



**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.



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