ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITIES OF SELECTED PLANTS OF FAMILY ASCLEPIADACEAE AND APOCYNACEAE

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ABSTRACT

The crude leaf extracts of selected plants of Family Asclepiadaceae: *Calotropis gigantea* (Willd) Dryand ex Aiton*, Dischidia oiantha* Schltr.*, Hoya sp.* and Family Apocynaceae : *Nerium oleander* L.*, Plumeria obtusa* L*,* and *Allamanda cathartica* L. were prepared using 95% ethyl alcohol. The crude extracts were screened for antimicrobial activity using paper disk diffusion, minimum inhibitory concentration and minimum bactericidal concentration against *Escherichia coli* Migula, Castellani and Chalmers*, Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Schroter*, Bacillus cereus* Frankland and Frankland*, Staphylococcus aureus* Rosenbach*, Candida albicans* C.P. Robin, Berkhout *and Trichophyton sp.* The result showed that among selected plants of Family Asclepiadaceae, crude leaf extracts of *D. oiantha* showed the highest antimicrobial activity on *B. cereus* followed by the crude leaf extracts of *Hoya sp.* on *B. cereus.* The crude leaf extracts of *D. oiantha* and *Hoya sp.* were very active in inhibiting the growth of *B. cereus,* with 29 mm and 26 mm zone of inhibition respectively ; both extracts showed a minimum inhibitory concentration of 50 mg/ml and a minimum bactericidal concentration of 100 mg/ml on *B. cereus.* Among selected plants of Family Apocynaceae, the crude leaf extracts of *P. obtusa* showed the highest antimicrobial activity against *S. aureus. P. obtusa* crude leaf extracts were very active in inhibiting the growth of *S. aureus* with zone inhibition of 26 mm, a minimum inhibitory concentration of 50 mg/ml and minimum bactericidal concentration of 50 mg/ml.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES