

Supporting Information

Electrospun fibres encapsulating essential oils as natural antimicrobial wound dressings

I. Liakos,^{*a} L. Rizzello,^{b,c} H. Hajiali,^{a,d} V. Brunetti,^b R. Carzino,^a P. P. Pompa,^b A. Athanassiou^{*a}
and E. Mele^{*}

^a Smart Materials, Nanophysics, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (IIT), via Morego 30, 16163 Genoa, Italy.

ioannis.liakos@iit.it; athanassia.athanassiou@iit.it; elisa.mele@iit.it.

^b Center for Biomolecular Nanotechnologies, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia @UniLe, via Barsanti, 73010 Arnesano, Lecce, Italy.

^c Present address: Present address: Department of Chemistry, and Centre for Molecular and Medical Virology, University College London (UCL), 20 Gordon Street, WC1H 0AJ, London, United Kingdom.

^d DIBRIS, University of Genoa, Via Opera Pia 13, 16145, Genoa, Italy.

Solution in acetone	Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
CA	22.1
CA/cinnamon (5%)	21.5
CA/lemongrass (5%)	18.2
CA/peppermint (5%)	19.2

Table S1: Conductivity measurements of the acetone solutions used for the electrospinning process.

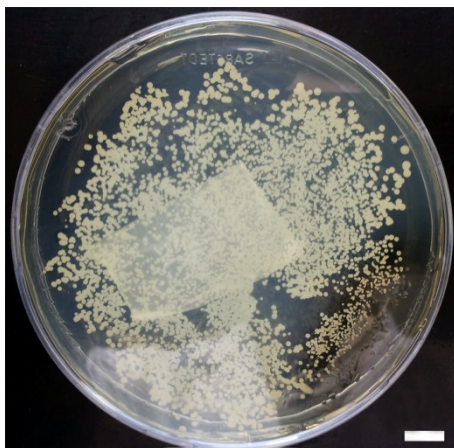


Figure S1: Photograph of *C. albicans* cells colonising a CA fibrous scaffold. Scale bar = 0.5 cm.

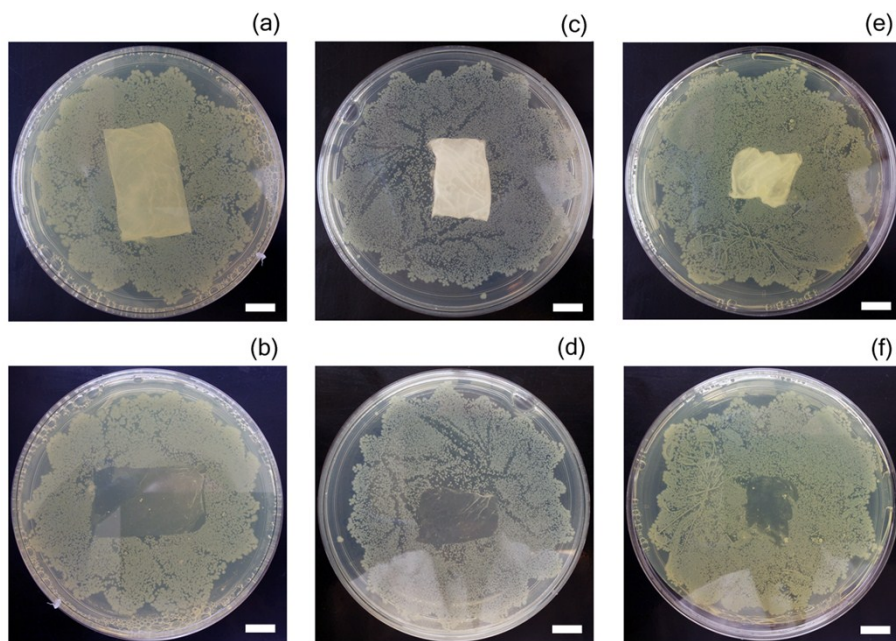


Figure S2: Testing the antibacterial properties against *E. Coli* of electrospun fibres of (a, b) CA/1-CN, (c, d) CA/1-LG, and (e, f) CA/1-PM. Bacterial growth (a, c, e) before and (b, d, f) after the removal of the samples. Scale bar = 0.5 cm.

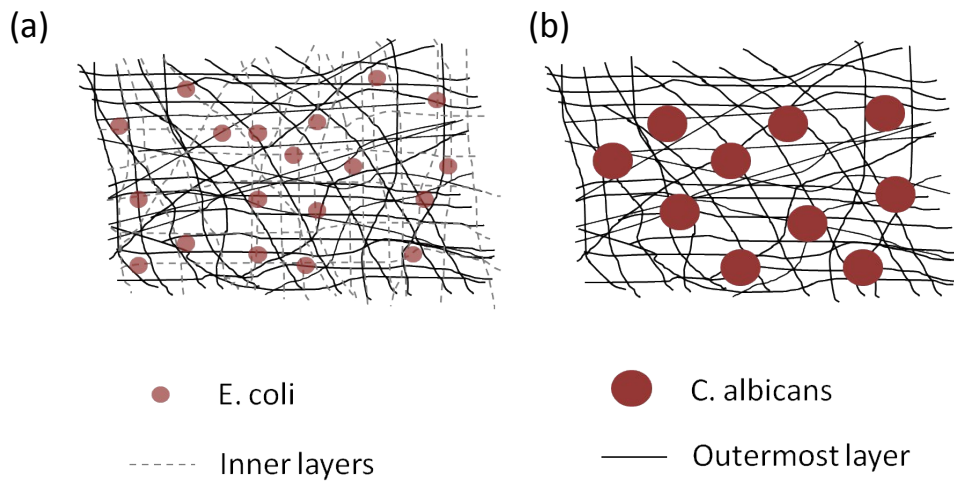


Figure S3. Schematic illustration of the proposed mechanism of interaction of (a) *E. coli* and (b) *C. albicans* with the studied CA-EO fibres.

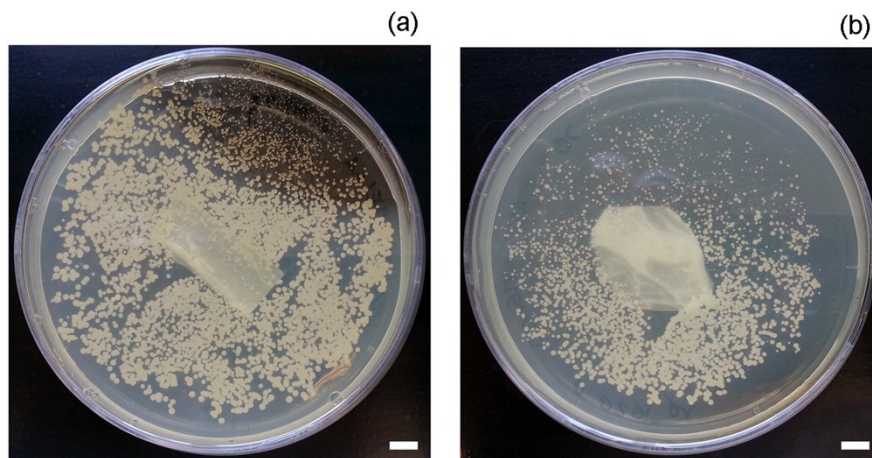


Figure S4: Testing *in-vitro* the antibacterial properties of CA fibres loaded with (a) Cinnamon (5%) and (b) Peppermint oil (5%). Scale bar = 0.5 cm.

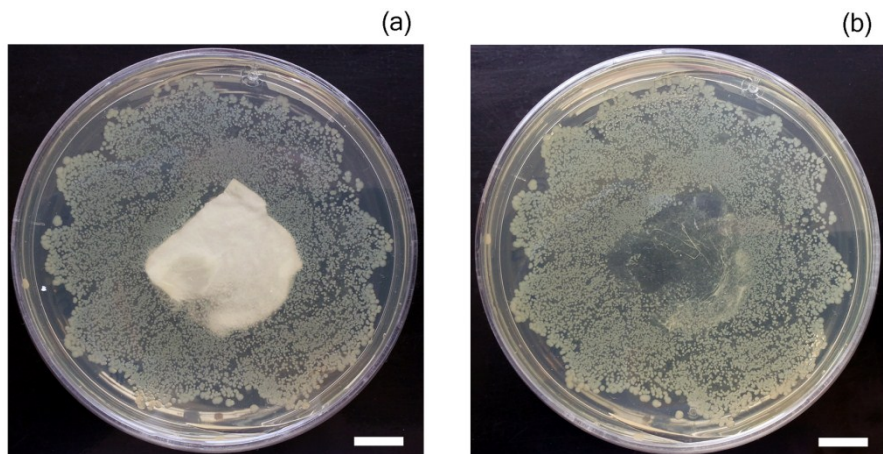


Figure S5: Testing *in-vitro* the antibacterial properties of (a) CA fibres loaded with Peppermint oil, after 2 months of storage in ambient conditions, (b) after removal of the fibres for better visualisation of the antibacterial region. Scale bar = 0.5 cm.