

Dr. Paul Rowley's Lab: The discovery of new antibiotics produced by yeasts

Antibiotic-resistant fungi pose a challenge to reducing mortality rates of invasive fungal diseases in humans. We are using brewer's/baker's yeast to develop new antibiotics to combat these life-threatening infections. We have already identified several novel antifungal proteins that have the ability to kill human pathogenic fungi. Importantly, these antifungal proteins are produced by viruses that infect yeasts. Therefore, we are interested in understanding more about these viruses and the biological properties of their antifungal proteins. The lab uses a combination of microbiology, virology, and molecular biology to better understand host-virus interactions and to develop antifungal proteins produced by yeasts as new therapeutics to fight fungal diseases.

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