

# Homology Modeling, Virtual Screening and ADME Prediction Studies on LukS Subunit Protein from *Staphylococcus aureus* †

Vishnu Priya Veeraraghavan <sup>1</sup>, Malathi Kullappan <sup>2</sup>, Jenifer Mallavarapu Ambrose <sup>2</sup>, Sardar Hussain <sup>3</sup>, Surapaneni Krishna Mohan <sup>4,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Biochemistry, Saveetha Dental College, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (SIMATS), Saveetha University, 162, P. H. Road, Velappanchavadi, Chennai – 600 077, Tamil Nadu, India

<sup>2</sup> Department of Research, Panimalar Medical College Hospital & Research Institute, Varadharajapuram, Poonamallee, Chennai – 600 123, Tamil Nadu, India

<sup>3</sup> Department of Biotechnology, Government Science College, Chitradurga-577501, Karnataka, India

<sup>4</sup> Department of Biochemistry, Department of Clinical Skills & Simulation and Department of Research, Panimalar Medical College Hospital & Research Institute, Varadharajapuram, Poonamallee, Chennai – 600 123, Tamil Nadu, India

\* Correspondence: [krishnamohan.surapaneni@gmail.com](mailto:krishnamohan.surapaneni@gmail.com);

† Presented at Virtual symposium to observe World Antimicrobial Awareness week “Applications of biotechnology and microbiology with special emphasis on Antimicrobial resistance”, 18-24 November 2020, Chennai, India

Received: 10.11.2020; Revised: 15.11.2020; Accepted: 17.11.2020; Published: 10.01.2021

**Abstract:** (1) Background: *Staphylococcus aureus*, a gram-positive coccal bacterium, is responsible for many diseases ranging from minor skin infection to life-threatening diseases such as pneumonia, meningitis, and septicemia. Luks, a major protein of *Staphylococcus aureus* is responsible for pore formation in the transmembrane of macrophages and polymorphnuclearleuckocytes. To date, the crystal structure is unavailable for this LukS protein. (2) Methods: To elucidate the three-dimensional structure of this protein, homology modeling has been performed using MODELLER 9.10 software. In order to make out a potent inhibitor, virtual screening has been performed using the Binding database. (3) Results: We found that compound ids 7694, 7695, 8285, 6817, and 7696 have abetter docking score, docking energy, and drug-like properties. (4) Conclusion: Experimental validation of these compounds could emerge as a potent inhibitor against LukS subunit protein in *Staphylococcus aureus*.

**Keywords:** *Staphylococcus aureus*; LukS subunit; homology modeling; secondary structure prediction; virtual screening; ADME properties.

© 2021 by the authors. This article is an open-access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

## Funding

This research received no external funding.

## Acknowledgments

This research has no acknowledgment.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.