; LEACH; COWEN, 2015). Além disso, os processos pós-transcrição que controlam a estabilidade do RNA através da proteína Puf3 e a Cccr4 desidrogenase foram encontrados desempenhando um papel na regulação da produção de matriz e na ligação da formação de biofilme para a função mitocondrial (SELLAM; WHITEWAY, 2016). A maior parte da matriz extracelular do biofilme é constituída de  $\alpha$ -mannosidase e  $\beta$ -1 3-glucanase, essa última envolvida nos mecanismos de resistência dos antifúngicos (TSUI *et al.*, 2016).

A produção extracelular de enzimas, como fosfolipases e proteinases, contribui para a virulência, já que são capazes de promover destruição dos tecidos do hospedeiro. Os mecanismos moleculares relacionados com tal virulência estão envolvidos com a ativação da via de transdução de sinal MAP (mitogen-activated protein) Kinase, onde respostas celulares envolvidas com formação de parede celular, crescimento invasivo, reprodução e adaptação ao estresse osmótico ocorrem mediante vias de sinalização intracelular como MKc1, Cek1/2 e HOG1 MAP Kinase. A ativação da via MAPK também proporciona a ativação do fator de transcrição Cph1, responsável pela forma filamentosa, considerada fator de virulência para ocorrência de infecções sistêmicas, e do CLA4, responsável pela formação do tubo germinativo e hifas. A via de ativação PKA proporciona a formação de AMPc, que regula o fator Efg1, responsável pela formação de hifas. Ressalta-se que outras vias de sinalização intracelular, como a p38 MAPK, também estão envolvidas com a patogenicidade da *C. albicans*. Uma vez instalada a infecção, mediadores pró-

inflamatórios, como TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\alpha$  e IL-2 $\alpha$ , são sintetizados e, conseqüentemente, induzem a resposta inflamatória. As vias de sinalização intracelular podem sofrer interferências, proporcionando às células de *Candida* maior complexidade na expressão dos seus fatores de virulência.

O conhecimento acerca desses mecanismos pode contribuir para a descoberta de novos agentes anti-*Candida* (MONGE *et al.*, 2006; CASTRO, 2010). Progressos recentes têm sido feitos na elucidação de circuitos diretamente implicados na virulência da *C. albicans*, tais como a formação de biofilme, resposta ao stress e a adaptação metabólica. Resposta ao estresse é uma função crítica para um patógeno oportunista como *C. albicans*, uma vez que é necessário ter a capacidade de superar as defesas do hospedeiro e ter um potencial de virulência satisfatório para invadir o organismo (SELLAM; WHITEWAY, 2016).

Evidências recentes salientam o papel da resposta de choque de calor ubíquo nos processos celulares ligados à virulência (O'MEARA; COWEN, 2014). Isto inclui HSF1 e Hsp90, o fator de transcrição de choque térmico e uma chaperonina envolvida no choque de calor, respectivamente, coordenando arquitetura da cromatina e a expressão do gene de resposta ao stress para permitir adaptação à resposta do hospedeiro, potencialmente, feita por meio da febre (LEACH *et al.*, 2016). Além disso, a rede reguladora de choque térmico liga a vias metabólicas principais que estão intimamente relacionadas com a resposta celular ao stress. Estas observações fornecem a visão de quão complexo e interrelacionados são os processos ligados à resposta ao stress e o papel da virulência da nas infecções fúngicas (O'MEARA *et al.*, 2016). Recentemente, foram encontradas várias vesículas de *C. Albicans* transportando fatores de virulência estimulando respostas *C. albicans* imunes em macrófagos e células dendríticas (VARGAS *et al.*, 2015).

A forma de hifa é ainda mais implicada como mecanismo de virulência por expressar vários fatores de virulência, como adesinas e proteases. É interessante ressaltar que vários genes expressos durante a transição da forma de levedura para hifa não são importantes para morfogênese, mas são importantes nos mecanismos de virulência (KADOSH; JOHNSON, 2005; KUMAMOTO; VINCES, 2005). Como exemplo, há a expressão de proteases aspárticas (FELK *et al.*, 2002; NAGLIK *et al.*, 2008), assim como as adesinas HWP1 (Hyphal wall protein 1) e ALS3 (Agglutinin-like sequence) (FU *et al.*, 2002; SUNDSTROM, 2002).

## 2.4. Atividade biológica de produtos naturais sobre Biofilme

Em vista as ameaças crescentes apresentadas por leveduras resistentes a medicamentos incentivaram os pesquisadores na procura vigorosa de antifúngicos alternativos vindos de produtos naturais, que não só podem ser mais efetivos como também possuem menos efeitos colaterais (ALVES *et al.*, 2014; SARDI *et al.*, 2011; GOEL *et al.*, 2016). Várias substâncias que não são antibióticos, como por exemplo, os óleos essenciais, azeite e óleo de canela, foram identificados como eficazes sobre leveduras e biofilmes (UPADHYAY, 2010).

O interesse sobre produtos naturais aumentou independente de estarem associados a outras terapias e estratégias promissoras, como o uso de nanopartículas, anticorpos e mais recentemente a inativação fotodinâmica como tratamentos antifúngicos (SARDI *et al.*, 2013).

O uso de plantas medicinais como terapia alternativa pela população tem sido uma prática comum desde antes de Cristo. Como exemplo, tem-se o uso de papoula (*Papaver somniferum*) e maconha (*Cannabis sativa*) ao longo de 4.000 anos.

No entanto, a procura pelos componentes presentes em plantas medicinais só começou no século XIX, levando à concepção da primeira droga com as características que conhecemos hoje. Friedrich Serturmer, em 1806, foi pioneiro quando isolou a morfina alcalóide de Papoula: um evento que levou a uma busca contínua de outros medicamentos derivados de plantas. Em 1824, Pierre-Jean Robiquet isolou codeína, um agente antitussígeno também da papoula, em 1848, George Merck Fraz isolou o anti-espasmódico alcalóide papaverina desta mesma planta. Outros exemplos importantes de componentes ativos isolados a partir de plantas compreendem atropina (antagonista muscarínico) isolada de *Atropa belladonna* por Mein em 1831; Cafeína obtida por Runge em 1820 da *Coffea arabica*; Digoxina (digitálicos) isolado por Claude-Adolphe Nativelle em 1869 da *Digitalis lanata*; E curare (músculo Relaxante) isolado por Winstersteiner e Dutcher em 1943 da *Chondrodendron Tomentosum*, entre muitos outros exemplos.

Estudos recentes buscam novos modelos de plantas capazes de inibir a formação de biofilme, como exemplo a *Bixa orellana* L. comumente conhecida como annatto nativo da América Central e América do Sul. Tem sido usado há séculos em muitas partes do mundo para a prevenção e tratamento de uma série de distúrbios de saúde. Nas últimas décadas foram isolados várias classes diferentes de fitoconstituintes, incluindo carotenóides, apocarotenóides, esteróis, compostos alifáticos, monoterpenos e sesquiterpenos, triterpenoides, óleos voláteis e outros compostos diversos de todas as partes desta planta.

Esses fitoquímicos exibem uma ampla gama de atividades farmacológicas que incluem antibacterianos, antifúngico, antioxidante, antiinflamatório, anticancerígeno, motilidade gastrointestinal aumentada, neurofarmacológica, atividades anticonvulsivantes, analgésicas e antidiarreicas. As investigações modernas desta planta revelaram a presença de corante avermelhado natural em sementes de *B. orellana* (ALVES *et al.*, 2009)

O gênero *Euterpe* possui cerca de 28 espécies localizadas na América Central e do Sul tendo uma distribuição por toda a bacia amazônica. As três espécies que ocorrem mais freqüentemente são *E. oleracea*, *E. precatoria* e *E. edulis*. Apesar dessa distribuição, apenas as duas primeiras usam os seus frutos comercialmente. A *E. oleracea*, popularmente conhecida é encontrada principalmente em terras baixas e em florestas inundadas pelo estuário do rio Amazonas, nos estados brasileiros do Pará, Maranhão, Tocantins, Amapá, e também na Guiana Francesa e Venezuela. Apesar da maior quantidade de espécies de *Euterpe* concentrados no lado oriental da floresta amazônica, também é observada uma quantidade considerável na região setentrional da América do Sul (YAMAGUCHI *et al.*, 2015).

As raízes de *E. oleracea* também são utilizadas na Guiana como agente anti-malárico, mas sempre em combinação e de preferência com outras plantas medicinais, *Caricacarpaya*, *Citrus* sp. (Limão) e *Quassia amara*, mostrando baixa atividade quando comparada com outras espécies. Além dessa atividade, há relatos do uso da *E. oleracea* para o tratamento de Leishmaniose tegumentar pela população da Guiana Francesa. Na Colômbia e no Suriname, é usado no tratamento da diarreia (YAMAGUCHI *et al.*, 2015).

A composição fitoquímica do fruto "açai" tem sido bem caracterizada e inclui: ácidos fenólicos, antocianinas - especialmente cianidina-3-orutinosida, Cianidina-O-glucosido - proantocianidinas, lignanas - tais como ariltetrahidronaftaleno, dihidrobenzofurano, furofurano, 8-O-4 '-neolignano, Tetrahidrofurano - e constituintes polifenólicos - tais como a epicatequina, a catequina Homoorientina, orientina, isovitexina, taxifolino desoxihexose.

Vários estudos abordaram os efeitos farmacológicos do açai, incluindo: atividade antitumoral na linha celular MCF-7 - uma linha celular do câncer de mama (SILVA *et al.*, 2014); inibição de disfunção cardíaca em ratos submetidos a infarto do miocárdio; efeitos analgésicos durante ensaios de dor aguda e neuropática (SUDO *et al.*, 2015) e propriedades anticonvulsivantes em camundongos (SOUZA-MONTEIRO *et al.*, 2015). Um achado clínico recente mostrou que o consumo de "açai" reduz Stress e melhora a tolerância ao esforço em atletas profissionais (CARVALHO-PEIXOTO *et al.*, 2015).



A resistência antimicrobiana aos fármacos é um obstáculo no tratamento de numerosas doenças infecciosas (MAH, 2012). Um dos tipos mais comumente reconhecidos de resistência aos fármacos é a implantação de biofilmes nos dispositivos médicos. Esses biofilmes exibem uma resistência inata a múltiplas classes de fármacos, e são capazes de suportar concentrações antifúngicas 1000 vezes mais altas do que aquelas necessárias para inibir a *Candida* em sua forma livre (RAMAGE *et al.*, 2005). Quando a terapia farmacológica não erradica os biofilmes, a remoção do dispositivo infectado é quase sempre necessária para resolver o quadro de infecção. O tratamento é difícil, uma vez que os dispositivos médicos são frequentemente críticos para a sobrevivência do paciente e as terapêuticas antifúngicas atualmente disponíveis são praticamente ineficazes. As infecções por biofilme de *Candida*, se não forem tratadas com sucesso, podem ter consequências devastadoras, evoluindo para difusão hematogênica e infecções fúngicas invasivas com altos riscos de mortalidade (TAFF *et al.*, 2013).

### **3. OBJETIVOS**

#### **3.1. Objetivo Geral**

Analisar atividade biológica *in vitro* do extrato da *Euterpe oleracea* sobre biofilme de *Candida parapsilopsis* e *Candida tropicalis*.

#### **3.2. Objetivos Específicos**

- Preparar extrato bruto hidroalcoólico liofilizado de *Euterpe oleracea*;
- Determinar o potencial de formação de biofilmes de *Candida parapsilopsis* e *Candida tropicalis* em placas microtiter de poliestireno;
- Comparar o potencial antibiofilme do extrato bruto hidroalcoólico liofilizado da casca e do caroço de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart na formação de biofilme por *Candida parapsilopsis* e *Candida tropicalis*.

## 4. METODOLOGIA

### 4.1. Obtenção do extrato hidroalcoólico liofilizado do fruto total, casca e caroço de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart.

Os frutos de juçara (*Euterpe oleracea* Mart) utilizados neste estudo foram oriundos do Parque da Juçara (São Luís, Maranhão, Brasil). Uma amostra do exemplar foi armazenada sob exsicata número 30 expedida pelo Herbário Rosa Mochel do Núcleo de Estudos Biológicos da Universidade Estadual do Maranhão (UEMA) e depositado no World International Property Organization sob o registro nº PI0418614-1. Os frutos foram previamente acondicionados sob refrigeração a -20°C no Laboratório de Farmacologia e Psicobiologia da Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro (UERJ). Após descongelamento em temperatura ambiente, a amostra foi separada em três porções: casca, caroço e fruto total (casca + caroço). O processo de extração seguiu de acordo com a metodologia desenvolvida por de Moura *et al.*, (2011). Aproximadamente 360 g de juçara foram lavadas em água corrente e fervidas em água destilada por 5 a 10 minutos. Posteriormente, as porções foram trituradas e em seguida, homogeneizadas com 400 ml de etanol sob agitação por 2 h. Os extratos resultantes foram armazenados a 4°C protegidos da luz por 10 dias. Após esse período de maturação, os extratos hidroalcoólicos foram filtrados em papel de filtro #1 Whatman e a fase líquida concentrada em um evaporador rotatório de baixa pressão (Fisatom Equipamentos Científicos Ltda. São Paulo, São Paulo, Brasil) a aproximadamente 40°C e então liofilizados (LIOTOP modelo 202, Fisatom Equipamentos Científicos Ltda. São Paulo, São Paulo, Brasil) em temperatura de -30 a -40 °C e vácuo de 200 mm Hg. Os extratos foram mantidos a -20 °C até o dia de uso. Posteriormente, foi analisada a quantidade total de polifenóis da juçara através do método de Folin Ciocalteu segundo Oliveira *et al.* (2009).

### 4.2. Obtenção dos isolados de *Candida*

Foram utilizadas espécies de *Candida parapsilosis* ATCC 1369 e *Candida tropicalis* ATCC 1369 oriundas da Plast-Labor Microbiologia<sup>®</sup> figura 2. Ambas foram mantidas sob

refrigeração no laboratório de Micologia do Núcleo de Imunologia Básica e Aplicada (NIBA, DEPAT/CCBS/UFMA).



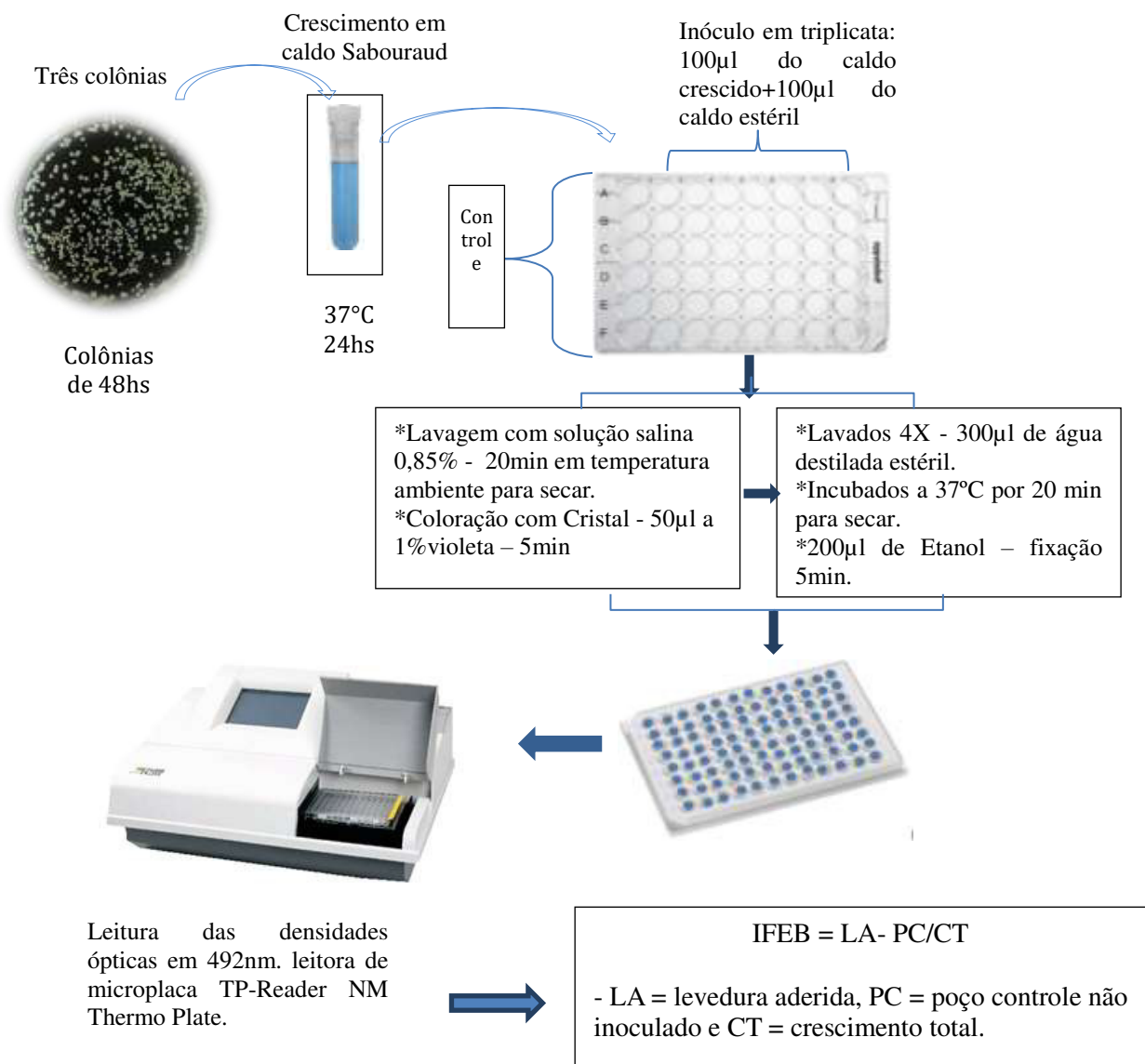
**Figura 2.** Cepas de *Candida parapsilosis* ATCC 1369 e *Candida tropicalis* ATCC 1369 oriundas da Plast-Labor Microbiologia<sup>©</sup>

### 4.3. Formação de Biofilme

Os isolados de *C. parapsilosis* e *Candida tropicalis* foram reativadas em ágar Sabouraud dextrose a 37°C por 48 horas, em seguida foram transferidas três colônias de cada isolado para tubos de ensaio com 5mL de caldo Sabouraud dextrose os quais foram incubadas a 37°C por 24 horas. Posteriormente alíquotas de 100µL do caldo crescido mais 100µL de caldo estéril, com inóculo variando entre  $3 \times 10^7$  a  $1,8 \times 10^8$  UFC/mL, foram transferidas para os poços de placas microtiter de poliestireno estéreis que foram incubadas por 24 horas a 27°C (JAIN *et al.*, 2007) (Figura 5).

As placas foram posteriormente tratadas segundo metodologia descrita por Neves *et al.*, (2008), com a determinação do crescimento total (CT) pela medida da densidade óptica a 630nm, em leitora de microplaca TP-Reader NM Thermo Plate, seguida da remoção do caldo crescido, lavagem dos poços com solução fisiológica e secagem em temperatura ambiente por

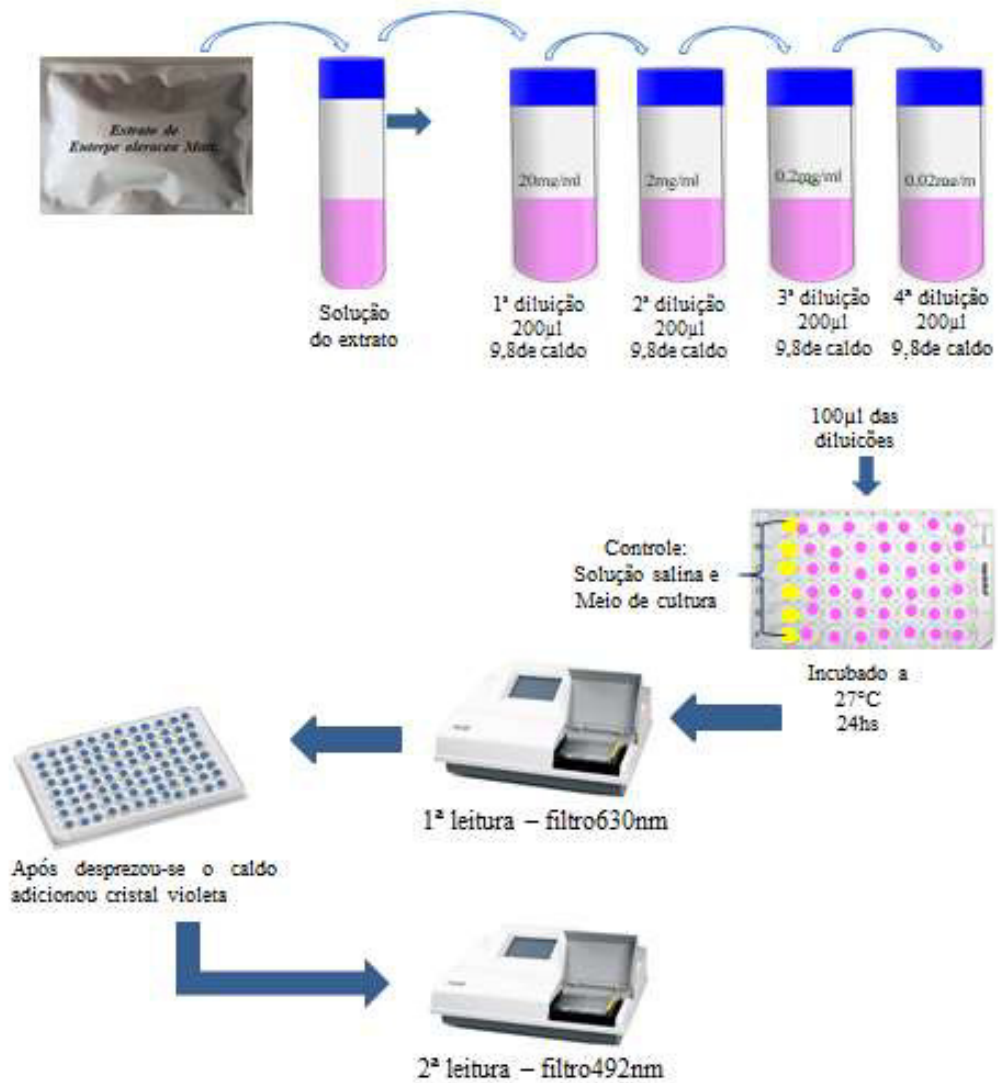
20 minutos. Subsequentemente os poços foram corados com 50µL de cristal violeta a 1% por cinco minutos, após esse período o corante foi desprezado e os poços lavados quatro vezes com 300µL de água destilada. As placas foram incubadas a 37°C por 20 minutos para secagem, posteriormente adicionou-se 200µL de etanol absoluto em cada poço para fixação e a placa microtiter foi incubada durante 5 minutos. Após o processamento de coloração das placas as densidades ópticas foram lidas a 492 nm em leitora de microplaca TP-Reader NM Thermo Plate. As leituras de densidade óptica permitiram o cálculo do Índice de Formação Específica de Biofilme (IFEB) por meio da fórmula  $IFEB = LA - PC/CT$ , aonde LA = levedura aderida, PC = poço controle não inoculado e CT = crescimento total. Todos os ensaios foram realizados em triplicata para cada espécie de *Cândida* em experimentos independentes (Algoritmo 1).



#### **4.4. Determinação de Susceptibilidade *in vitro* de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart.**

Após a formação do Biofilme dos isolados de *Candida* de acordo com a metodologia e as espectrofotométricas supracitada, as microplacas foram submetidas ao ensaio de susceptibilidade de acordo com a metodologia proposta por Messier *et al.*, (2011) com modificações.

Para esse ensaio foi utilizado diluições seriadas do extrato de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart. Primeiramente foi preparado a solução mãe dissolvendo 1g do extrato liofilizado em 1mL em solução salina, dessa solução preparou-se diluições seriadas e transferidos 0,2mL da solução inicial para outro tubo com 9,8 mL de caldo Sabouraud, para obtenção da primeira concentração, com auxílio da pipeta multicanal foram feitas sucessivas diluições (0,02; 0,2; 2 e 20 mg/mL) na microplaca. A coluna vertical representa o controle Positivo (três primeiros poços) e o controle negativo (três últimos). Foi colocado 100 ul do caldo crescido de 24 horas mais 100ul do extrato em todos os pocinhos. Incubado a 27° C por 24 hs. Após esta incubação foi realizada a primeira leitura em filtro de 630 nm. Em seguida desprezou-se a suspensão, para realizar a coloração com cristal violeta que determinaria a presença ou ausência do biofilme. Após esta coloração realizou-se a segunda leitura em filtro de 492 nm para confirmar o efeito do extrato de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart na destruição ou não do biofilme, conforme algoritmo 2.



Algoritmo 2 – Ensaio da atividade de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart sobre biofilme de *Candida parapsilosis* e *Candida tropicalis*

#### 4.5. Análise estatística

Para a avaliação o grau de associação entre o Extrato e a formação de biofilme utilizou-se a correlação de Spearman. Afim de avaliar se as diferenças foram estatisticamente significativas foi realizado o Kruskal Wallis, com  $p > 0,05$ . As análises dos dados obtidos foram realizadas com o auxílio do programa STATA® (versão 14).

## 5. RESULTADOS

As espécies testadas para o ensaio de formação de biofilme foram *Candida parapsilosis* e *Candida tropicalis*. Na Tabela 1 podemos observar que segundo o teste aplicado as *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis* formaram biofilme.

**Tabela 1:** Associação entre os extratos de *Euterpe oleracea* e a formação de biofilme por *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis*

Extrato	Espécie	
	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>
Casca	-0,727	-0,859
Caroço	-0,908	-0,783

Segundo a correlação de Spearman (Tabela 2) tanto o extrato da casca quanto do caroço tem forte influência negativa na formação de biofilme por ambas espécies do gênero *Candida*. Desta forma demonstra-se que os extratos inibem significativamente a formação de biofilme. Nota-se, também, que a o extrato da casca possui melhor inibição sobre a formação de biofilme por *C. parapsilosis* que em *C. tropicalis*; todavia o extrato do caroço tem melhor efeito em *C. tropicalis* que em *C. parapsilosis*.

**Tabela 2:** Efeito do extrato da casca de *Euterpe oleracea* na aderência e formação de biofilme em *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis* de acordo com a absorvância.

Concentração	Espécie	
	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>
0,02 mg/ml	0,438 ±0,133 <sup>a</sup>	0,243 ±0,133 <sup>a</sup>
0,2 mg/ml	0,375 ±0,187 <sup>a</sup>	0,184 ±0,110 <sup>a b</sup>
2 mg/ml	0,397 ±0,420 <sup>a</sup>	0,044 ±0,063 <sup>b c</sup>
20 mg/ml	-0,031 ±0,059 <sup>b</sup>	-0,060 ±0,059 <sup>c</sup>

Considerou-se significativamente diferente resultados com valor de  $p < 0,05$

O extrato da casca inibiu totalmente ou parcialmente a formação de biofilme por ambas as espécies (Tabela 3). A formação de biofilme por *C. tropicalis* tendeu a ser reduzida nas concentrações de 0,02 a 2 mg/ml e inibida na concentração de 20 mg/ml do extrato da



casca. A *C. parapsilosis* teve a formação do biofilme significativamente inibidas parcialmente nas concentrações de 0,2 e 2 mg/ml; e sendo completamente inibida na concentração de 20 mg/ml. O aumento da concentração do extrato foi proporcionalmente inverso a quantidade de biofilme indicando a dose dependência.

**Tabela 3:** Efeito do extrato do caroço de *Euterpe oleracea* na formação de biofilme por *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis* de acordo com a absorbância.

Concentração	Espécie	
	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>
0,02 mg/ml	0,275 ±0,073 <sup>a</sup>	0,123 ±0,074 <sup>a</sup>
0,2 mg/ml	0,222 ±0,074 <sup>a b</sup>	0,111 ±0,063 <sup>a</sup>
2 mg/ml	0,104 ±0,035 <sup>b c</sup>	0,018 ±0,035 <sup>b</sup>
20 mg/ml	-0,018 ±0,043 <sup>c</sup>	-0,059 ±0,062 <sup>b</sup>

Considerou-se significativamente diferente resultados com valor de  $p < 0,05$

Na tabela 3 observou-se que o extrato do caroço inibiu a formação de biofilme em diferentes concentrações, sendo dose dependente também. Nas concentrações de 0,2 e 2 mg houveram redução parcial de biofilme, e na concentração de 20 mg/ml inibiu completamente a formação do biofilme em ambas as espécies.

## 6. DISCUSSÃO

No presente estudo as espécies submetidas à formação de biofilme por *C. parapsilosis* e *C. tropicalis* foram satisfatórias para formação de biofilme em placa de Elisa com 96 poços. Os resultados encontrados na literatura relatam que isolados de *C. parapsilosis*, *C. pseudotropicalis* e *C. grabrata* possuem menor desenvolvimento de biofilme comparado a *C. albicans*. Porém, no presente trabalho observou-se que as espécies *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis* podem produzir quantidade significativa de biofilme.

Grande parte dos experimentos relacionados as informações sobre a formação de biofilmes por *Candida* provém de experimentos com uma variedade de substratos (plásticos, acrílico, poliestireno, etc) (RAMAGE *et al*, 2007).

Como existem dados escassos sobre o impacto da mídia de crescimento no fenômeno do desenvolvimento do biofilme por *Candida*, foi realizado um estudo para avaliar a eficácia de três meios de cultura dextrose sabouraud (SDB), base nitrogenada de fermento (YNB) e RPMI 1640 sobre crescimento, adesão e formação de biofilmes de duas leveduras patogênicas *C. albicans* e *C. parapsilosis* em que concluíram que *C. albicans* e *C. tropicalis* apresentaram crescimento variável, heterogêneo, adesão, bem como potencial de formação de biofilmes e arquitetura em diferentes meios de crescimento (WEERASEKERA, 2016). O nosso meio utilizado foi o dextrose saboround.

Em relação a forte influência inibitória do extrato de *Euterpe oleracea* Mart na formação de biofilme para ambas espécies estudadas *C. tropicalis* e *C. parapsilosis*. Muitos extratos e óleos essenciais isolados de plantas demonstraram exercer atividade biológica que justifica a investigação de sua potencial atividade antimicrobiana (FURLETTI *et al*, 2011; PIETRELLA *et al*, 2011). De acordo com estudos bioquímicos que já foram realizados para revelar a composição do açaí existem vários tipos de fitoquímicos, dentre eles antocianinas, proantocianidinas e outros flavonóides (SCHAUSS *et al.*, 2006). A atividade bioativa tem sido objeto de pesquisas frente ao seu poder de regeneração do tecido epitelial por sua ação antioxidante, hidratante, reguladora de lipídeos (UDANI *et al.*, 2011) e estimulante do processo de cicatrização (MACHADO, 2010). As antocianinas presente neste fruto são conhecidas cientificamente por suas propriedades antimicrobianas, antiinflamatória e anticarcinogênicas (ALASALVAR, 2005). Diversos trabalhos realizados na Amazônia (ABREU *et al.*, 2014) comprovam o efeito antimicrobiano de palmeiras comumente

cultivadas em solos como o açaí (*Euterpe oleraceae* Mart.) e a pupunheira (*Bactris gasipaes* e *Bactris dahlgreniana*), que em trabalho realizado por Araújo, Henriques e Silva (2017) foi observado efeito bactericida dos óleos provenientes de seus frutos.

Em relação a dose dependência em que foi observada, quanto maior a concentração do extrato de *Euterpe Oleracea* Mart maior foi o efeito inibitório na formação do biofilme em ambas as espécies estudadas neste trabalho, com inibição na concentração de 20mg/ml. Entretanto, esta maior concentração vai de encontro aos achados de Abreu *et al* (2014) que avaliou o efeito das doses dos óleos de mururu (*Astrocaryum ulei* Mart.) e açaí (*Euterpe oleracea* Mart). Apesar de serem fungos de espécies diferentes da estudada neste trabalho e por ter sido óleo e o nosso terem sido extratos da casca e do caroço da *Euterpe Oleracea* Mart possuem resultados semelhantes ao achado no presente trabalho.

Pode-se observar ainda neste estudo que houve uma diferença na tendência de inibição do biofilme das *Candidas* estudadas, relacionadas aos extratos da casca e do caroço. O extrato do caroço inibiu completamente a formação de biofilme.

As antocianinas são flavanóides com ação antioxidante (OLIVEIRA, 2013). No caroço há uma presença de compostos fenólicos: ácidos fenólicos, flavonas, flavonóis, antocianinas, ácido protocatecuico, catequinas, epicatequina e procianidinas oligoméricas (diméricas a pentaméricas) (RODRIGUES *et al.*, 2015). Estes protegem contra danos causados pela radiação eletromagnética e também podem exibir propriedades defensivas, tais como antibacteriana e antifúngica (MONTONARI; BOLZANI, 2001), sendo necessários estudos específicos que indiquem as frações responsáveis pelo efeito antifúngico. Vários estudos sobre extratos e óleos extraídos de substâncias naturais já foram testados sobre ação do biofilme de *Candidas* mostrando seus diferentes efeitos. Em um estudo (JABEUR *et al.*, 2016) sobre propriedades bioativas e constituintes funcionais de *Hypericum Androsaeum* L. com foco no perfil fenólico, o extrato foi eficaz na inibição da produção de óxido nítrico como indicador do potencial anti-inflamatório. Os efeitos anti-*Candida* variaram entre as espécies *C. grabratta* e *c.tropicallis* sendo esta mais sensível estando diretamente relacionado as concentrações testadas. Foi observado um potencial significativo de formação de biofilmes com redução maior que 90%. Os compostos observados, a maioria fenólicos, podem explicar as ações: antioxidantes, citotóxicas, anti-inflamatórias e atividades anti-*Candidas*.

O extrato de própolis também foi testado para combater infecções de espécies de *Candida* tanto em células plactônicas quanto em biofilmes mostrou-se como potente antifúngico em ambos os casos (TOBALDINI-VALERIO *et al.*, 2016), em que os flavanóides constituem uma classe muito importante de polifenóis amplamente presente no própolis,

responsável por sua atividade biológica. Vários extratos brutos de plantas do cerrado brasileiro foram testados contra espécies de *Candida*, os seis extratos apresentaram atividade antifúngica (CORREIA *et al.*, 2016), sendo que *Eugenia dysenterica*, *Pouteria ramiflora* mostraram maior efeito contra as espécies não-albicans testadas. A análise química dos extratos destas revelou presença de polifenóis (flavanóide e catequinas), uma classe química importante como atividade antifúngica. O que nos leva a crê que baseado nesses estudos com outras substâncias naturais a possível atividade antifúngica e antibiofilme do extrato do açai esteja nos compostos fenólicos, sendo necessário ainda estudos *in vitro* para fracionar quais compostos são responsáveis por essa ação requerida em nosso estudo.

## 7. CONCLUSÃO

Pode-se concluir com este trabalho que o extrato da *Euterpe oleracea* Mart inibiu a formação do biofilme de *Candida tropicallis* e *Candida parapsilosis*, sendo que os melhores resultados de inibição foram do extrato do caroço. Estudos posteriores serão necessário para comprovar a eficácia do extrato como inibidor dos biofilmes de *Candidae* para identificar qual substância é responsável por essa inibição.

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## ANEXOS

**ANEXO A:** Comprovante da submissão do artigo "Use of phytochemicals as a new promise for Candidiasis therapy", na revista Frontiers in Microbiology.



## Use of phytochemicals as a new promise for Candidiasis therapy

Larissa L. Brito<sup>1</sup>, Geusa Felipa B. Bezerra<sup>2</sup>, Katia R. Borges<sup>1</sup>, Gabriel X. Silva<sup>1</sup>, Igor Vinicius P. Rodrigues<sup>1</sup>, Raquel Maria T. Fernandes<sup>3</sup>, Walbert E. Muniz Filho<sup>2</sup>, Liwerbeth D. Pereira<sup>1</sup>, Lailson O. De Castro<sup>1</sup>, João Paulo P. De Sousa<sup>1</sup>, Maria Do Desterro B. Nascimento<sup>2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil, <sup>2</sup>pathology, Federal University of Maranhão, Brazil, <sup>3</sup>Universidade Estadual do Maranhão, Brazil

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In review

### ***Conflict of interest statement***

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest

### ***Author contribution statement***

MSBN:idealizador

LLB,KRB,GXS,IVPR,WEMF,LAP,LOC,JPPS:participated in the search of the articles and assembly of the article

GFBB,RMTF:reviewed the article

### ***Keywords***

Biofilm, *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, phytochemicals, Fungi

### ***Abstract***

Word count: 233

Non-albicans *Candida* infections such as *C. glabrata*, *C. krusei*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. parapsilosis* are increasingly frequent, and the resistance of such microorganisms is increasing due to the indiscriminate use of antifungal agents. Biofilms are one of the major factors involved in the success of candidiasis therapy, prompting researchers to study new antimicrobial substances from various sources, including medicinal plants, in the search for phytochemicals capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this structure. The aim of this study is to compile relevant publications published since 2011 focusing on *Candida* biofilms and phytochemicals. The research was conducted by searching in the PubMed platform using the keywords "Factors of virulence", "biofilm", "*Candida albicans* and non-albicans", and "Phytochemicals". 2546 articles were found, and among them 28 were selected according to the study proposal guidelines. Among the articles found, 2519 were excluded because they did not present the necessary requisites of this study. Based on the results, we conclude that candidiasis by *Candida* non-albicans is increasingly emerging and is associated with the expression of its factors of virulence, especially biofilm. This is a mechanism capable of interfering with the action of available antifungal agents. In addition, the search for new phytochemicals with properties capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this fungal matrix is extremely important due to an increasing resistance that these microorganisms have been developing over the last decades.

Keywords: Biofilm, *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, Phytochemicals

## ANEXO B: Artigo científico - Use of phytochemicals as a new promise for Candidiasis therapy

### Use of phytochemicals as a new promise for Candidiasis therapy.

Larissa Lira Brito<sup>1</sup>; Geusa Felipa de Barros Bezerra<sup>1</sup>; Katia Regina Borges<sup>1</sup>; Gabriel Xaxier Silva<sup>1</sup>; Igor Vinicius Pimentel Rodrigues<sup>1</sup>; Raquel Maria Trindade Fernandes<sup>2</sup>; Walbert Edson Muniz Filho<sup>1</sup>; Liwerbeth dos Anjos Pereira<sup>1</sup>; Lailson Oliveira de Castro<sup>1</sup>; João Paulo Pimentel de Sousa<sup>1</sup>; Maria do Desterro Soares Brandão Nascimento<sup>1</sup>.

1 Federal University of Maranhão

2 Universidade Estadual do Maranhão

#### ABSTRACT

Non-albicans *Candida* infections such as *C. glabrata*, *C. krusei*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. parapsilosis* are increasingly frequent, and the resistance of such microorganisms is increasing due to the indiscriminate use of antifungal agents. Biofilms are one of the major factors involved in the success of candidiasis therapy, prompting researchers to study new antimicrobial substances from various sources, including medicinal plants, in the search for phytochemicals capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this structure. The aim of this study is to compile relevant publications published since 2011 focusing on *Candida* biofilms and phytochemicals. The research was conducted by searching in the PubMed platform using the keywords “Factors of virulence”, “biofilm”, “*Candida albicans* and non-*albicans*”, and “Phytochemicals”. 2546 articles were found, and among them 28 were selected according to the study proposal guidelines. Among the articles found, 2519 were excluded because they did not present the necessary requisites of this study. Based on the results, we conclude that candidiasis by *Candida* non-albicans is increasingly emerging and is associated with the expression of its factors of virulence, especially biofilm. This is a mechanism capable of interfering with the action of available antifungal agents. In addition, the search for new phytochemicals with properties capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this fungal matrix is extremely important due to an increasing resistance that these microorganisms have been developing over the last decades.

Keywords: Biofilm, *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, Phytochemicals.

#### INTRODUCTION

Infections by *Candida* non-*albicans*, such as *C. glabrata*, *C. krusei*, *C. tropicalis* and *parapsilosis*, are increasingly common (1, 2, 3). Such infections are a result of host immune disorders and virulence factors expressed by these yeasts, which contribute to the ability to colonize, penetrate and invade tissues (4, 5), thus leading to candidiasis. *C. tropicalis* and *C. parapsilosis* have the ability of forming biofilms, a mechanism by which treatments using most antifungal agents are hindered (6, 7, 8, 9).

The pathogenesis of candidiasis is common to all species of *Candida*, being facilitated by a number of virulent factors, among which we may highlight the ability to adhere to medical devices or host cells, development of biofilms and transition to filamentous forms (10). As a

consequence of the disruption of the parasite-host balance, candidiasis may occur triggered by changes in the tissue barrier and the autochthonous microbiota and by the compromise of the body's natural defenses. In diseases requiring a long hospital stay, there is a greater occurrence of disruption of this balance (2).

In addition to these virulence mechanisms expressed by *Candida* species, biofilm is one of the main factors for the development of fungal resistance and the difficulty in responding to treatment since it has the capacity to form a community of planktonic cells over cell and abiotic surfaces, on which substances with antifungal properties generally fail to overcome and succeed in therapy (11).

According to Araújo, Henrique and Silva (12), mucosal infections may be associated with the formation of biofilms by microorganisms to the extent that the pathogen is able to adhere to a surface and produce an extracellular matrix or biofilm. Several genes are involved in this relationship, including several common genetic mechanisms for the formation and development of biofilms on abiotic and mucosal surfaces. Thus, the different stages of biofilm development (adhesion/colonization, maturation and dispersion) are mediated by complex molecular events. However, biofilm formation is strongly dependent on environmental conditions, which makes it difficult to compare regulatory genetic changes among *Candida* species.

Thus, the biofilm is a mechanism of great interest in the medical field. Many authors (13, 14, 15) emphasize its importance as part of the defense strategies of the pathogen forming the biofilm, and also because it is a matrix or a community of microorganisms that can be formed over biotic and abiotic surfaces, including medical devices such as catheters and bladder probes. In this sense, the search for natural products or phytochemicals capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this structure is crucial in the exploration of new antifungals (16, 17, 18, 19). Therefore, this study aims to compile articles on approaches to *Candida* biofilms and phytochemicals with antifungal activity and antibiofilms that may stimulate new research in the area.

## **METHODOLOGY**

We conducted a review of articles on the PubMed platform emphasizing *Candida* biofilms, phytochemicals with antifungal activity and *Candida* antibiofilm proprieties. The articles were organized according to author, year, title and objectives. The search was carried out using the following keywords: Factors of virulence, biofilm, *Candida non-albicans* and Phytochemicals. All selected articles are listed in Table 1 and Table 2. Subsequently, the results were compared and described below.

## RESULTS

In this study, we found 2,546 articles related to biofilm-*Candida*-Phytochemicals presenting approaches on the virulence factors of *Candida*. Of these, 483 articles discussing biofilm and phytochemicals were separated. After analysis, 28 articles that were in agreement with the proposed objective were selected. Publications from 2011 were reviewed and among the articles found, 2519 were excluded because they did not present the characteristics chosen for this study, according to the flowchart below.

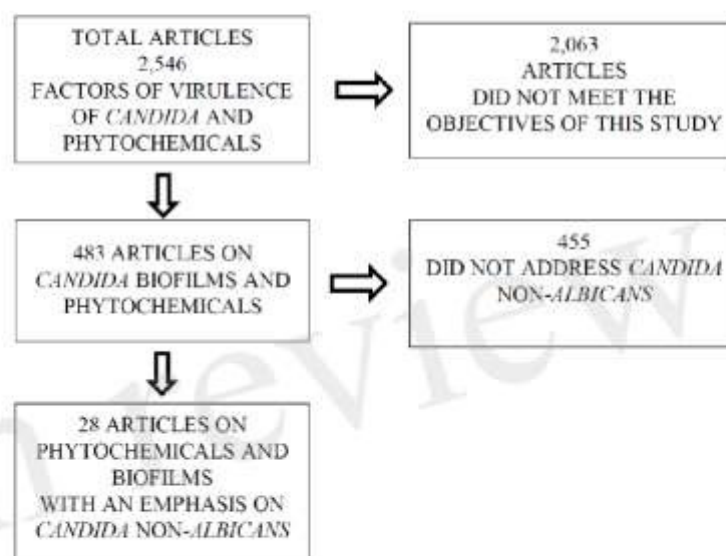


Figure 1. Methodology flowchart.

Tables 1 and 2 present, in order of publication, articles that address biofilm formation, antifungal and antibiofilm activity, and Phytochemicals, respectively.

Authors	Title	Objectives
Zárójelentés, 2011.	Investigation of virulence factors of <i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	Investigate the virulence of <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> and analyze the pathogen-host relationship.
Seabra, 2011.	Study on virulence factors of mixed cultures of <i>Candida albicans</i> and <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> after adhesion to an abiotic surface	Evaluate and compare the expression of different virulence factors, namely adhesion capacity, formation of oral clinical biofilms of <i>C. albicans</i> and <i>C. parapsilosis</i> .
Revino-Rangel, 2015.	Biofilm formation and genetic variability of BCR1 gene in the <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> complex	Quantify biofilm formation of a subset of 65 clinical isolates of the complex <i>C. parapsilosis</i> by two different methods and analyze the nucleotide sequence of a fragment of the BCR1 gene.
Deorukhkar et al., 2015.	Virulence Factors Attributed to Pathogenicity of non-albicans <i>Candida</i> Species Isolated from Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infected Patients with Oropharyngeal Candidiasis	Determine the expression of virulence factors of NAC spp. isolated from HIV-infected patients with OPC.
Brandi et al., 2016.	Demineralizing potential of dental biofilm added with <i>Candida albicans</i> and <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> isolated from	Investigate the demineralization potential of dental biofilms added with <i>Candida albicans</i> (CA) and <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> (CP) isolated

	preschool children with and without caries	from the saliva of preschoolers with and without cavities.
Goel; Mittal; Chaudhary, 2016.	Role of non-albicans <i>Candida</i> spp. and Biofilm in Neonatal ICU. Infectious disorders drug targets.	Understand the prevalence of different <i>Candida</i> species that cause blood infections, their ability to form biofilms and evaluate the relationship between biofilms and resistance to antifungal drugs.
Islam; Rather; Mohammad, 2016.	Phytochemistry, biological activities and potential of annatto in natural colorant production for industrial applications - A review.	Provide updated systematic and organized information on traditional use, phytochemistry and pharmacology of annatto. Highlight their non-food industrial applications to stir more interest in this plant, identify the existing gaps and make suggestions for future studies.

**Table 1.** Published articles referring to the formation of biofilm by species of *Candida*

Author	Title	Objectives
Fonseca; Botelho, 2011.	Antifungal Activity of Leaf Extract of <i>Psidium guajava</i> on Yeasts of the Genus <i>Candida</i>	Test antifungal activity of <i>Psidium guajava</i> on <i>Candida albicans</i> , <i>C. krusei</i> and <i>C. tropicalis</i> .
Raga; Espiritu; Shen; Ragasa, 2011.	A bioactive sesquiterpene from <i>Bixa orellana</i> .	Verify antifungal (against <i>C. albicans</i> ) and antibacterial activities of dichloromethane extract from dried leaves of <i>Bixa orellana</i>
Santana; Naves, 2012.	Action of chalcones on biofilm formation of <i>Candida albicans</i> isolated from the oral cavity	Evaluate biofilm formation by <i>Candida albicans</i> isolated from the oral cavity and the impact of chalcone derivatives on the inhibition of this microbial structure by susceptibility assays of planktonic and sessile forms.
Freires et al., 2014.	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L. (Coriander) essential oil: antifungal activity and mode of action on <i>Candida</i> spp., and molecular targets affected in human whole-genome expression.	Investigate the antifungal activity and the mode of action of essential oil of <i>Coriandrum sativum</i> L. leaves on different species of <i>Candida</i> and detect the affected molecular targets in the expression of the total genome of human cells.
Scarsini, et al, 2015.	Antifungal activity of cathelicidin peptides against planktonic and biofilm cultures of <i>Candida</i> species isolated from vaginal infections.	Investigate the antifungal activities of the cathelicidin peptides LL-37 and BMAP-28 against <i>Candida</i> spp., also including <i>Candida albicans</i> , isolated from vaginal infections, and against <i>C. albicans</i> SC5314 as a reference strain.
Jovito; Castro, 2016.	Anti- <i>Candida</i> activities and cytotoxicity analysis of the leaf extract of <i>Schinopsis brasiliensis</i> Engl.	Evaluate the antifungal, anti-biofilm and cytotoxic potential of the rota-evaporated extract of leaves of <i>Schinopsis brasiliensis</i> Engl. on 6 strains of <i>Candida</i> spp.
Islam; Rather; Mohammad, 2016.	Phytochemistry, biological activities and potential of annatto in natural colorant production for industrial applications - A review.	Provide updated systematic and organized information on traditional use, phytochemistry and pharmacology of annatto. Highlight their non-food industrial applications to stir more interest in this plant, identify the existing gaps and make suggestions for future studies.
Assaf et al., 2016.	Antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory potential therapy for opportunistic microorganisms.	Evaluate antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory activities of some medicinal plants known to reduce the risk of opportunistic infections of the oral cavity of humans caused by <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> and <i>Candida albicans</i> .
Raut; Karuppaiyl, 2016.	Phytochemicals as inhibitors of <i>Candida</i> biofilms.	Explore and review the potential of phytochemicals as a new strategy against <i>Candida</i> biofilms. In addition, describe the efficacy of some phytochemicals taking into account their inhibitory concentrations of biofilm.
Karygianni, et al 2016	Natural antimicrobials and oral microorganisms: a systematic Review on herbal interventions for the eradication of multispecies oral biofilms.	Critically present antimicrobial effects of various medicinal herbs against multispecies oral biofilms <i>in vitro</i> , <i>ex vivo</i> and <i>in situ</i> .
Pinheiro; Carreira; Rollo; Fernandes; Ferreira; Monteiro, 2016.	Blad-containing Oligomer Fungicidal Activity on Human Pathogenic Yeasts. From the Outside to the Inside of the	Demonstrate the antifungal activity of a polypeptide of <i>Lupinus albus</i> against <i>C. albicans</i> var. <i>albicans</i> (CBS 562), <i>C.</i>

	Target Cell.	<i>dublinsiensis</i> , <i>C. glabrata</i> , <i>C. lusitaneae</i> and <i>C. parapsilosis</i> and provide some insights on its mode of action.
Jabeur et al., 2016.	Bioactive properties and functional constituents of <i>Hypericum androsaemum</i> L.: a focus on the phenolic profile.	Verify anti-oxidant, anti-tumor and antifungal activities against <i>C. albicans</i> , <i>C. glabrata</i> , <i>C. parapsilosis</i> and <i>C. tropicalis</i> of the ethanol:water extract of <i>Hypericum androsaemum</i> L.
Neji, et al 2017	Virulence factors, antifungal susceptibility and molecular mechanisms of azole resistance among <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> complex isolates recovered from clinical specimens.	Determine biofilm formation and extracellular enzymatic activities of 182 clinical isolates of the <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> complex.
Sony, Kalyani; Jeyakumari; Kanna; Sukumar, 2017.	In vitro antifungal activity of <i>Cassia fistula</i> extracts against fluconazole resistant strains of <i>Candida</i> species from HIV patients.	Evaluate the anti-candidiasis activity of leaves, bark and seeds of <i>Cassia fistula</i> against <i>Candida</i> species resistant to fluconazole: <i>C. glabrata</i> , <i>C. krusei</i> , <i>C. tropicalis</i> , <i>C. kefyr</i> and <i>C. parapsilosis</i> isolated from HIV patients. The predominant phytochemical component responsible for the fungicidal activity was evaluated.
Quatrin et al., 2017	Antimicrobial and antibiofilm activities of nano-emulsions containing <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> oil against <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> and <i>Candida</i> spp.	Prepare and characterize nano-emulsions containing <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> oil and verify its antimicrobial and antibiotic activities against <i>P. aeruginosa</i> and <i>Candida</i> spp.
Sardi., et al 2017.	Unexplored endemic fruit species from Brazil: antibiofilm 1 properties, 2 insights into mode of action, and systemic toxicity of four <i>Eugenia</i> spp.	Describe the antifungal activity of four species of <i>Eugenia</i> spp. against <i>C. albicans</i> biofilms and demonstrate its mode of action and toxicity <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> .
Peixoto et al., 2017.	Antifungal activity, mode of action and anti-biofilm effects of <i>Laurus nobilis</i> Linnaeus essential oil against <i>Candida</i> spp.	Demonstrate the antifungal potential of the chemically characterized essential oil of <i>Laurus nobilis</i> L. against adhesion and formation of <i>Candida</i> spp. biofilms and establish its mode of action on <i>C. albicans</i> .
Vieira; Nascimento, 2017	Resistance to Antifungal Drugs by <i>Candida</i> and therapeutic approach.	Describe the mechanisms of resistance of <i>Candida</i> spp. to antifungal agents and propose susceptibility tests for existing antifungal agents to formulate a targeted therapy aiming a decrease in the development of resistant species.
Quinós; Villar-Vidal; Erasmo, 2017.	Activity of micafungin against <i>Candida</i> biofilms.	Describe the antifungal activity of micafungin against fungal biofilms based on a review of medical and scientific literature in recent years.
Scorzoni et al., 2017.	Antifungal Therapy: New Advances in the Understanding and Treatment of Mycosis.	Different approaches to prevent and treat fungal diseases are discussed in this review, focusing on mechanisms of resistance of fungi, aiming to develop efficient strategies to overcome and prevent resistance, as well as new advances in antifungal therapy.
Fernández-Rivero et al., 2017.	Activity of amphotericin B and anidulafungin, alone and combined, against <i>Candida tropicalis</i> biofilms developed on Teflon® and titanium.	Evaluate the activity of amphotericin B (AMB) and anidulafungin (AND), isolated and in combination, against biofilms of <i>C. tropicalis</i> developed on polytetrafluoroethylene (teflon - PTFE) and titanium surfaces using time-kill assays.

**Table 2.** Articles published in 2011-2017 on Phytochemicals or other substances with antibiofilm activity on *Candida* spp.

## DISCUSSION



Regarding virulence factors, such as enzyme production, adhesion genes and biofilm formation, *C. albicans* is the most studied species. In view of this, Santana et al. (20) studied the virulence factors of 32 samples of *C. albicans* isolated from oral cavity through morphotyping, tube-typing, enzyme-typing and typing by killer toxins, besides biofilm formation. As a result, the authors verified that the isolates of *C. albicans* variably expressed virulence factors, all yeasts formed biofilm and there was no correlation between this property and the expression of other virulence factors studied.

In the study by Seabra (13), the authors found that when isolated species of *C. albicans* and *C. parapsilosis* in co-infection were separated, *C. parapsilosis* AM2 is influenced by the absence of *C. albicans* AM after 2 hours of adhesion, requiring more time to adapt to the new environment. However, *C. albicans* AM, after 2 hours, had a better ability to adapt to new environments in the absence of *C. parapsilosis* AM2, both in mono-species and two-species systems containing the strain *C. parapsilosis* AD.

It was further observed that, in single biofilms, the strains of *C. parapsilosis* expressed a greater amount of virulence factors than the strains of *C. albicans*. In a mixed biofilm, the expression of virulence factors was lower than when the expressions of each species in simple biofilm were summed. Thus, it was concluded from this study that the expression of virulence factors depends on the conditions under which the species are isolated (mono-infection or co-infection), strain and type of system (mono-species or two-species) (13).

In another study conducted by Treviño-Rangel et al (14), *C. parapsilosis stricto sensu* was associated with a low biofilm production phenotype, whereas *C. orthopsilosis* was associated with both phenotypes: low and high production of biofilm. In addition, no association was found between the biofilm formation phenotype and a particular genetic variant of the BCR1 gene fragment analyzed.

In their studies, Deorukhkar and Saini (21) observed a greater adhesion to oral epithelial cells (ABEC) by *C. dubliniensis*. However, when compared to other non-*albicans* Candidae, *C. glabrata* showed a low ABEC. A high activity of phospholipase was noted in *C. tropicalis*, followed by *C. kefyr*. A high proteinase activity was found in *C. dubliniensis*, followed by *C. tropicalis*, and a high production of hemolysin was found in *C. tropicalis*, followed by isolates of *C. kefyr*. This study evidenced that the different species of *Candida* have different profiles of virulence factors, both regarding the ability of adherence to oral epithelial cells, the activity of phospholipase and proteinase, and hemolysin production.

Several studies have now been conducted focusing on compounds present in natural products, such as phytochemicals, which are capable of interfering with the virulence factors of human pathogenic fungi, such as *Candida* species. In this sense, Shahid-Ul-Islam, Rather

and Mohammad (22) found in their experiments that the ethanol extract from the leaves and seeds of *Bixa orellana*, a plant belonging to the Bixaceae family and commonly known as annatto, has antifungal properties against *C. albicans*, with a zone of inhibition of the leaf extract of 22 cm and 20 cm for the seed extract. This result serves as a subsidy for the use of *B. orellana* in traditional medicine as gargle for sore throats and oral hygiene, since esophageal candidiasis affects this region of the human body.

In contrast, Raga et al. (23) found that sesquiterpenes with Ishwarano skeleton, a substance present in this plant and isolated by the dichloromethane extraction method, had an activity index of 0.3 against *C. albicans*, that is, this compound showed a moderate activity against this yeast. However, the author points out that it is not correct to state that such a compound is inactive for this property. The way the compound was administered has to be taken into consideration.

Regarding the use of phytochemicals, Fonseca and Botelho (24) carried out a study in which they verified an antifungal activity of the leaf extract of *Psidium guajava* on yeasts of the genus *Candida*. Likewise, Freires et al. (25) evaluated antifungal activity against some *Candida* species, as well as the mode of action of *Coriandrum sativum* L. essential oil and molecular targets that are affected in the expression of the complete human genome. Asaf et al. (26) evaluated anti-fungal (against *C. albicans*) and anti-bacterial activities (against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) of the methanol extracts of six plants: *Arbutus andrachne*, *Chrysanthemum coronarium*, *Inula viscosa*, *Origanum syriacum*, *Punica granatum* and *Rosmarinus officinalis*. All extracts had antimicrobial activity, standing out *O. syriacum*, which showed the highest antimicrobial activity for the 3 microorganisms tested: the MIC of *C. albicans* was 1 mg/mL.

Pinheiro et al. (27) demonstrated the antifungal activity of a polypeptide of *Lupinus albus* against *C. albicans* var. *albicans* (CBS 562), *C. dubliniensis*, *C. glabrata*, *C. lusitanae* and *C. parapsilosis* and provided some insights on its mode of action. They found that the polypeptide behaved similarly to Amphotericin B in relation to cell inhibition and cell death of the yeasts studied. In addition, its predictable multisite mode of action suggests a low risk of inducing resistance mechanisms, which constitute a major problem in face of currently available antifungal agents.

Jabeur et al. (28) evaluated anti-oxidant, antitumor and antifungal activities of the hydroalcoholic extract of *Hypericum androsaemum* L. against *C. albicans*, *C. glabrata*, *C. parapsilosis* and *C. tropicalis* and found that anti-*Candida* effects varied among the different strains of the same species. *C. glabrata* and *C. tropicalis* were the most sensitive species to the substance, whose effects were directly related to the tested concentrations of the extract.

In contrast, Sony et al. (29) evaluated the anti-candidiasis activity of leaves, bark and seeds of *Cassia fistula* against *Candida* species resistant to fluconazole (*C. glabrata*, *C. krusei*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. kefyr* and *C. parapsilosis* isolated from HIV patients) and found that all extracts of *C. fistula* showed an excellent anti-*Candida* activity. The ethanol extract from the seed showed the greatest inhibitory effects and *C. krusei* and *C. parapsilosis* were the most inhibited yeasts and *C. kefyr* was the least inhibited.

## CONCLUSION

With this study, which gathers updated information, it was possible to conclude that the emergence of *Candida* infections is associated with the expression of its virulence factors, especially biofilms, which are a mechanism capable of interfering with the action of available antifungals. Thus, it deserves special attention. In addition, the search for new phytochemicals with properties capable of inhibiting, interfering or undoing this fungal matrix becomes urgent as these yeasts are progressively developing mechanisms of resistance against the arsenal of antifungal agents currently available.

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29. Sony P, Kalyani M, Jeyakumari D, Kannan I, Sukumar RG. In vitro antifungal activity of cassia fistula extracts against fluconazole resistant strains of Candida species from HIV patients. *J Mycol Med* (2017) **17**:30284-6. doi: 10.1016/j.mycmed. 2017.07.010.

In review



## ANEXO C: Normas da revista Frontiers in Microbiology



## Author Guidelines

## 1. Summary Table

- Please view the table below for a summary on currently accepted article types and general manuscript style guidelines. Article types may vary depending on journal.

	Abstract (max. length)	Running title (5 words)	Figures and/or tables (combined)	Manuscript max. length	Peer review	Author fees	Submitted to PubMed Central or other indexing databases
Book Review	✗	✗	1	1'000 words	✓	✗	✓
Classification	250 words	✓	10	2'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Case Report	350 words	✓	4	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Clinical Trial	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Code	250 words	✓	3	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Community Case Study	350 words	✓	5	5'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Conceptual Analysis	350 words	✓	10	8'000 words	✓	✓	✓
CPC	250 words	✓	6	2'500 words	✓	✓	✓
Curriculum, Instruction, and Pedagogy	350 words	✓	5	5'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Data Report	✗	✓	2	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Editorial	✗	✗	0	1'000 words*	✓	✗	✓
Empirical Study	350 words	✓	10	8'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Evaluation	350 words	✓	5	6'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Field Grand Challenge	✗	✓	1	2'000 words	✓	✗	✓
Focused Review <sup>(1)</sup>	350 words	✓	5	5'000 words	✓	✗	✓
Frontiers Commentary <sup>(1)</sup>	✗	✗	1	1'000 words	✓	✗	✓
General Commentary	✗	✗	1	1'000 words	✓	✗	✓
Hypothesis and Theory	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Methods	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Mini Review	250 words	✓	2	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Opinion	✗	✓	1	2'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Original Research	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Policy Briefs	125 words	✓	5	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Protocols	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Perspective	250 words	✓	2	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Policy Brief	125 words	✓	5	3'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Review	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Specialty Grand Challenge	✗	✓	1	2'000 words	✓	✗	✓

Systematic Review	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓
Technology Report	350 words	✓	15	12'000 words	✓	✓	✓

- (1) Tier 2 article - field level article reserved to authors of selected Tier 1 articles.
- \* Editorials for Research Topics with 5 to 10 published articles have a maximum of 1'000 words, for Research Topics with more than 10 published articles the following applies: 1'100 words for 11 articles, 1'200 for 12 articles, 1'300 for 13 articles etc. up to maximum 5'000 words, for 50 or more papers.
- Appendices and footnotes will be considered in the total length and word count of the article.

## 2. Manuscript Guidelines

- Registration with Frontiers

Please note that the corresponding and all submitting authors MUST register with Frontiers before submitting an article. You must be logged in to your personal Frontiers Account to submit an article.

For any co-author who would like his/her name on the article abstract page and PDF to be linked to a Frontiers profile on the Loop network, please ensure to register before the final publication of the paper.

- Original Content

Frontiers publishes only original content. It therefore requires that all submissions must consist as far as possible of content that has not been published previously. In accordance with COPE guidelines, we expect that “original wording taken directly from publications by other researchers should appear in quotation marks with the appropriate citations.” This condition also applies to an author’s own work, and to submissions adapted from conference abstracts and proceedings papers, please see the following sections for more information

- **Theses and Dissertations**

In submitted manuscripts, Frontiers allows the inclusion of content which first appeared in an author’s thesis so long as this represents the only medium it has appeared in, is in line with the author’s university policy, and can be accessed online. If the thesis is not archived online, it is considered as original, unpublished data and thus is subject to the unpublished data restrictions of some of our article-types. This inclusion should be noted in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript and the thesis should be cited and referenced accordingly in the Reference list. For some examples, please check our References section.

- **Conferences, Proceedings and Abstracts**

Manuscripts which first appeared as conference papers can be considered as original work if expanded upon. As a rule of thumb, at least 30% of content must be original. Authors submitting such work are required to:

1. Cite the conference in the Acknowledgements section, or the references section if applicable
2. Seek permission for reuse of the published conference paper if the author does not hold the copyright

- **Blogs**

Although permissible, extended manuscript content which has previously appeared online in non-academic media e.g. blogs, should be declared at the time of submission in a cover letter or in communication with the relevant editorial office for consideration.

- Article Type

Frontiers requires authors to carefully select the appropriate article type for their manuscript, and to comply to the article type descriptions defined in the journal’s “Article Types”, which can be seen from the “For Authors” menu on any Frontiers journal page. **Please pay close attention to the word count limits.** *Focused Reviews, Frontiers Commentaries and Grand Challenge articles* are invited by the chief editor and cannot be part of any Frontiers Research Topic. Unless you were contacted by the chief editor or the editorial office regarding the submission of a paper selected for tier 2 promotion, do not submit a Focused Review or a Frontiers Commentary - instead, submit a Review or a General Commentary.

Please see Additional Requirements for specific article types including Focused Reviews, General Commentaries, Protocols and Data Reports.

- Manuscript Length

Frontiers encourages its authors to closely follow the article word count lengths given in the Summary Table. The manuscript length includes only the main body of the text, footnotes and all citations within it, and excludes abstract, section titles, figure and table captions, funding statements, acknowledgements and references in the bibliography. Please indicate the number of words and the number of figures included in your manuscript on the first page.

- Language Editing

Frontiers requires manuscripts submitted to meet international standards for English language to be considered for publication.



For authors who would like their manuscript to receive language editing or proofing to improve the clarity of the manuscript and help highlight their research, Frontiers recommends the language-editing services provided by the following external partners.

### **Editage**

Frontiers is pleased to recommend language-editing service provided by our external partner Editage to authors who believe their manuscripts would benefit from professional editing. These services may be particularly useful for researchers for whom English is not the primary language. They can help to improve the grammar, syntax and flow of your manuscripts prior to submission. Frontiers authors will receive a 10% discount by visiting the following link: <http://editage.com/frontiers/>

### **The Charlesworth Group**

Frontiers recommends the Charlesworth Group Author Services, who has a long standing track record in language editing and proofing. This is a third-party service for which Frontiers authors will receive a discount by visiting the following link: <http://www.charlesworthauthorservices.com/~Frontiers>.

Note that sending your manuscript for language editing does not imply or guarantee that it will be accepted for publication by a Frontiers journal. Editorial decisions on the scientific content of a manuscript are independent of whether it has received language editing or proofing by the partner services, or other services.

- Language Style

The default language style at Frontiers is American English. If you prefer your article to be formatted in British English, please specify this on your manuscript first page. For any questions regarding style Frontiers recommends authors to consult the Chicago Manual of Style.

- Search Engine Optimization (SEO)

There are a few simple ways to maximize your article's discoverability. Follow the steps below to improve search results of your article:

- Include a few of your article's keywords in the title of the article;
- Do not use long article titles;
- Pick 5 to 8 keywords using a mix of generic and more specific terms on the article subject(s);
- Use the maximum amount of keywords in the first 2 sentences of the abstract;
- Use some of the keywords in level 1 headings.

- Title

The title is written in title case, centered, and in 16 point bold Times New Roman font at the top of page.

The title should be concise, omitting terms that are implicit and, where possible, be a statement of the main result or conclusion presented in the manuscript. Abbreviations should be avoided within the title.

Witty or creative titles are welcome, but only if relevant and within measure. Consider if a title meant to be thought-provoking might be misinterpreted as offensive or alarming. In extreme cases, the editorial office may veto a title and propose an alternative.

Authors should try to avoid, if possible:

- - Titles that are a mere question without giving the answer.
  - Unambitious titles, for example starting with "Towards", "A description of", "A characterization of", "Preliminary study on".
  - Vague titles, for example starting with "Role of...", "Link between...", "Effect of..." that do not specify the role, link, or effect.
  - Include terms that are out of place, for example the taxonomic affiliation apart from species name.

For Corrigenda, Book Reviews, General Commentaries and Editorials, the title of your manuscript should have the following format:

- "Corrigendum: Title of original article"
- "Book Review: Title of book"
- General Commentaries
  - "Commentary: Title of original article" (This does not apply to Frontiers Commentaries)
  - "Response: Commentary: Title of original article"
- "Editorial: Title of Research Topic"

- For article types requiring it, the running title should be a maximum of 5 words in length. (see Summary Table)

- Authors and Affiliations

All names are listed together and separated by commas. Provide exact and correct author names as these will be indexed in official archives. Affiliations should be keyed to the author's name with superscript numbers and be listed as follows: Laboratory, Institute, Department, Organization, City, State abbreviation (USA, Canada, Australia), and Country (without detailed address information such as city zip codes or street names).

**Example:** Max Maximus, Department of Excellence, International University of Science, New York, NY, USA. The Corresponding Author(s) should be marked with an asterisk. Provide the exact contact email address of the corresponding author(s) in a separate section.

**Correspondence:**

Max Maximus

[maximus@gmail.com](mailto:maximus@gmail.com)

If any authors wish to include a change of address, list the present address(es) below the correspondence details using a unique superscript symbol keyed to the author(s) in the author list.

- Headings and Sub-headings

Except for special names (e.g. GABAergic), capitalize only the first letter of headings and subheadings.

Headings and subheadings need to be defined in Times New Roman, 12, bold. You may insert up to 5 heading levels into your manuscript (not more than for example: 3.2.2.1.2 **Heading title**).

- Abstract

As a primary goal, the abstract should render the general significance and conceptual advance of the work clearly accessible to a broad readership. In the abstract, minimize the use of abbreviations and do not cite references. The text of the abstract section should be in 12 point normal Times New Roman. See [Summary Table](#) for abstract requirement and length according to article type.

For Clinical Trial article types, please include the Unique Identifier and the URL of the publicly accessible website on which the trial is registered.

- Keywords

**All article types:** you may provide up to 8 keywords; at least 5 are mandatory.

- Text

The body text is in 12 point normal Times New Roman. New paragraphs will be separated with a single empty line. The entire document should be single-spaced and should contain page and line numbers in order to facilitate the review process. Your manuscript should be written using either LaTeX or MS-Word.

- Nomenclature

- The use of abbreviations should be kept to a minimum. Non-standard abbreviations should be avoided unless they appear at least four times, and defined upon first use in the main text. Consider also giving a list of non-standard abbreviations at the end, immediately before the Acknowledgments.

- Equations should be inserted in editable format from the equation editor.

- Gene symbols should be italicized; protein products are not italicized.

- Chemical compounds and biomolecules should be referred to using systematic nomenclature, preferably using the recommendations by [IUPAC](#).

- We encourage the use of Standard International Units in all manuscripts.

- Life Science Identifiers (LSIDs) for ZOOBANK registered names or nomenclatural acts should be listed in the manuscript before the keywords. An LSID is represented as a uniform resource name (URN) with the following format:

urn:lsid::[:]

For more information on LSIDs please see [Inclusion of Zoological Nomenclature](#) section

- Sections

Your manuscript is organized by headings and subheadings. For Original Research Articles, Clinical Trial Articles, and Technology Reports the section headings should be those appropriate for your field and the research itself.

For Original Research Articles, it is recommended to organize your manuscript in the following sections or their equivalents for your field:

0. **Introduction**

Succinct, with no subheadings.

1. **Material and Methods**

This section may be divided by subheadings. This section should contain sufficient detail so that when read in conjunction with cited references, all procedures can be repeated. For experiments reporting results on animal or human subject research, an ethics approval statement should be included in this section (for further information, see [here](#))

## 2. Results

This section may be divided by subheadings. Footnotes should not be used and have to be transferred into the main text.

## 3. Discussion

This section may be divided by subheadings. Discussions should cover the key findings of the study: discuss any prior art related to the subject so to place the novelty of the discovery in the appropriate context; discuss the potential short-comings and limitations on their interpretations; discuss their integration into the current understanding of the problem and how this advances the current views; speculate on the future direction of the research and freely postulate theories that could be tested in the future.

For further information, please see [Additional Requirements](#) for specific article types including Focused Reviews, General Commentaries, Case Reports and Data Reports amongst others or you can check the descriptions defined in the journal's "Article Types", which can be seen from the "For Authors" menu on any Frontiers journal page.

- Conflict of Interest Statement

Frontiers follows the recommendations by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (<http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/author-responsibilities--conflicts-of-interest.html>) which require that all financial, commercial or other relationships that might be perceived by the academic community as representing a potential conflict of interest must be disclosed. If no such relationship exists, authors will be asked to declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest. When disclosing the potential conflict of interest, the authors need to address the following points:

- Did you or your institution at any time receive payment or services from a third party for any aspect of the submitted work?
- Please declare financial relationships with entities that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.
- Please declare patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties relevant to the work.
- Please state other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

- Authors and Contributors

When determining authorship the following criteria should be observed:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Contributors who meet fewer than all 4 of the above criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged.

The Author Contributions section is mandatory for all articles, including articles by sole authors. If an appropriate statement is not provided on submission, a standard one will be inserted during the production process. The Author Contributions statement must describe the contributions of individual authors and, in doing so, all authors agree to be accountable for the content of the work. Please list only 2 initials for each author, without periods, but separated by commas (e.g. JC, JS). In the case of two authors with the same initials, please use their middle initial to differentiate between them (e.g. REW, RSW). The Author Contributions section should be included at the end of the manuscript before the References.

- Funding

Details of all funding sources should be provided, including grant numbers if applicable. Please ensure to add all necessary funding information, as after publication this is no longer possible.

- Acknowledgments

This is a short text to acknowledge the contributions of specific colleagues, institutions, or agencies that aided the efforts of the authors.

- References

All citations in the text, figures or tables must be in the reference list and vice-versa. The references should only include articles that are published or accepted. Data sets that have been deposited to an online repository should

be included in the reference list, include the version and unique identifier when available. For accepted but unpublished works use "in press" instead of page numbers. Unpublished data, submitted manuscripts, or personal communications should be cited within the text only, for the article types that allow such inclusions. Personal communications should be documented by a letter of permission. Website urls should be included as footnotes. Any inclusion of verbatim text must be contained in quotation marks and clearly reference the original source.

The following formatting styles are meant as a guide, as long as the full citation is complete and clear, Frontiers referencing style will be applied during typesetting.

○ **SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, and HUMANITIES: For articles submitted in the domains of SCIENCE, ENGINEERING and HUMANITIES please apply Author-Year system for in-text citations.**

Reference list: provide the names of the first six authors followed by et al and [doi](#) when available.

In-text citations should be called according to the surname of the first author, followed by the year. For works by 2 authors include both surnames, followed by the year. For works by more than 2 authors include only the surname of the first author, followed by *et al.*, followed by the year. For Humanities and Social Sciences articles please include page numbers in the in-text citations.

**Article in a print journal:**

Sondheimer, N., and Lindquist, S. (2000). Rnq1: an epigenetic modifier of protein function in yeast. *Mol. Cell.* 5, 163-172.

**Article in an online journal:**

Tahimic, C.G.T., Wang, Y., Bikle, D.D. (2013). Anabolic effects of IGF-1 signaling on the skeleton. *Front. Endocrinol.* 4:6. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2013.00006

**Article or chapter in a book:**

Sorenson, P. W., and Caprio, J. C. (1998). "Chemoreception," in *The Physiology of Fishes*, ed. D. H. Evans (Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press), 375-405.

**Book:**

Cowan, W. M., Jessell, T. M., and Zipursky, S. L. (1997). *Molecular and Cellular Approaches to Neural Development*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Abstract:**

Hendricks, J., Applebaum, R., and Kunkel, S. (2010). A world apart? Bridging the gap between theory and applied social gerontology. *Gerontologist* 50, 284-293. Abstract retrieved from Abstracts in Social Gerontology database. (Accession No. 50360869)

**Patent:**

Marshall, S. P. (2000). *Method and apparatus for eye tracking and monitoring pupil dilation to evaluate cognitive activity*. U.S. Patent No 6,090,051. Washington, DC: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

**Data:**

[Dataset] Perdiguero P, Venturas M, Cervera MT, Gil L, Collada C. (2015) Data from: Massive sequencing of Ulms minor's transcriptome provides new molecular tools for a genus under the constant threat of Dutch elm disease. Dryad Digital Repository. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.ps837>

**Theses and Dissertations:**

Smith, J. (2008) Post-structuralist discourse relative to phenomenological pursuits in the deconstructivist arena. [dissertation/master's thesis]. [Chicago (IL)]: University of Chicago

For examples of citing other documents and general questions regarding reference style, please refer to the [Chicago Manual of Style](#).

[Frontiers Science Endnote Style](#)

[Frontiers Science, Engineering and Humanities Bibstyle](#)

○ **HEALTH, PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS: For articles submitted in the domain of HEALTH or the journal Frontiers in Physics and Frontiers in Applied Mathematics and Statistics please apply the Vancouver system for in-text citations.**

Reference list: provide the names of the first six authors followed by et al and [doi](#) when available.

In-text citations should be numbered consecutively in order of appearance in the text – identified by Arabic numerals in the parenthesis for Health articles, and in square brackets for Physics and Mathematics articles.

**Article in a print journal:**

Sondheimer N, Lindquist S. Rnq1: an epigenetic modifier of protein function in yeast. *Mol Cell* (2000) 5:163-72.

**Article in an online journal:**

Tahimic CGT, Wang Y, Bikle DD. Anabolic effects of IGF-1 signaling on the skeleton. *Front Endocrinol* (2013) 4:6. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2013.00006

**Article or chapter in a book:**

Sorenson PW, Caprio JC. "Chemoreception,". In: Evans DH, editor. *The Physiology of Fishes*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press (1998). p. 375-405.

**Book:**

Cowan WM, Jessell TM, Zipursky SL. *Molecular and Cellular Approaches to Neural Development*. New York: Oxford University Press (1997). 345 p.

**Abstract:**

Christensen S, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: Foster JA, editor. *Genetic Programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3–5; Kinsdale, Ireland*. Berlin: Springer (2002). p. 182–91.

**Patent:**

Pagedas AC, inventor; Ancel Surgical R&D Inc., assignee. *Flexible Endoscopic Grasping and Cutting Device and Positioning Tool Assembly*. United States patent US 20020103498 (2002).

**Data:**

[Dataset] Perdiguero P, Venturas M, Cervera MT, Gil L, Collada C. Data from: Massive sequencing of Ulms minor's transcriptome provides new molecular tools for a genus under the constant threat of Dutch elm disease. Dryad Digital Repository. (2015) <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.ps837>

**Theses and Dissertations:**

Smith, J. (2008) Post-structuralist discourse relative to phenomenological pursuits in the deconstructivist arena. [dissertation/master's thesis]. [Chicago (IL)]: University of Chicago

For examples of citing other documents and general questions regarding reference style, please refer to [Citing Medicine](#).

Frontiers Health Endnote StyleFrontiers Health and Physics Bibstyle

- Disclaimer

Any necessary disclaimers which must be included in the published article should be clearly indicated in the manuscript.

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- Supplementary Material

Frontiers journals do not support pushing important results and information into supplementary sections.

However, data that are not of primary importance to the text, or which cannot be included in the article because it is too large or the current format does not permit it (such as movies, raw data traces, power point presentations, etc.) can be uploaded during the submission procedure and will be displayed along with the published article.

The Supplementary Material can be uploaded as Data Sheet (word, excel, csv, cdx, fasta, pdf or zip files),

Presentation (power point, pdf or zip files), Supplementary Image (cdx, eps, jpeg, pdf, png or tif),

Supplementary Table (word, excel, csv or pdf), Audio (mp3, wav or wma) or Video (avi, divx, flv, mov, mp4, mpeg, mpg or wmv).

Supplementary material is not typeset so please ensure that all information is clearly presented, the appropriate caption is included in the file and not in the manuscript, and that the style conforms to the rest of the article. For Supplementary Material templates (LaTeX and Word) see [Supplementary Material for Frontiers](#).

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- Word Files

If working with Word please use [Frontiers Word](#).

- LaTeX Files

If you wish to submit your article as LaTeX, we recommend our [Frontiers LaTeX templates](#). These templates are meant as a guide, you are of course welcome to use any style or formatting and Frontiers journal style will be applied during typesetting.

When submitting your article please ensure to upload **all** relevant manuscript files including:

- 

- tex file

- PDF

- .bib file (if the bibliography is not already included in the .tex file)

- Figures should be included in the provided pdf. In case of acceptance, our Production Office might require [high resolution files](#) of the figures included in the manuscript in eps, jpg or tif format. In order to be able to upload more than one figure at a time, save the figures (labeled in order of appearance in the manuscript) in a zip file, and upload them as 'Supplementary Material Presentation'.

To facilitate the review process, please include a Word Count at the beginning of your manuscript, one option is [textcount](#) which also has an online interface.

**3. Additional Requirements**

- CrossMark Policy

[CrossMark](#) is a multi-publisher initiative to provide a standard way for readers to locate the current version of a piece of content. By applying the CrossMark logo Frontiers is committing to maintaining the content it publishes and to alerting readers to changes if and when they occur. Clicking on the CrossMark logo will tell you the current status of a document and may also give you additional publication record information about the document.

Frontiers follows the COPE guidelines for retractions. For our procedure regarding corrections please see the [section below](#). Corrigenda and errata are linked to the original article. Articles are only directly updated in case the correction affects the citation of the publication.

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- Corrections

If you need to communicate important, scientifically relevant errors or missing information, please submit a Correction, detailing the reason(s) for and location(s) of the change(s) needed in the cover letter. The title of the submission should have the following format: "Corrigendum: Title of original article". You are advised to use the corrigendum [Word and LaTeX templates](#).

If the error was introduced during the publishing process, contact the [Frontiers Production Office](#) to issue an erratum.

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- Commentaries on Articles

For General Commentaries, the title of your manuscript must have the following format: "Commentary: Title of the original article". At the beginning of your Commentary, please provide the citation of the article commented on. Authors commenting on a Frontiers article must submit their commentary for consideration to the same Journal and Specialty as the original article.

Rebuttals may be submitted in response to Commentaries; our limit in place is one commentary and one response. Rebuttals should be submitted as General Commentary articles and the title should have the following format: "Response to: Commentary: Title of the original article".

#### Book Reviews

For book Reviews, you must provide the full book details at the beginning of the article in this format: "A book review on: Full book reference"

- Focused Reviews

For Tier 2 invited **Focused Reviews**, to shape the paper on the importance of the research to the field, we recommend structuring the Review to discuss the paper's Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. In addition the authors must submit a short biography of the corresponding author(s). This short biography has a maximum of 600 characters, including spaces.

A picture (5 x 5 cm, in \*.tif or \*.jpg, min 300 dpi) must be submitted along with the biography in the manuscript and separately during figure upload.

Focused Reviews highlight and explain key concepts of your work. Please highlight a minimum of four and a maximum of ten key concepts in bold in your manuscript and provide the definitions/explanations at the end of your manuscript under "Key Concepts". Each definition has a maximum of 400 characters, including spaces.

- 

- Systematic Reviews

For Systematic Reviews, the following article structure applies.

- Title: include systematic review/meta-synthesis/meta-analysis as appropriate in the title

Each of the sections should include specific sub-sections as follows

- Abstract

- Background
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- Introduction

- Rationale
- Objectives
- Research question
- Methods

- Study design

- Participants, interventions, comparators
- Systematic review protocol
- Search strategy
- Data sources, studies sections and data extraction
- Data analysis
- Results
  
- Provide a flow diagram of the studies retrieved for the review
- Study selection and characteristics
- Synthesized findings
- Risk of bias
- Discussion
  
- Summary of main findings
- Limitations
- Conclusions
- 
- Data Reports

For Data Reports, please make sure to follow these additional specific guidelines.

1. The data sets (defined as a collection of data that contains individual data units organized in a standardized reusable format, including pre-processed or raw data) must be deposited in a public repository for long-term data preservation prior to submission of the Data Report. The data set(s) is to be fixed and made publicly available upon publication of the Data Report.

2. Our data sharing policy also requires that the dataset be made available to the Frontiers editors and reviewers during the review process of the manuscript. Prior to submission of your Data Report manuscript, please ensure that the repository you have selected supports confidential peer-review. If it does not, we recommend that the authors deposit the datasets to figshare or Dryad Digital Repository for the peer-review process. The data set(s) can then be transferred to another relevant repository before final publication, should the article be accepted for publication at Frontiers.

Note that it is the authors' responsibility to maintain the data sets after publication of the Data Report. Any published Frontiers Data Report article will be considered for retraction should the data be removed from the final selected repository after publication or the access become restricted.

3. The submitted manuscript must include the following details:

- Detailed cover letter (including a link to the data set)
- Name of the data set
- Name of the database/repository where the data set has been submitted
- Link to the data set for confidential peer-review (which must be updated to a full data citation and added to the reference list prior to publication)
- Description of how the data was acquired, data collection period
- Filters applied to the data
- Overview of the data files and their formats
- Reference to and/or description of the protocols or methods used to collect the data
- Information on how readers may interpret the data set and reuse the data

All these elements will be peer-reviewed and are required for the publication of the Data Report.

Any future updates to the data set(s) should be deposited as independent versions in a repository and the relevant information may be published as General Commentaries linked on the Frontiers website to the initial Data Report.

Any detailed analyses or new scientific insights relating to the Data Report can be submitted as independent research articles which can also be linked on the Frontiers website to the Data Report article. The protocols and methodology used to collect the data can also be submitted as Methods articles.

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- Case Reports

For Case Reports the following sections are mandatory:

### 1. **Introduction**

Include symptoms at presentation, physical exams and lab results.

### 2. **Background**

This section may be divided by subheadings. Include history and review of similar cases.

### 3. **Discussion**

This section may be divided by subheadings. Include diagnosis and treatment.

### 4. **Concluding Remarks**

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- **Policy Briefs**

For Policy Briefs, the following article structure applies:

- Abstract (bullet point format)
- Introduction
- Sections on Policy Options and Implications
- Section on Actionable Recommendations
- Conclusions

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- **Protocols**

For Protocols articles, please make sure to follow these additional specific guidelines.

0. The submitted manuscript must include the following sections:

1. An Abstract
2. An Introduction outlining the protocol and summarizing its possible applications.
3. A Materials and Equipment section providing a list of reagents or other materials and/or equipment required to carry out the protocol. For basic-science protocols, the formulation of any solutions, e.g. buffers, should be clearly indicated in the Materials and Equipment section.
4. A Stepwise Procedures section listing, stepwise, the stages of the protocol. The timing of each step or related series of steps should be indicated, as should points at which it is possible to pause or halt the procedure without adversely influencing the outcome. For steps requiring repeated measurements, details of precision and accuracy should be presented. Limits of detection or quantification should also be stipulated where appropriate.
5. An Anticipated Results section describing, and illustrating with figures, where possible, the expected outcome of the protocol. Any analytical software or methods should be presented in detail in this section, as should possible pitfalls and artifacts of the procedure and any troubleshooting measures to counteract them. These last may also be described in an optional Notes section.
6. Code or training data sets referenced by the protocol and useful in its execution should be hosted in an online repository; their accession numbers or other stable identifiers should be referenced in the Anticipated Results.

1. The following additional information should be presented in the cover letter accompanying your manuscript:

- Significance of the protocol and references to any relevant primary research manuscript(s) in which it has been previously employed.
- Any advance represented by the method compared with other, similar methods.
- Appropriateness of the manuscript to the Specialty Section to which it has been submitted.
- Associate Editors with suitable expertise to handle the manuscript.

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- **Code**

The code should be novel and presented in human-readable format, adhere to the standard conventions of the language used (variable names, indentation, style and grammar), be well documented (comments in source), be provided with an example data set to show efficacy, be compilable or executable free of errors (stating configuration of system used).

The code should only call standard (freely accessible) libraries or include required libraries, and include a detailed description of the use-scenarios, expected outcomes from the code and known limitations of the code.

Please therefore make sure to provide access to the following upon submission:

0. Abstract explicitly including the language of code
  1. Keywords including the language of the code in the following format:"code:language"" e.g.: "code:matlab"
  2. Cover Letter including the utility of the code and its language
  3. Main Text including:



- code description
  - application and utility of the code
  - link to an accessible online code repository where the most recent source code version is stored and curated (with an associated DOI for retrieval after review)
  - access to test data and readme files
  - methods used
  - example of use
  - known issues
  - licensing information (Open Source licenses recommended)
4. Compressed Archive (.zip) of the reviewed version of the code as supplementary material (.zip archives are currently available under the “Presentation” dropdown menu).

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- Cover Letter

When you submit your manuscript, you will be required to add a cover letter directed to the Editor. Please indicate, in the first paragraph, the title of the manuscript, the article type, the Journal and specialty to which the manuscript is being submitted, and whether it is part of a Research Topic. You must also state that the manuscript has not been submitted for publication elsewhere; any closely related works submitted for consideration in other publications should be noted and you may be asked to provide a copy.

It is essential as well that you provide a short description of the significance of the manuscript. While Frontiers evaluates articles using objective criteria, rather than impact or novelty, your cover letter should frame the question(s) you have addressed in your work in the context of the current body of knowledge, providing evidence that the findings - whether positive or negative - contribute to progress in your research discipline. This will assist the Chief Editors to determine whether your manuscript fits within the scope of a specialty as defined in its mission statement; a detailed cover letter will also facilitate the identification of the Editors and Reviewers most appropriate to evaluate your work, ultimately expediting your manuscript's initial consideration.

- Studies involving human subjects

Frontiers endorses the [Helsinki declaration](#) and the [guidelines](#) of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Studies involving human participants must be performed in accordance with relevant institutional and national guidelines, with the appropriate institutional ethics committee's approval and informed written consent from all human subjects involved in the study. For manuscripts reporting studies involving human subjects, authors must clearly state the relevant ethics committee approving the study and confirm that study subjects have granted their written informed consent. Manuscripts reporting clinical trial data need to include the name of the public registry under which the clinical trial has been registered, and the number of the trial. For most article types, the information should appear in the Materials and Methods section.

For example: *This study was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of 'name of guidelines, name of committee' with written informed consent from all subjects. All subjects gave written informed consent in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki.*

Should the study be exempt from this requirement, authors need to clearly state the reasons in the cover letter and manuscript. For incompetent patients (e.g. young children, unconscious patients) some form of consent, such as from family members, is needed.

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- Studies involving animal research

All experiments reporting results on animal research must be performed in accordance with relevant institutional and national guidelines and regulations. In the manuscript, authors must identify the full name of the ethics committee that approved the work. For most article types, this statement should appear in the Materials and Methods section.

For example: *This study was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of 'name of guidelines, name of committee'. The protocol was approved by the 'name of committee'.*

Should the study be exempt from this requirement, authors need to clearly state the reasons in the cover letter and manuscript.

Studies involving privately owned animals should demonstrate the best practice veterinary care and confirm that informed consent has been granted by the owner/s, or the legal representative of the owner/s.

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- Clinical Trial Registration

The [World Health Organization](#) defines clinical trial as "any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects on health outcomes." In accordance with the [Clinical Trial Registration Statement](#) from the [International Committee of](#)

Medical Journal Editors (ICMEJ), all clinical trials must be registered in a public trials registry at or before the onset of participant enrollment. This requirement applies to all clinical trials that begin enrollment after July 1, 2005. To meet the requirements of the ICMJE, clinical trials can be registered with any Primary Registry in the WHO Registry Network or an ICMJE approved registry.

Clinical trial reports should be compliant with the Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) both in terms of including a flow diagram presenting the enrollment, intervention allocation, follow-up, and data analysis with number of subjects for each and taking into account the CONSORT Checklist of items to include when reporting a randomized clinical trial.

The information on the clinical trial registration (Unique Identifier and URL) must be included in the abstract.

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- **Materials and Data policies**

Frontiers supports the Transparency and Openness Promotion (TOP) guidelines, which state that materials, data, and code described in published works should be made available, without undue reservation, to any qualified researcher, to expedite work that builds on previous findings and enhance the reproducibility of the scientific record.

To comply with these guidelines and encourage best practice in methods reporting, Frontiers requires that all research materials be clearly indicated in Materials and Methods sections with sufficient detail to the reader to enable the reproduction of an experiment. Authors wishing to participate in the Resource Identification Initiative should cite antibodies, genetically modified organisms, software tools, data, databases, and services using the corresponding catalog number and RRID in your current manuscript. For more information about the project and for steps on how to search for an RRID, please click [here](#).

Frontiers also asks that authors make their data available to editor and reviewers during peer-review to enable complete and objective evaluation of the work described. To comply with best practice in their field of research, authors must also make certain types of data available to readers at time of publication in stable, community-supported repositories such as those listed below, unless in case of serious confidentiality concerns (for example, research involving human subjects). Although not mandatory, authors may also consider the deposition of additional data-types (see below). Authors are encouraged to contact their respective journal's editorial office prior to submission with any queries concerning data reporting.

**Authors are required to deposit the following data-types in public, community-supported repositories, such as those listed below, prior to publication of an associated Frontiers manuscript:**

<b>Data-type</b>	<b>Recommended Repositories</b>	<b>Metadata Standard</b>
Genetic and genomic sequence (DNA/ RNA)^	GenBank DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ) European Nucleotide Archive (ENA)	MiXS
Metagenomic sequence	EBI Metagenomics NCBI Trace Archive	MiXS
DNA and RNA trace or short-read sequencing data	NCBI Sequence Read Archive dbSNP	MiXS
Genetic polymorphism data, including SNP and CNV data	dbVar European Variation Archive DGVa	MiXS
Gene expression data; chromatin immunoprecipitation data (deep-sequencing or microarray)	ArrayExpress Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)	MIAME / MINSEQE
Data linking genotype to phenotype	dbGaP	
Protein sequence data	UniProt PRIDE	
Proteome profiling data	PeptideAtlas ProteomeXchange Crystallography Open Database	MIAPE
Small molecule, protein, protein complex data structural data	Cambridge Structural Database wwPDB (Protein DataBank)	CIF

Electron Microscopy  
Databank  
Zoobank

Taxonomy data  
^ Genetic sequence variants should be annotated according to the guidelines established by the [Human Variome Project](#).

**Authors are encouraged to consider deposition in public, community-supported repositories of the data-types listed below:**

Data-type	Recommended Repositories	Metadata Standard
Protein-protein interaction data	Database of Interacting Proteins (DIP)	MIMIX
Metabolite and metabolome profiling data	MetaboLights Human Metabolome Database	MSI
Small-molecule screening data, chemical compound data	PubChem	CIF
Flow cytometry data	Flow Repository OpenfMRI	
Brain Imaging data / Neuroimaging data	INDI NITRC NeuroVault [Statistical maps]	
Trait data	TRY database	
Phenology data	National Phenology Network FigShare	
Any data	Dryad Digital Repository	None

#### Inclusion of Zoological Nomenclature

The International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, in a recent 2012 amendment to the [1999 Zoological Code](#), allows all electronic-only papers, such as those published by the Frontiers journals, to have valid new taxon names and nomenclatural acts. However, these new names or nomenclatural acts must be registered in [ZOOBANK](#) and have associated Life Science Identifiers (LSIDs). Registration must be done by the authors before publication. Should your manuscript include any zoological new taxon names and/or nomenclatural acts, please ensure that they are registered prior to final publication.

#### >Inclusion of RNAseq Data

Studies employing RNASeq for comparative transcriptomic analyses must contain at least 3 biological replicates (unless otherwise justified). Each biological replicate should be represented in an independent library, each with a unique barcode if libraries are multiplexed for sequencing. Validation on a number of key transcripts highlighted in the study is also highly recommended.

Full data accompanying these experiments must be made available to reviewers at the time of submission in a freely accessible resource e.g the [sequence read archive \(SRA\)](#) or [European Nucleotide Archive \(ENA\)](#).

Depending on the question addressed in a manuscript, de novo assemblies of transcriptomes may also require multiple replicates and assembled sequences together with sequence annotation must be made freely available e.g [figshare](#) or [dryad](#).

#### Inclusion of Proteomics Data

Authors should provide relevant information relating to how peptide/protein matches were undertaken, including methods used to process and analyze data, false discovery rates (FDR) for large-scale studies, and threshold or cut-off rates for peptide and protein matches. Further information should include software used, mass spectrometer type, sequence database and version, number of sequences in database, processing methods, mass tolerances used for matching, variable/fixed modifications, allowable missed cleavages, etc.

Authors should provide as supplementary material information used to identify proteins and/or peptides. This should include information such as accession numbers, observed mass (m/z), charge, delta mass, matched mass, peptide/protein scores, peptide modification, miscleavages, peptide sequence, match rank, matched species (for cross-species matching), number of peptide matches, etc. Ambiguous protein/peptide matches should be indicated.

For quantitative proteomics analyses, authors should provide information to justify the statistical significance, including biological replicates, statistical methods, estimates of uncertainty, and the methods used for calculating error.

For peptide matches with biologically relevant post-translational modifications (PTMs) and for any protein match that has occurred using a single mass spectrum, authors should include this information as raw data or annotated spectra, or submit data to an online repository (recommended option; see table below).

Raw or matched data and 2-DE images should be submitted to public proteomics repositories such as those participating in ProteomeXchange. Submission codes and/or links to data should be provided within the manuscript.

#### 4. Figure and Table Guidelines

- General Style Guidelines for Figures

The maximum number of figures and tables for all article types are shown in the [Summary Table](#). Frontiers requires figures to be submitted individually, in the same order as they are referred to in the manuscript, the figures will then be automatically embedded at the end of the submitted manuscript. Kindly ensure that each table and figure is mentioned in the text and in numerical order.

For graphs, there must be a self-explanatory label (including units) along each axis. For figures with more than one panel, panels should be clearly indicated using labels (A), (B), (C), (D), etc. However, do not embed the part labels over any part of the image, these labels will be added during typesetting according to Frontiers journal style. Please note that figures which are not according to the guidelines will cause substantial delay during the production process.

Permission must be obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including re-published/adapted/modified/partial figures and images from the internet). It is the responsibility of the authors to acquire the licenses, to follow any citation instructions requested by third-party rights holders, and cover any supplementary charges.

Frontiers takes concerns regarding image manipulation seriously. We request that no individual features within an image are modified (eg. enhanced, obscured, moved, removed or added). Where images are grouped together, for example, parts of gels are lined up, this must be clearly explained in the figure or in the figure text, and the original entire gel should be submitted as supplementary material. Any change in brightness, contrast or color balance must be applied to every pixel in the image and the changes should not alter the information illustrated in the figure. Any concerns raised will be investigated and the authors will be asked to provide the original images.

- General Style Guidelines for Tables

Tables should be inserted at the end of the manuscript. If you use a word processor, build your table in word. If you use a LaTeX processor, build your table in LaTeX. An empty line should be left before and after the table. Please note that large tables covering several pages cannot be included in the final PDF for formatting reasons. These tables will be published as supplementary material on the online article abstract page at the time of acceptance. The author will be notified during the typesetting of the final article if this is the case. A link in the final PDF will direct to the online material.

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- Figure and Table Legends

Figure and table legends are required to have the same font as the main text (12 point normal Times New Roman, single spaced). Legends should be preceded by the appropriate label, for example "Figure 1" or "Table 4". Figure legends should be placed at the end of the manuscript (for supplementary images you must include the caption with the figure, uploaded as a separate file). Table legends must be placed immediately before the table. Please use only a single paragraph for the legend. Figure panels are referred to by bold capital letters in brackets: (A), (B), (C), (D), etc.

- Image Size

Figure images should be prepared with the PDF layout in mind, individual figures should not be longer than one page and with a width that corresponds to 1 column or 2 columns.

- **All articles are prepared using the 2 column layout:** 2 column articles can contain images 85 mm or 180 mm wide.

- Format

The following formats are accepted:

TIFF (.tif) TIFF files should be saved using LZW compression or any other non-lossy compression method.

JPEG (.jpg)

EPS (.eps) EPS files can be uploaded upon acceptance

- Color Image Mode

Images must be submitted in the color mode RGB.

- Resolution Requirements

All images must be uploaded separately in the submission procedure and have a resolution of **300 dpi at final size**. Check the resolution of your figure by enlarging it to 150%. If the resolution is too low, the image will appear blurry, jagged or have a stair-stepped effect.

Please note saving a figure directly as an image file (JPEG, TIF) can greatly affect the resolution of your image. To avoid this, one option is to export the file as PDF, then convert into TIFF or EPS using a graphics software. EPS files can be uploaded upon acceptance.

- **Chemical Structures**

Chemical structures should be prepared using ChemDraw or a similar program according to the guidelines given below:

Drawing settings: chain angle, 120° bond spacing, 18% of width; fixed length, 14.4 pt; bold width, 2.0 pt; line width, 0.6 pt; margin width 1.6 pt; hash spacing 2.5 pt. Scale 100% Atom Label settings: font, Arial; size, 8 pt. Assign all chemical compounds a bold, Arabic numeral in the order in which the compounds are presented in the manuscript text. Figures containing chemical structures should be submitted in a size appropriate for incorporation into the manuscript.

- **Legibility**

Figures must be legible. Check the following:

- The smallest visible text is no less than 8 points in height, when viewed at actual size.
- Solid lines are not broken up.
- Image areas are not pixilated or stair stepped.
- Text is legible and of high quality.
- Any lines in the graphic are no smaller than 2 points width.