ANTIFUNGAL EFFECT OF SELECTED PLANT METHANOLIC EXTRACTS AGAINST Candida albicans and Fusarium oxysporum

THESIS

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THESIS/SP 579.5 F84 2015

October 2015

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Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of the
Department of Medical Technology
College of Nursing
Cavite State University
Indang, Cavite

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology



Antifungal effect of selected plant methanolic extracts against Condida 579.5 F84 2015 T-5896

MARK MHARDHIN M. FRANCIA MARLYN L. MOJICA JETHRO L. PIORES October 2015

ABSTRACT

FRANCIA, MARK MHARDHIN M., MOJICA, MARLYN L., & PIORES, JETHRO L. Antifungal Effect of Selected Plant Methanolic Extracts Against Candida albicans and Fusarium oxysporum. Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. October 2015. Adviser: Dr. Adelaida E. Sangalang.

The study was conducted at the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), University of the Philippines Los Baños from April to June 2014. The study generally aimed to compare the levels of antifungal activity of six selected leaf extracts of: *Mangifera indica* (mango), *Averrhoa bilimbi* (kamias), *Psidium guajava* (guava), *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (jackfruit), *Annona muricata* (soursop), and *Carica papaya* (papaya) against *Candida albicans* and *Fusarium oxysporum*.

Plant leaf samples were sent to the University of the Philippines Los Baños Herbarium for authentication. The samples were air dried, ground and extracted using methanol. Candida albicans and Fusarium oxysporum were procured from Philippine National Collection of Microorganisms (PNCM) at the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (BIOTECH), University of the Philippines Los Baños. Antimicrobial assay was done by cylinder-cup technique and results were obtained by measuring the zone of inhibition (mm) after 2 days and 4 days of incubation for Candida albicans and Fusarium oxysporum, respectively.

The methanolic leaf extracts of guava and mango exhibited high antifungal activity against *Candida albicans*. On the other hand, kamias, jackfruit, soursop and papaya have a low antifungal activity. Guava and mango leaf extracts were significantly more effective compared to the four leaf extracts. These plant extracts contained a lot of

active antifungal component, such as, tannins, flavonoid, terpenoids and glycosides. Fusarium oxysporum showed susceptibility to the fungicide used but yielded resistance to the six plant methanolic extracts. The results indicate that the substrate in which each test fungus cleaved different results. C. albicans was significantly inhibited by guava and mango extracts. The extracts can be used as an alternative for the commercial fungicide, such as itraconazole. However, Fusarium oxysporum is resistant to all the six methanolic leaf extracts.

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An undergraduate thesis manuscript submitted to the faculty of the Department of Medical Technology, College of Nursing, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite in partial fulfilment of the requirements for graduation with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology with Contribution Number SP CON MT No. 2015-07. Prepared under the supervision of Dr. Adelaida E. Sangalang.

INTRODUCTION

The art of medicine consists in amusing the patient while nature cures the disease, truly this the remarkable truth behind the whole idea of medicine. The threat of different public health issues regarding untreatable infections due pathological resistance develop by microorganisms as a result of continuous exposure to the drugs that acts as arsenals of war in the fight against different human pathogens. Fungal infections which is widely disseminated around is one of the emerging concern of public health, thus familiarity of this infection is not only the burden but the long term treatment that is needed to kill it completely. *Candida albicans*, fungi that is specifically a human pathogen that is wide spread among all human beings, having a percentage of 80 in all human population around the globe. They commonly inhibit the gut and clinically cause disease for those who are immune compromised, such as HIV patients, further more they cause two major types of infections local and systemic, sample of local infections that it manifest