

Save

Email

Send to

Display options 

Review > [Surg Infect \(Larchmt\)](#). 2009 Jun;10(3):289-92. doi: 10.1089/sur.2008.9941.

History of the medical use of silver

J Wesley Alexander ¹

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 19566416 DOI: 10.1089/sur.2008.9941

Abstract

Background: Silver has been used extensively throughout recorded history for a variety of medical purposes.

Methods: A review of the literature in English was undertaken, primarily using PUBMED, to identify the medical uses of silver before the clinical introduction of antibiotics in the 1940s.

Results: Silver has been used for at least six millennia to prevent microbial infections. It has been effective against almost all organisms tested and has been used to treat numerous infections and noninfectious conditions, sometimes with striking success. Silver also has played an important role in the development of radiology and in improving wound healing.

Conclusion: Silver was the most important antimicrobial agent available before the introduction of antibiotics.

FULL TEXT LINKS



ACTIONS

“ Cite

📌 Collections

SHARE



PAGE NAVIGATION

< Title & authors

Abstract

Similar articles