

# The Bioprospecting of Anti-*Vibrio Streptomyces* species: Prevalence and Applications

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**Abstract:** *Vibrio* sp. has been a major pathogen that resulted in difficult to treat infections, and greatly impacting the aquaculture industry. Thus, more effective approaches are needed to overcome this problem. Bacteria of the genus *Streptomyces* is a group of prolific producers for various bioactive compounds. *Streptomyces* species with antibacterial activity against *Vibrio* sp. have been reported from numerous studies, indicating that *Streptomyces* could be a good candidate for treatment of *Vibrio* infections. This review aims to provide an overview on the distribution of the *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from diverse geographical locations. Furthermore, this review also highlighted that *Streptomyces* sp. can be a great source for anti-*Vibrio* agents to control vibriosis, such as in the aquaculture settings.

**Keywords:** Streptomyces, Vibrio sp., secondary metabolites, antibacterial, biocontrol agent

**Received:** 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Accepted:** 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Publish Online:** 05<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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**Citation:** Tan LTH, Lee LH, Goh BH, The bioprospecting of anti-*Vibrio Streptomyces* species: prevalence and applications. Prog Microbes Mol Biol 2019; 2(1): a0000034

## INTRODUCTION

Seafood is rich in nutritional values, serving as a healthy food choice for major protein source in human diet. For the past decades, the accelerated growth in commercial aquaculture for total seafood supply is growing in folds in order to satisfy the increased demand for seafood globally [1]. However, seafood is prone to various contaminants, such as pathogenic microorganisms which include bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites [2-7]. These pathogens are posing high risk for seafood and water borne illnesses in consumers [8-11]. This is because seafood can be a vehicle for pathogens. *Vibrio* sp., which is one of the genera from Bacteria kingdom [12], has been associated with gastroenteritis and wound infections in human [13], such as *V. vulnificus* [14], *V. parahaemolyticus* [15] and *V. cholerae* [16]. Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet) reported that in the year 2018, *Vibrio* sp. have inflicted 537 cases of infections with 1.1 incidence per 100,000 population in United States. FoodNet also indicated that the number of *Vibrio* infection cases have increased sig-

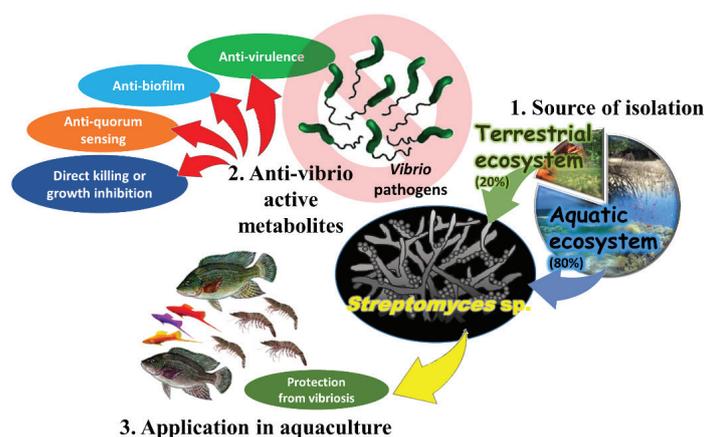
nificantly by 109% in 2018 when compared with previous reported cases within the year 2015 to 2017 [17]. Furthermore, *Vibrio* sp. have also inflicted several major outbreaks worldwide [18-20]. For instance, the biggest outbreak of cholera was reported in Haiti on October 2010 with more than seven thousand deaths recorded for the first time in more than a century [21].

Besides causing infections in human, *Vibrio* species is also a great threat towards aquaculture by causing vibriosis that hampers the fishery industry growth and causes serious economic losses globally. The etiological agents of vibriosis include *V. harveyi*, *V. alginolyticus*, *V. anguillarum*, *V. salmonicida*, *V. mimicus* and *V. parahaemolyticus* [22]. These pathogens have been reported to cause mortalities up to 100% in aquaculture. For example, the *V. harveyi* has caused mass mortality of black tiger shrimp *Penaeus monodon* by causing luminous vibriosis [23-25]. Another species *V. mimicus* is also responsible for epidemic in catfishes in China with high mortality rate between 80 to 100% [26]. Consequently,

antibiotics are used as prophylactic measures or to treat the established infections in the culture systems due to the immense impact of vibriosis in aquaculture. However, antibiotic resistant strain of pathogens are emerging due to the routine and uncontrolled usage of antibiotics and leading to therapeutic failure of existing antibiotic [27]. Therefore, it necessitates the search for more effective alternatives to overcome this problem. In this regards, recent efforts have been evidenced in bioprospecting for natural products derived from plant [28-32], animal [33] or microbial origins [34] with promising antimicrobial effects to facilitate future development of new strategies against the antibiotic resistant strains of *Vibrio*.

The interest on the discovery of bioactive compounds from microbial origin is increasingly attractive towards the researchers, especially from the extreme environments. This is because that the sea and soil microbiota are frequently exposed to the complex, fluctuating and competitive environments which is believed to be the driving forces for metabolic pathway adaptation and lead to production of valuable metabolites [35-39]. The

extremely diverse and unsurpassed richness of the secondary metabolism exhibited by *Streptomyces* has made these filamentous bacteria to serve as a rich bioresource for valuable bioactive compounds [35, 40-43]. Ever since the discovery of streptomycin as the first therapeutically beneficial antibiotic in 1944 [44], *Streptomyces* species have been known to synthesize enormous amount of bioactive secondary metabolites, including antibiotics, antitumor agents, antiparasitic, immunosuppressive agents and industrially important enzymes [34, 45, 46]. The genus *Streptomyces* is ubiquitously found in soil. In fact, they are also found to inhabit in wide range of niches such as in the aquatic environments, marine dwelling animals [47] and as symbionts of plants [48] and insects [49]. Therefore, we attempted to evaluate the potential of *Streptomyces* as a source of antibiotics against the antibiotic-resistant strains of *Vibrio*. This review discusses the current knowledge on the *Streptomyces* as a promising biocontrol agent of *Vibrio* and assesses their distribution, isolation, secondary metabolites production. Figure 1 depicts the potential of *Streptomyces* bacteria as a source for anti-*Vibrio* metabolites and their application in aquaculture.



**Figure 1.** The summary of the potential of *Streptomyces* bacteria as a source for anti-*vibrio* biocontrol agent and its application as probiotic in aquaculture. 1. *Streptomyces* sp. has been isolated from different ecosystems, including both terrestrial and aquatic environments. The percentage on the pie chart illustrates the proportion of *Streptomyces* strain with anti-*Vibrio* activity from respective ecosystem. (Percentage of isolation from specific sources from both ecosystems are provided in the text) 2. The anti-*Vibrio* active metabolites produced not only exhibits direct killing or growth inhibitory effect against *Vibrio* pathogens, specific mechanisms are also demonstrated such as anti-virulence, anti-biofilm and anti-quorum sensing activity against *Vibrio* pathogens. 3. *Streptomyces* also exhibits the potential to be used as biocontrol agent in aquaculture for prevention of vibriosis.

### VIBRIO sp. AND VIRULENCE FACTORS

Being one of the six genera for the family *Vibrionaceae*, the genus *Vibrio* are Gram-negative, halophilic and curved-rod in shape [50]. They are ubiquitous inhabitants of the warm coastal and estuarine waters as well as in the gut of filter-feeding shellfish. There are at least 12 species of *Vibrio* have been known to be pathogenic and cause foodborne diseases in human [51]. Besides capable to cause massive pandemics resulting in many cases of infections and deaths worldwide, some of the *Vibriosis* are known to be pathogenic to aquatic organisms, such as finfish, shellfish and corals [52].

Virulence factors are the unique molecular features possessed by pathogen for colonisation, nutrient acquisition, infection and damage to a host [53]. Studies have

identified numerous virulence factors from the genus *Vibrio*, including pathogenic *V. cholerae*, *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. vulnificus*. For example, the cholera toxin (CTX), a well-known virulence factor or enterotoxin produced by *V. cholerae* [54], the thermostable direct hemolysin (*tdh*) and the *tdh*-related hemolysin (*trh*) in *V. parahaemolyticus* [15] and capsule polysaccharide (CPS) in *V. vulnificus* [55]. All these virulence factors are attached on the surface of the cells or are secreted into the extracellular environment. To transport these virulence factors, specific secretion system is essential to facilitate the delivery of the effector virulence factors into host cells from the bacterial cells. For instance, the type III secretion systems (T3SS1 and T3SS2) are the well characterized systems play significant roles in the pathogenicity of *Vibrio* pathogens. Studies demonstrated that regulation of virulence gene expression could be the

critical aspect for pathogenicity. To illustrate, a higher expression of those virulence genes could render a bacterial strain to be virulent, but this may not often be the case. As pathogenicity of bacteria is not always dependent on the presence of virulence genes [58]. Quorum sensing (QS) is a machinery adapted by bacteria to coordinate the expression of certain genes, including those encoding virulent phenotypes, through the mediation of small signalling molecules [56]. For examples, the *N*-acylhomoserine lactone and the multi-channel QS systems are the two common QS systems acquired by the *Vibrio* bacteria [57, 58].

There are many strategies used to control *Vibrio* infections, including the antibiotics, water disinfectants, vaccines, immunostimulants, bacteriophages and probiotics in aquaculture [59-61]. Despite that, new antibiotics or chemotherapeutic approaches are needed to cope with the ever-increasing evidences of antibiotic resistance among the *Vibrio* sp. Besides that, inhibition of the virulence factors of the pathogens is an alternative to kill the *Vibrio* pathogens such as the disruption of bacterial cell-to-cell signalling or quorum sensing and the development of antagonistic compounds (antivirulence therapy) that specific targeting the virulence machinery of *Vibrio* pathogens. Hence, it is important to fully understand the virulence regulation mechanism (described earlier) in order to identify better therapeutic targets for prevention of outbreaks caused by *Vibrio* pathogens. In this review, *Streptomyces* bacteria is suggested as the promising candidate for the management of *Vibrio* pathogens based on the potential of *Streptomyces* bacteria in the production of anti-*Vibrio* compounds and its application in aquaculture.

## EMERGENCE OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT *VIBRIO* sp.

Given the excessive use of antibiotics for the past few decades, the emergence and the ever-increasing prevalence of antimicrobial resistant pathogens is of a great concern in global health [27, 62-64]. Today, many of antibiotics have been totally restricted in agriculture and aquaculture of developed countries due to the enormous detrimental impacts on the environment [65, 66]. Despite that, the unrestricted use of antibiotics remains in countries with growing scale of agriculture and aquaculture industries such as China, Chile and Thailand. The antibiotics were used prophylactically by most of the farmers from aquaculture and agriculture settings to prevent or treat disease outbreaks, particularly infections caused by *Vibrio* bacteria. For instance, excessive and frequent use of antibiotics as preventive management was observed from shrimp farming in Thailand [62]. A total of 86% of the shrimp farmers from Thailand were reported highly dependent on antibiotic use as a preventive measure, 14% of the farms even used antibiotics in a daily basis. Norfloxacin, oxytetracycline, enrofloxacin and sulphonamides were the commonly used antibiotics in shrimp farms [62]. Frequent use of antibiotic is also widely evident in other regions, including Mexico [67], Italy [27], Philippines [68] and China [69].

Undoubtedly, the enormous misuse of antibiotics has resulted the ever-increasing reports of multi-drug resistant *Vibrio* species in aquaculture settings and marine environments [70]. For instance, a recent study showed the presence of *Vibrio* sp. resistant to  $\beta$ -lactam and tetracycline in the

hemolymph of *Litopenaeus vannamei* shrimp [71]. Furthermore, a plasmid mediated tetracycline resistant *V. parahaemolyticus* was isolated from shrimps infected with acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease (AHPND), indicating the presence of antibiotic resistance that can potentially be transferred through transposition, conjugation and plasmid uptake to other bacterial species in the same environment [72]. The disease AHPND, also known as early mortality syndrome, is one of the major threats to shrimp farming. The disease has caused severe mortality up to 100% in aquaculture of *P. vannamei* and *P. monodon* [73, 74]. Recently, Castillo *et al.* (2015) [75] reported a draft genome sequence of *V. parahaemolyticus* strain VH3 isolated from farmed amberjack in Greece. The strain VH3 was found to possess multidrug resistance efflux pumps and antibiotic resistant genes for fluoroquinolones and tetracycline [75]. Moreover, *V. parahaemolyticus* has also been reported to be resistant to numerous classes of antibiotics such as penicillins (ampicillin), aminoglycosides (amikacin, kanamycin, streptomycin), cephalosporins (cefotaxime, ceftazidime, cefazolin) [76, 77], quinolones (ciprofloxacin, nalidixic acid), macrolides (azithromycin, erythromycin) and chloramphenicol [78, 79].

Besides the antibiotic resistance incidences occur in aquaculture, there are enormous number of literatures focus on the antibiotic resistance of *V. cholerae* [80, 81], the causative agent of cholera which is an infectious diarrheal disease associated with hypovolemic shock and rice watery stools. This bacterium appears to be a re-emerging problem to human worldwide, causing many disease outbreaks in which constant monitoring for their ever-changing antibiotic resistance profile is required. Over the years, multidrug resistant *V. cholerae* has been reported from many regions of the world especially the under-developed and developing countries, including Bangladesh [82], India [83], Africa [84], Haiti [85] and Vietnam [86]. Reports have shown that clinical isolates of *V. cholerae* have become resistant to numerous antibiotics including tetracycline [87], ampicillin [88], nalidixic acid [89], streptomycin, sulphonamides, trimethoprim, gentamicin [90] and ciprofloxacin [89]. *V. cholerae* is a naturally competent bacterium containing a highly diverse genome (genomic plasticity), readily taking up external DNA and possibly recombine into their genome [91]. The antibiotic resistance in *V. cholerae* was attributed to target modification or acquisition of resistance gene cassettes from mobile genetic elements (MGE). Both integrative conjugative elements (ICE) and superintegron are known to be the major source of conferring antibiotic resistance in *V. cholerae*. For instance, the SXT element, an ICE responsible for gene translocation, is found in *V. cholerae* encoding various antibiotic resistance genes such as chloramphenicol, sulphamethoxazole, trimethoprim and streptomycin [92]. In fact, these SXT and closely-related elements are present in almost all *V. cholerae* clinical isolates and some environmental isolates from Asia and Africa [93]. A group of researcher has confirmed that the SXT elements were the vectors of genes conferring multidrug resistance in Chinese epidemic O1 *V. cholerae* to tetracycline and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole [94]. Taken together, the resistance development limits the useful lifespan of antibiotic and

results in the requirement for a constant introduction of new antibacterial compounds [95, 96].

### **STREPTOMYCES sp. AS POTENTIAL SOURCE FOR ANTI-VIBRIO AGENT**

The genus *Streptomyces* (phylum: *Actinobacteria*) are soil-dwelling Gram-positive bacteria with high G+C (70%) genomic content. They have characterized filamentous growth involving tip extension and filamentous branching which eventually form network of filaments named as substrate mycelium [97, 98]. Interestingly, *Streptomyces* possess a remarkably complex developmental cycle [99]. Under environmental stress and solid cultivation condition, they are capable to switch from vegetative phase (substrate mycelium) into a reproductive sporulation phase (aerial hyphae mycelium) [100]. The secondary metabolites are produced at the end of the active vegetative growth and during the dormant or reproduction stage [101]. More than 70 years ago, streptomycin was discovered as the first therapeutically beneficial antibiotic produced by *S. griseus* [44]. Today, *Streptomyces* bacteria remain to be prolific sources of novel secondary metabolites with diverse range of biological activities such as antibacterial, antitumor, antiviral, antifungal, immunosuppressive activity, antifeedant, insecticidal and neuroprotective activity [45, 102]. Numerous studies have also described the production of valuable enzymes and compounds by *Streptomyces* with industrially and clinically importance [45, 103, 104].

The enormous biosynthetic capabilities of *Streptomyces* have made them an irreplaceable resource for microbial natural products in microbial world [105]. The *Streptomyces* derived secondary metabolites are structurally diverse and based on different backbone structures, including polyketides,  $\beta$ -lactams, peptides and pyrroles [42, 101]. For example, the bioactive compounds include glycopeptides (vancomycin, teicoplanin, telavancin) [106], angucycline (tetrangomycin, landomycin, urdamycin) [107], tetracycline (chlortetracycline, oxytetracycline, demeclocycline) [108], phenazine (saphenamycin, endophenazine, phenazinomycin) [109], macrolide (erythromycin, spiramycin, oleandomycin) [110], aminoglycoside (streptomycin, kanamycin, tobramycin) [111], benzoxazolophenanthridine (jadomycin) [112] and oligosaccharides (flambamycin, avilamycin, curamycin) [113].

Majority of the *Streptomyces* derived secondary metabolites are known to be antibiotics, given that they are needed for inhibiting the growth of other competing microorganisms present in the same environment [114]. The production of secondary metabolites also involves in the symbiotic interactions between the *Streptomyces* and the plants. There are strains of saprophytic *Streptomyces* colonize the plant roots and even in the plant tissues. The antibiotics produced by *Streptomyces* protect the host plant from potential pathogens while the symbionts provide nutrients for *Streptomyces* development [48]. Terrestrial soils are the classical habitats of *Streptomyces* sp. but current evidences indicate that *Streptomyces* can be isolated from marine soils as well [42, 115]. These soils are known to be complex environments with many stressors such as diverse and variable nutrient availability, huge fluctuation in temperature, pH and salinity [116]. As a group of non-motile microorganism, *Strepto-*

*myces* species requires to evolve and adapt for the survival in the diverse environmental challenges. Bentley *et al.* (2002)<sup>[117]</sup> explained the large genome (>8Mbp) of *Streptomyces* sp. that encoding regulators, transport proteins and enzymes render them to be resistant to those environmental stressors. In 2001, *Streptomyces coelicolor* A3(2) was reported to possess a more than 8 Mega base pairs linear chromosome as the first and largest ever sequenced microbial genome [117]. A large proportion of the genome was shown to contain regulatory genes which are likely to be involved in detection of, and response to extracellular stimuli and stresses [117]. Furthermore, approximate 23 cluster of the genes consisted of 4.5% of the total genome were found to be encoded for the biosynthetic enzymes that produce wide range of secondary metabolites. Ikeda *et al.* (2003)<sup>[118]</sup> further revealed a larger secondary metabolic gene cluster covering approximately 6% of the genome found in *S. avermitilis* ATCC31267. The genome of *Streptomyces* is significantly larger as compared to the recent reported 5.1 Mega base pairs chromosome from the genus *Bacillus*. Also as one of the best characterized bacterial genera, the genus *Bacillus* has been extensively exploited for biotechnological use in the food and pharmaceutical production [119]. In the light of the expanding knowledge of microbial genetics and genomics, genome mining has revealed the potential of *Streptomyces* sp. in synthesizing a large diversity of compounds that have yet to be identified via the detection of numerous cryptic novel secondary metabolite biosynthetic gene clusters [120, 121]. Overall, these interesting features of *Streptomyces* have demonstrated that this genus is a very good candidate for bioprospection of bioactive compounds with antibacterial properties [122], especially in anti-*Vibrio* activity as the main focus of this review.

### **STUDIES OF STREPTOMYCES WITH ANTI-VIBRIO ACTIVITY**

Up to the year 2015, based on the data reported from 64 studies (Table 1), there are around 128 strains of *Streptomyces* exhibited antibacterial activity toward *Vibrio* sp. Two and 3 strains of *Streptomyces* were shown to exhibit antivirulence and antibiofilm activity against *Vibrio* sp., respectively. Table 1 tabulates the number of *Streptomyces* strains with anti-*Vibrio* activity with different stages of work performed ranging from the preliminary screening stage to an in-depth characterization of a *Streptomyces* strain exhibiting anti-*Vibrio* activity. Based on these studies, *Streptomyces* strains with anti-*Vibrio* activities have been isolated from diverse ecosystems ranging from terrestrial to marine environments, and from marine organisms to aquatic plants. As depicted in Table 1, 80% of the studies revealed *Streptomyces* strains with anti-*Vibrio* activities were isolated from aquatic environments while the remaining 20% of the studies showed *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activities were derived from terrestrial origin. Majority of the studies (48.3%) isolated *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from marine and mangrove sediment, followed by marine organisms such as sponges, coral and fishes (21.7%), terrestrial soils (18.3%), aquatic plants (6.7%), water (3.3%) and terrestrial plants (1.7%). Among the 128 strains of *Streptomyces* with antibacterial activity

against *Vibrio* sp., 116 strains (90%) were isolated from aquatic environment. This data suggests that marine ecosystem could be more preferable source for isolation of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity as compared to the samples collected from terrestrial regions. Despite that, it

cannot be disregarded that terrestrial soil could be a potential source for *Streptomyces* strains with anti-*Vibrio* activity. In fact, some interesting *Streptomyces* strains with anti-*Vibrio* activity were reported from terrestrial soils [123, 124].

**Table 1. Different isolation sources of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity.**

Source of isolation	Country	Locations	Number of <i>Streptomyces</i> with anti- <i>Vibrio</i> activity isolated	The identified <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. with anti- <i>Vibrio</i> activity	References
Marine sediment	India	Andaman Island	6	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-09 ( <i>S. xantholiticus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-13 ( <i>S. aureofasciscus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-17 ( <i>S. galtieri</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-24 ( <i>S. vastus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-35 ( <i>S. galbus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MKS-39 ( <i>S. rimosus</i> )	[125]
		Sediment from coastal area of Thondi, Palk Bay (Lat. 9°45'N, Long. 79°3'E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. S8-08 ( <i>S. albus</i> DQ333301.1 99%)	[126]
		Chennai coast area, Tamilnadu	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> ECR3	[127]
		Vellar Estuary, Tamilnadu	3	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. F1 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. F2 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. F3	[128]
		ns	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. isolate 6	[129]
		Royapuram, Muttukadu, Mahabalipuram seashores, Adyar estuary	2	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. C11 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. C12	[130]
		Near-sea shore sediment from Palk bay, (Lat. 9°44'10"N, Long. 79°10'45"E) Southeast coast of Thondi, Tamilnadu	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. (99% <i>S. fradiae</i> BDMS1)	[131]
		Visakhapatnam, India	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. KS1908	[132]
		Andaman and Nicobar Islands (11°38'42.8", 92°42'30.7")	5	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. NIOT-VKKMA02 (100% <i>S. griseus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. NIOT-VKKMA26 (100% <i>S. venezuelae</i> )	[133]
		Bay of Bengal	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. LCJ94	[134]
		Bay of Bengal (Lat. 11°42'23.15"N, Long. 79°46'57.97"E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SS7	[135]
		Saltpan soil sample from Parangipettai Potnovo (Lat. 11°30'N, Long. 79°46'E) Cuddalore district, Tamilnadu	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. DPTD215 (98% <i>S. noursei</i> AY999827)	[136]
		Versova coast, Mumbai (Lat. 19°28'26.32"N, Long. 72°48'07.21"E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MVCS6 (KC292198)	[137]
		Versova coast, Mumbai (Lat. 19°08'26.12"N, Long. 72°48'07.41"E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MVSC13 (KC292199)	[138]
		China	Submarine sediment from Sanya Bay (109°32'E, 18°11'N), northern South China sea	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SCSIO 01689 (98.3% <i>S. samyensis</i> )
7	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A03, A05 ( <i>S. cinerogriseus</i> - majority antagonistic to <i>Vibrio</i> sp.) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A26, A42 ( <i>S. griseorubroviolaceus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A41 ( <i>S. lavendulae</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A45 ( <i>S. roseosporus</i> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. B15 ( <i>S. griseofuscus</i> )			[140]	
Vietnam	Sediment from shrimp culture pond in Thua Thien Hue	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A1 HM854225	[141, 142]	
Korea	Seaweed rhizosphere and sediment (10m depth) from coast of Korea	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. PK288-21 (99% <i>S. atrovirens</i> DQ026672.1)	[143]	
Egypt	Coastal lagoon sediment from Sinai Peninsula	1	<i>S. ruber</i> ERKH2	[144]	
Cuba	Near-shore sediment from Matanzas, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos and Ciego de Avila, Central provinces of Cuba.	3		[145]	

	Australia	Queensland, (Lat. 21°43'09"S, Long. 149°25'54"E)	3	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CLS-28 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CLS-39 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CLS-45	[146]
Mangrove sediment/ rhizosphere soil/estuaries	India	Mangalavana, Narakkal, Puthuvypu, (9°55'10"10"N and 76°10-76°20'E)	ns	ns	[147]
		Sundarbans, India and Bangladesh	ns	ns	[148]
		Velar estury, Tamilnadu, India (lat. 11.4900°N Long.79.7600°E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MA7	[149]
		East coast region, Pichavaram mangrove forest (Lat. 11.43°N, Long. 79.77°E) Tamilnadu, India	2	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ECR64 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ECR77 (accession number KF158225) ( <i>S. labelae</i> )	[150-152]
		Bonnie camp & Kalash, (Lat. 21°51'05.823" N, Long. 88°38'27.021" E) & (Lat. 22°00'25.599" N, Long. 88°42'13.948" E), Sundarbans, India	3	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SMS_7 (closely related to <i>S. tendae</i> ATCC19812) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SMS_SU13 (96.59% similarity to <i>S. labelae</i> NBRC 15864 <sup>1</sup> , <i>S. variabilis</i> NBRC 12825 <sup>1</sup> , <i>S. erythrogriseus</i> LMG 19406 <sup>1</sup> ) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SMS_SU21 (99.75% similarity to <i>S. griseorubens</i> NBRC 12780 <sup>1</sup> )	[153]
Water sample	India	Aquaculture water from Vellore, Tamilnadu	4	ns	[154]
		Seawater from Visakhapatnam	1	<i>S. rochei</i> MTCC 10109	[155]
Marine sponges	India	marine sponges ( <i>Callyspongia diffusa</i> , <i>Mycale mytilorum</i> , <i>Tedania anhelans</i> , <i>Dysidea fragilis</i> ) from Vizhinjam port, (Lat. 8°22'30"N, Long. 76°59',16"E) south west coast India.	10	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBBD03 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBBD11 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBBD24 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBMM35 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBMM49 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBTA66 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. AQBDF81	[156-158]
		Kovalam coast, West coast of Kerala (8°23' N, 76°57' E).	ns	ns	[47]
	China	<i>Mycale</i> sp. from sea area of Gulei Port, Fujian, China (Lat. 23.74, Long. 117.59)	3	HNS054 (99% <i>S. labelae</i> ) HNS049 ( <i>S. microflavus</i> ) HNS056 ( <i>S. flaveus</i> )	[159]
	Egypt	Red Sea	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. HC9 (accession number JQ929061) 97% <i>Streptomyces rochei</i> SBPL-21	[160]
Marine corals	India	Mucus of coral, <i>A. digitifera</i> from Hare Island (9°12'N,79°5'E), Gulf of Mannar, Tamilnadu	6	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA3 (99.8% <i>S. akiyoshiensis</i> FJ486367.1) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA4 (96.7% <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. EU523135.1) <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA5 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA9 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA15 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. CA18 (96.7% <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. EU523135.1)	[161]
	China	Gorgonian coral ( <i>E. aurantiaca</i> , <i>M. squamata</i> , <i>M. flexuosa</i> , <i>S. suberosa</i> , <i>V. umbraculum</i> ) from Sanya coral reef conservation (18°11'N, 109°25'E), South China sea	3	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ZXY018 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ZXY077 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ZXY090	[162]
		Lu Hui Tou fringing reef	3	SCSIO 11527 ( <i>S. fimicartius</i> ISP5322 100%) SCSIO 11469 ( <i>S. rutgersensis</i> NBRC 12819 100%) SCSIO 11531 ( <i>S. variabilis</i> NBRC 12825 99.859%) SCSIO 11717 ( <i>S. viridodiataticus</i> NBRC 13106 100%)	[163]
Fishes	India	Ornamental fish, <i>Chaetodon callare</i> (red tail butterfly), <i>Archamia fucata</i> (orange-lined cardinal) from Vizhinkam port, India	7	AQBCC06 AQBCC 20 AQBCC 24 AQBCC 40 AQBCC 51 AQBCC 54 AQBCC 75	[164]
		Vizhinjam port, (8°22'30"N, 76°59'16"E) southwest coast of India			
		Marine - <i>Epinephelus diacanthus</i> (grouper), estuarine - <i>Oreochromis mossambicus</i> (tilapia), fresh-water - <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> (common carp) from Vizhinjam, Veli, Centre for Aquatic and Research Extension	ns	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp.	[165]
		Red snapper from Tamilnadu	ns	ns	[166]

Sea plants and animals in the intertidal zones	China	Shark ( <i>Mustelus manazo</i> ) local market, marine plant animal - sea hare ( <i>Aplysia dactylomela</i> ), sea anemone ( <i>Actiniaria</i> ) and sea plant ( <i>Ulva lactuca</i> , <i>Enteromorpha</i> , <i>Gracilaria verrucosa</i> ) from Xiamen Island	5	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A4 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A9 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A16 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A18 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. A29	[167]
Marine algae/sea-weeds	India	Intertidal rocky surfaces of Muttom coast, south west coast of India (Lat. 8°7'15"N, Long. 77°1'E)	25	AQB.SKKU 8 ( <i>S. coelicolor</i> ) AQB.SKKU 10 ( <i>S. autotrophicus</i> ) AQB.SKKU 18 ( <i>S. pedanensis</i> ) AQB.SKKU 20 ( <i>S. deccanensis</i> ) AQB.SKKU 25 ( <i>S. vinaceus</i> ) AQB.SKKU 37 ( <i>Streptomyces</i> nov. sp.)	[168-170]
Terrestrial soil sediment	Iran	Grassland, orchards, vegetable fields from Kerman, Hormozgan, Sistan and Baluchistan, south and south east provinces of Iran	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. 419	[171]
	India	Rhizosphere soil from Shikaripura, Karnataka	3	SRDP-S-03 SRCP-S-05 SRDP-2-30	[172]
		Rhizosphere soil from Thirthahalli, Shivamogga, Karnataka, India	1	SRDP-07	[173]
		Similipal Biosphere Reserve (21°28' to 22°08' N, 86°04' to 86°37' E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. SS2	[174]
		Forest soils from Western Ghats region, Kanyakumari District (Lat. 8°03' to 8°35' N, Long. 77°15' to 77°36' E)	3	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ERI-1 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ERI-3 <i>Streptomyces</i> sp. ERI-26	[124, 175]
	Thailand	Agricultural soil from Sakonnakhon Province	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. No.87	[176]
	Chile	Desert soil (Salt flat, zero vegetation cover, hyper-arid) from Atacama desert (Salar de Atacama, Laguna de Chaxa) (23°17'S, 68°10'W)	1	<i>Streptomyces leeuwenhoekii</i> sp. nov. C34 <sup>T</sup> DSM42122	[123]
		Chili field soil from Chittagong, Bangladesh	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. MU9	[177]
Terrestrial plant	Australia	Snakevine plant ( <i>Kennedia nigriscans</i> ) from Aboriginal community of Manyallaluk, SE of Katherine, Northern Territory (14°16'352" S, 132°49'750"E)	1	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. NRRL30562	[178]

\*ns – not specified

There were significant lower number of studies reported *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from the terrestrial environments as compared to the much higher number of studies on the marine *Streptomyces*. The higher isolation rate of *Streptomyces* strains from marine environment could be due to the recent interest of researchers toward the marine natural products discovery as many novel bacteria genus and species with production of novel compounds have been identified from the marine environment [179-181]. In another context, these phenomena seem to imply that the resources which can be accessed easily had been exhausted as extensive studies on the terrestrial soil derived microorganisms were observed over the years. The recurrent isolation and screening of the predominant species from the environments have resulted in rediscovery of known compounds which is a major problem faced in drug discovery. As reported, similar well-known and structurally-related antibacterial compounds were discovered from the *Streptomyces* isolated from different terrestrial environments [182].

To support the hypothesis that marine *Streptomyces* is a

better source for anti-*Vibrio* activity, comparison between the efficacy of the metabolites produced by the anti-*Vibrio* *Streptomyces* isolated from respective environments were performed. To render easier inter-study comparison, the anti-*Vibrio* activity of the *Streptomyces* from each study was represented by the highest inhibition zone reported. The efficacy of the anti-*Vibrio* metabolites produced by *Streptomyces* isolated from respective source was obtained based on the median inhibition zone of respective site of isolation. These anti-*Vibrio* *Streptomyces* strains were then categorized into four different groups based on their source of isolations. According to Table 2, it shows that the strength of anti-*Vibrio* activity displayed by each group and the ranking is as follow, mangrove sediment (21.0 mm) > marine organisms (plants and animals) (18.0 mm), terrestrial soil (18.0 mm) > marine sediment (15.01 mm). The anti-*Vibrio* *Streptomyces* isolated from the respective isolation source with differential strength against *Vibrio* sp. were discussed as follow.

**Table 2.** Comparing the anti-*Vibrio* efficacy of *Streptomyces* from different environment sources.

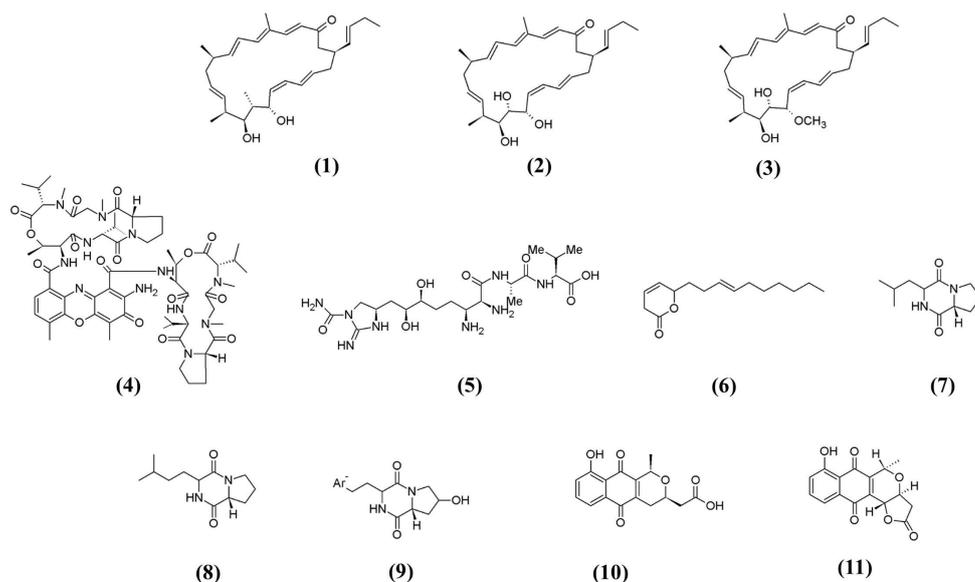
Source of isolation	Median of inhibition zone (mm)
Terrestrial soil	18.00 (n = 7)
Marine sediment and water	15.01 (n = 10)
Mangrove soil	21.00 (n = 3)
Marine organisms	18.00 (n = 8)

### Terrestrial environments

The number of undiscovered antimicrobials from *Streptomyces* and the estimated number of antibiotics still to be discovered from *Actinobacteria* could be well above  $10^5$  as predicted with the use of mathematical models [183]. Furthermore, new species of *Streptomyces* are being identified every day, indicating that our knowledge on this genus is still far from exhaustive. Hence, continuous effort has to be put into the exploitation of *Streptomyces* from terrestrial regions by taking advantage of underexplored ecological niches as demonstrated by several groups of researchers that discovered *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity. This study identified a total of 11 strains of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity were found from different types of terrestrial soils and an endophytic *Streptomyces* isolated from a terrestrial plant [178]. The *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity were isolated from a wide variety of the terrestrial

soils ranging from the commonly accessible agriculture soils [176], forest soils [124], grassland and orchard soils [171, 177] to the more extreme environments such as the hyper arid desert soil [123] and arctic sediments [184].

The detailed locations for the sources of isolation of the *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity were described in Table 1. Rateb *et al.* (2011) [123] reported a desert soil derived *Streptomyces* strain C34 produced rare 22-membered macrolactone polyketides, known as chaxalactins A-C (**1-3**) with anti-*Vibrio* activity. A recent report determined that this *Streptomyces* strain C34 represents a new species and named as *Streptomyces leeuwenhoekii* sp. nov., a strain showing high potential for drug discovery with total genome size of around 7.86Mb [185]. The site of isolation of this novel species of *Streptomyces* is from the hyper-arid and high-altitude Atacama Desert located in Chile (23°17'S, 68°10'W). The three macrolactone polyketides including the chaxalactins A (**1**), B (**2**) and C (**3**) displayed a minimum inhibitory concentration of 12.5, 20 and 12.5µg/mL against the pathogen *V. parahaemolyticus* NCTC10441 [123] which was isolated from the feces sample of a patient with gastroenteritis. The molecular structures of the chaxalactins were depicted in Figure 2. Meanwhile, an endophytic *Streptomyces* NRRL30562 isolated from snakevine plant (*Kennedia nigricans*) was found to produce newly described antibiotics, named as munumbicin B (**4**), C and D [structures of munumbicin C and D have not been elucidated]; that displayed antibacterial activity against *V. fischeri* PIC345 with inhibition zones measured at 16mm, 9mm and 12mm respectively at 10µg concentration [178].



**Figure 2.** Chemical structures of bioactive compounds with anti-*Vibrio* activities.

Besides the direct antagonism of *Streptomyces* against *Vibrio* sp. by direct killing of the microorganism or impeding microbial growth, the bioactive products derived from *Streptomyces* sp. also exhibited activity that interferes with the expression of pathogenic traits of *Vibrio* pathogens<sup>[186, 187]</sup>. Augustine *et al.* (2012)<sup>[184]</sup> reported the 20% culture supernatant of strains *Streptomyces* A733 and A745 isolated from arctic sediment (Ny-Alesund, an island in Svalbard Archipelago (79°55'N, 11°56'E) reduced the biofilm formation of *V. cholerae* O1 MCV09 by 88% and 80% respectively. Furthermore, an antivirulence compound, known as guadinomine B (**5**) was produced by a strain *Streptomyces* sp. K01-0509 isolated from soil sample collected from the Amami Oshima, Kagoshima, Japan<sup>[186]</sup>. The guadinomine B (**5**) was reported to be potent in inhibiting the type III secretion system (TTSS) of gram-negative bacteria, including most of the pathogenic *Vibrio* sp. that utilize this apparatus for protein secretion and translocation as their primary virulence mechanism with IC<sub>50</sub> at 14nM<sup>[188]</sup>. Another study showed that the soil-derived *S. mobaraensis* DSM40847<sup>T</sup> from Mobara city, Japan, produced endoprotease inhibitors that against cysteine protease papain which is known to be virulence factors involved in bacterial pathogenicity<sup>[187]</sup>. The endoprotease inhibitor was known as *Streptomyces* papain inhibitor (SPI) which exhibits inhibitory effect on the growth of wide range of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial pathogens. The addition of 10µM of SPI was shown to be bactericidal toward *V. cholerae* serotype O1 (ATCC 14035). This study suggested that SPI could be a potential novel broad-spectrum antimicrobial agent for clinically relevant infectious diseases<sup>[187]</sup>.

### Aquatic environments

Marine environments are the largest source of microbes and new secondary microbial metabolites. The marine sources ranging from the seashore soil sediments to the depths of 10,000 metres<sup>[189]</sup> are rich sources of microbes. Furthermore, marine environment contains wide range of distinct microorganisms that are not present in terrestrial environment<sup>[45, 190, 191]</sup>. This may be attributed to the extremely different physical and chemical conditions as compared to the terrestrial conditions. It has been suggested that marine *Actinobacteria* exhibit distinct characteristics from those terrestrial counterparts and therefore produce more potentially novel bioactive compounds<sup>[190, 192]</sup>. Thus, marine environment is a potential source for isolation of novel *Actinobacteria* in which increasing evidences on the discovery of novel antibiotic and industrially important enzyme from marine *Actinobacteria*<sup>[193-196]</sup>. Likewise, 80% of the reviewed studies demonstrated the isolation of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from aquatic environments such as marine sediments, marine invertebrates and mangrove ecosystems.

### Marine sediments

Based on the literatures collected, a total of 38 strains of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity were isolated from marine sediments of diverse geographical locations. These diverse geographical locations include coastal lagoon sediment<sup>[144]</sup>, near-shore sediment<sup>[131]</sup>, shrimp culture pond<sup>[146]</sup> and submarine sediment (45m underwater)<sup>[139]</sup>. *Streptomyces* species found in virgin soil is expected to pro-

duce broad-spectrum antimicrobial compounds, hence rendering them to be successful in outcompeting others and effectively colonize the newly formed soil. Mitra *et al.* (2011)<sup>[197]</sup> suggested that the specific area favorable for obtaining maximum number of isolates with broad-spectrum activity in an estuarine setting is limited to the narrow band between the mean high and low tide marks. In brief, the samples collected from sites influenced by tides were suggested to exhibit a high antagonistic potential<sup>[198]</sup>. Mitra *et al.* (2008)<sup>[198]</sup> believed that antibacterial compound is required to aid in colonizing a newly formed top soil during the transition periods between high and low tides, thereby the periodic oscillations of dry and wet conditions trigger more antagonistic activity of *Actinobacteria*. In agreement with observations of Mitra *et al.* (2011)<sup>[197]</sup>, several marine sediment derived *Streptomyces* strains exhibiting broad antibacterial spectrum and surfactants producing ability were isolated from area constantly affected by tidal gradient in Minnie Bay, A & N islands, India<sup>[199]</sup>. Furthermore, the high nutrient availability and osmotic flux in the sampling site could be another reason for the broad-spectrum activities exhibited by these strains. For example, the ethyl acetate extract of the *Streptomyces* sp. NIOT-VKKMA02 displayed the maximum inhibitory activity against a classical O1, hypervirulent strain *V. cholerae* 569B (MTCC3904) with 20 mm inhibition zone measured at concentration of 50 µg<sup>[199]</sup>. Furthermore, studies demonstrated the purified DOPA melanin produced by *Streptomyces* sp. MVSC13 and MVSC6 isolated from the marine sediment of Versova coast, Mumbai, India (Lat. 19°28'26.32"N, Long. 72°48'07.21"E) exhibiting strong antibacterial activity against several fish and human *Vibrio* pathogens<sup>[137, 138]</sup>. Specialized media (Tyrosine asparagine medium) was employed to cultivate *Streptomyces* sp. MVSC13 and MVSC6 for the production of DOPA melanin which displayed good activity against *Vibrio* sp. FPO5 (from infected region of *Carassius auratus*, 16S rRNA 98% *V. parahaemolyticus*) (15±0.01mm), *V. fluvialis* RMMH10 (12±0.02mm), *V. splendidus* RMMH11 (9±0.02mm), *V. parahaemolyticus* RMMH12 (15±0.03)<sup>[137, 138]</sup>. Moreover, a new pyranosesquiterpene compound (**6**) was discovered from a strain *Streptomyces* sp. SCSIO 01689 isolated from submarine sediment, located 45m underwater of northern South China Sea (18°11'N, 109°32'E). The isolation of *Streptomyces* sp. SCSIO 01689 and the preparation method for its production of cyclic peptide type compounds were patented<sup>[139]</sup>. The patent disclosed the cyclic peptide type compounds, pyranosesquiterpene compound (**6**), Cyclo(D)-Pro-(D)-Ile (**7**), Cyclo(D)-Pro-(D)-Leu (**8**) and Cyclo(D)-trans-4-OH-Pro-(D)-Phe (**9**) exhibited potent anti-*Vibrio* activity, specifically against *V. anguillarum* with MIC measured at >100, 0.05, 0.04 and 0.07 µg/mL. Besides that, You *et al.* (2007)<sup>[200]</sup> indicated the metabolite of *Streptomyces* sp. A66 isolated from marine sediment was found to be effective in reducing the development of antibiofilm in *Vibrio* sp. The strain attenuated the biofilm formation of *V. harveyi* with 99.3% of inhibition rate and 74.6% of degradation rate at concentration of 2.5% (v/v)<sup>[140]</sup>. Another study also indicated that the antibiofilm activity of *Streptomyces* sp. A66 involved in the inhibition of the quorum sensing system of *Vibrio* sp. by reducing the *N*-acylated homoserine lactones activity

[200]. The *N*-acylated homoserine lactones are responsible for the coordination of virulence expression in response to density of surrounding bacterial population [200].

### Mangrove environment

Mangroves are located along the intertidal zones of estuaries, backwaters, deltas, marshes and mudflats along the tropical and subtropical regions. Mangrove ecosystem is a unique ecological niche which contains highly productive and diverse microbial community [201-204]. Similarly, the mangrove environment has been known to be potent reservoir for isolation of antibiotic-producing *Actinobacteria* [205]. Eccleston *et al.* (2008)[206] revealed that the ecology has great impact on the diversity of *Actinobacteria*. Higher population of *Actinobacteria* was isolated from mangrove mud sediments than the benthic communities associated with littoral sand sediments, freshwater creek and lake habitats. Eccleston *et al.* (2008)[206] suggested the low numbers of *Actinobacteria* from freshwater habitats and littoral sand sediments could be attributed to the low organic nutrient levels as compared to high nutrient habitats such as mangrove mud [206]. Accordingly, Hong *et al.* (2009)[35] also demonstrated the abundance of bioactive strains is correlated with ecological influences. A low number of bioactive strains was recorded from soil containing more sand and less organic matter while rhizosphere soil was rich source of bioactive strains [35].

By comparing the different isolation sources, the data showed that the *Streptomyces* strains derived from mangrove soil displayed the strongest antibacterial activity against *Vibrio* sp. with the highest median inhibition zone (21.0 mm), followed by marine sediment (15.0 mm), marine organisms (18.0 mm) and terrestrial soil (18.0 mm). This observation suggests that mangrove environments provides a better site for isolation of *Streptomyces* strains with 39.9% higher anti-*Vibrio* activity than those from marine sediment and water.

Mohana and Radhakrishnan (2014)[149] reported an anti-*Vibrio Streptomyces* sp. strain MA7 from mangrove rhizosphere sediment collected from Vellar estuary region at Parangipettai, Tamilnadu, India (11.4900°N; 79.7600°E). Strain MA7 displayed antibacterial activity towards several *Vibrio* sp. pathogens including *V. mimicus*, *V. cholerae* O1, *V. cholerae* O139 and *V. parahaemolyticus*. The methanol extract of strain *Streptomyces* sp. MA7 exhibited strong antibacterial activity against *V. parahaemolyticus* with 21 mm inhibition zone measured at concentration of 250 µg [149]. Furthermore, an aliphatic compound named as *N*-isopentyltridecanamide was identified from the ethyl acetate extract of strain *Streptomyces* ECR77 (16S rRNA 99% *S. labedae*) isolated from the mangrove sediment of East coast region, Pichavaram mangrove forest (Lat. 11.43°N, Long. 79.77°E). The ethyl acetate extract of *Streptomyces* ECR77 showed the maximum inhibitory activity against *V. cholerae*, *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. alginolyticus* with inhibition zones 13.66±0.47mm, 9.66±0.94 and 16.33±0.47mm measured at 25 µL concentration [152]. Similarly, Sengupta *et al.* (2015)[153] isolated three mangrove derived anti-*Vibrio Streptomyces* in Sundarbans, they displayed high antibacterial activity against *V. cholerae* (MCTC 3906) with the inhibition zone measured more than 25 mm and minimum

inhibitory concentration at 50 µg/mL.

### Marine animals and plants

*Streptomyces* species is also found to form symbioses with other organisms, most notably plants and invertebrates. In many cases, *Streptomyces* species showed protective mutualistic symbioses with the host in which the host provides nutrients and protections for the bacteria while the bacteria produce antibiotics to protect host from pathogens [49, 207]. Researches have indicated marine invertebrates which are sessile, such as sponges and corals are great sources of marine bioactive metabolites. These bioactive metabolites in these marine organisms were produced by the marine bioactive metabolite producing microorganisms as symbiotic relationships. For instance, theopaulamide, an anti-fungal bicyclic glycopeptide isolated from Palauan sponge, *Theonella swinhoei* has been confirmed to be originated from a novel delta-proteobacterium known as *Candidatus Entotheonella palauensis*, served as one of the first experimental evidences for microbial derived compounds from sponge [208].

There has been an increasing evidence of sponges and corals as the potential sources for isolation of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity. The comparison made earlier revealed that the *Streptomyces* isolated from marine organisms, such as sponges and corals, represent alternative sources for anti-*Vibrio Streptomyces*. These *Streptomyces* were isolated from marine sponges such as the *Calyspongia diffusa*, *Mycale mytilorum*, *Tedania anhelans* and *Dysidea fragilis* collected from Vizhinjam port (Lat. 8°22'30", Long. 76°59'16"E) located at Southwest coast of India [157]. The ethyl acetate extracts of these *Streptomyces* strains exhibited diverse strength of antibacterial activity toward both human and fish *Vibrio* pathogens such as the *V. harveyi*, *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. alginolyticus* with maximum inhibition zone measured up to 30 mm at 50 µg concentration [156]. Su *et al.* (2014)[159] reported the isolation of *Streptomyces* sp. HNS054 (16S rRNA 99% similarity to *S. labedae*) from marine sponges, *Mycale* sp. collected from Gulei Port, Fujian, China (Lat. 23.74, Long. 117.59) exhibiting antibacterial activity against both *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. diabolicus*, with 10-15 mm inhibition zone observed against *V. parahaemolyticus*. The study suggested that *Streptomyces* sp. strain HNS054 may play an important in conferring a chemical defensive mechanism to protect the sponges from pathogenic *Vibrio* sp. which are associated with mortality of marine animals [159]. The detection of these *Streptomyces* strains with secondary metabolite production further support the facts that sponges or marine invertebrates are important source of biologically active compounds [209, 210].

Coral is also a potential source to isolate *Streptomyces* sp. with genetic capacity to produce diverse potentially bioactive molecules which may contribute to the chemical defense of coral holobionts [162, 163]. There were 4 studies (6%) reported the isolation of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from different species of corals, including the *Acropora digitifera* [211], *Melitodes squamata* [212], *Porites lutea*, *Galaxea fascicularis* [213], *Sarcophyton glaucum* [160]. Li *et al.* (2014)[213] reported a total of four different species of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity in the coral

samples collected from Lu Hui Tou fringing reef (18°13'N, 109°28'E). The ethyl acetate extracts of these *Streptomyces* showed different degree of anti-*Vibrio* activity against both pathogenic *V. coralliilyticus* ATCC BAA-450 isolated from diseased coral *Pocillopora damicornis* and *V. alginolyticus* serotype XII ATCC 17749 isolated from spoiled horse mackerel which caused food poisoning. The highest anti-*Vibrio* activity was displayed by *Streptomyces* sp. SCSIO11717 (16S rRNA 100% *S. viridodiatitatus* NBRC13106) with zone of inhibition of 12.3±2.5mm measured at 20 mg/mL as compared to the standard drug, ciprofloxacin (20 mg/mL) with 15±1mm against the pathogenic *V. alginolyticus* [213]. Furthermore, *Streptomyces* sp. SCSIO 11527 (16S rRNA 100% *S. fomicarius*) with anti-*Vibrio* activity isolated from coral *Galaxea fascicularis* was positive for PKS-II gene with 90% similarity to ketoacyl synthase from *S. argillaceus*, suggesting its potential in producing anthracycline-related compounds [163]. This finding was supported with one of the previous study demonstrated the production of nanaomycins A (**10**) and D (**11**) by *Streptomyces rosa* var. *notoensis* OS-3966 isolated from a soil sample collected at Nanao-shi in Noto Peninsula, Japan [214]. The study showed that both nanaomycins A (**10**) and D (**11**), anthracycline/anthraquinone antibiotics exhibited strong inhibitory activity against both marine pathogens, *V. alginolyticus* 138-2 and *V. parahaemolyticus* K-1 [214].

Besides marine sponges and corals, seaweed is also another source for anti-*Vibrio* *Streptomyces*. There were 3 studies reported the presence of *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity from seaweeds collected from intertidal rocky surfaces at Muttom coast, Southwest coast of India (8°7'15"N, 77°1'E) [170]. According to Hollants *et al.* (2013) [215], the macroalgal-bacterial interactions are not unusual. In fact, it has been evidenced that the production of antimicrobial compounds by the microorganism is to protect the algae surface from pathogens, herbivores and fouling organisms. Interestingly, a strain *Streptomyces* sp. strain AQB.SKKU20 derived from seaweed was expressing antagonistic activity towards *Vibrio* sp. after the exposure to ethidium bromide, suggested that the mutations induced by ethidium bromide stimulates antibiotic production [168]. Furthermore, study also indicated that *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity isolated from seaweeds could be used as probiotics and biocontrol agents against vibriosis in aquaculture [169]. This study demonstrated that the incorporation of the anti-*Vibrio* strains of *Streptomyces* in the probiotic feed resulted in higher percentage of survival rate of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* prawn juveniles with no external disease manifestations after challenged with pathogenic *V. vulnificus* at 10<sup>5</sup> CFU/mL which caused up to 79.2% mortality in control group with no *Streptomyces* as probiotic [169].

#### APPLICATION OF ANTI-VIBRIO COMPOUNDS PRODUCING *STREPTOMYCES* sp. IN AQUACULTURE

*Streptomyces* sp. constitute a group of industrially and clinically important microorganisms [40, 42, 115, 216] that produce valuable compounds including antibiotics [41], antitumor agents, antiparasitic, immunosuppressive agents and enzymes [45]. Being the fact having an immense potential for bioactive secondary metabolites production, *Streptomyces*

has the advantage of producing potential antagonistic and antimicrobial compounds can be valuable as biocontrol agent against *Vibrio* pathogens in aquaculture [217]. The production of antagonistic compounds renders *Streptomyces* sp. capable to compete for nutrients and attachment sites in the host. For example, *Streptomyces* sp. was reported to produce siderophores which could influence the growth of pathogenic *Vibrio* sp. [140]. Siderophores are ferric ion-specific chelating agents which aiding the *Streptomyces* sp. to compete for iron in the aquatic environment [218]. Studies have indicated that the intracellular iron concentration is essential for biofilm formation and development in bacteria and also the *Vibrio* sp. [219-221]. Mey *et al.* (2005)[221] revealed the wild-type *V. cholerae* suffered poor biofilm formation in iron-deficient medium and also elucidated the role *rhyB* gene in iron homeostasis to biofilm formation as the *rhyB* mutant *V. cholerae* was unable to form wild-type biofilm in low-iron medium. Biofilm formation plays many imperative roles in *Vibrio* sp. for their survival, virulence and environmental stressors resistance [53]. Biofilms serve to render *Vibrio* sp. more protected and less susceptible to antimicrobial agents and hence difficult to control. The discovery of *Streptomyces* strains with ability to produce siderophores is providing a new approach in controlling *Vibrio* sp. in aquaculture settings as biofilms are considered a reservoir for some pathogenic *Vibrio* sp. that can cause detrimental effects on the cultured livestock in aquaculture. Moreover, studies also revealed the production inhibitory compounds with anti-quorum sensing [200] and anti-virulence activities [186] targeting *Vibrio* sp. by *Streptomyces* sp. These promising anti-*Vibrio* activities also further strengthen the view of the applicability of *Streptomyces* in aquaculture as an alternative biocontrol agent against *Vibrio* sp. [217].

#### CONCLUSION

There is an urgent need to search for new therapeutic drugs, especially antibiotics due to the rapid increase of resistance in *Vibrio* sp. pathogens to the major front-line antibiotics. Thus, extensive effort is required by the researchers focusing on the screening and isolation of promising strains of *Streptomyces* with antimicrobial properties. The information and knowledge obtained in this review could help in selecting the potential sources of isolation and as a guide for future bioprospectors in finding antibiotic-producing *Streptomyces*, especially against *Vibrio* spp. Based on the findings of this review, mangrove sediment could be a better source for *Streptomyces* with anti-*Vibrio* activity. Nevertheless, there is still limited studies on the investigation of the exact antibacterial mechanisms of these *Streptomyces* derived bioactive metabolites against the *Vibrio* pathogens. Therefore, future studies on the elucidating the antibacterial mechanisms of these *Streptomyces* are warranted. As a whole, these anti-*Vibrio* *Streptomyces* represent a valuable source for future development of clinically important drugs to treat infections caused by *V. cholerae*, *V. parahaemolyticus* and *V. vulnificus* in clinical settings as well as to be applied as probiotics to control vibriosis in aquaculture.

## Author Contributions

The literature review and manuscript writing were performed by LT-HT, L-HL and B-HG. L-HL and B-HG founded the research project.

## Conflict of Interest

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.

## Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the Monash University Malaysia ECR Grant (5140077-000-00), MOSTI eScience Fund (02-02-10-SF0215 and 06-02-10-SF0300).

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