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Title: Use of bacterial surrogates as a tool to explore antimalarial drug interaction: synergism between inhibitors of malarial dihydrofolate reductase and dihydropteroate synthase

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1 **Use of bacterial surrogates as a tool to explore antimalarial drug interaction: synergism between inhibitors of**  
2 **malarial dihydrofolate reductase and dihydropteroate synthase**

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13 **Highlights**

- 14 • *E. coli* expressing malarial DHPS and DHFR was used as a model for antifolate  
15 combination assay.  
16 • Host DHPS was suppressed genetically while DHFR was optimally inhibited by 0.05  $\mu$ M  
17 trimethoprim.  
18 • Marked synergism was found in all pairs of PYR and sulfa drugs even without trimethoprim  
19 added.  
20 • This model is useful for antifolate combination assay without interference from folate  
21 salvage.

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