A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION ON THE ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF *Luffa cylindrica* (PATOLA) LEAF EXTRACT

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Four concentrations were prepared (100%, 75%, 50%, and 25%) from the Patola (*Luffa cylindrica*) leaf extract. Positive and negative controls were made in order to have a basis for comparison with the other four Patola leaf extract concentrations. Negative controls were purely sterilized distilled water, while the positive controls used were Amoxicillin for bacteria and Mycostatin for *Candida albicans*. The effectiviness of these concentrations was tested on the growth of the five selected microorganisms namely: *Staphylococcus aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *S. saprophyticus*, *C. albicans* and *Microsporum canis*. *M. canis* did not exhibit any growth and had no significant difference. Patola was found to inhibit the growth of *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis* and *S. saprophyticus* at 100% concentration. Patola leaf concentration of 75% weakly inhibited the growth of *S. epidermidis* and *S. aureus*. Concentrations of 50%, and 25% showed negative inhibitory activity. *Candida albicans* in all four concentrations showed negative inhibitory activities. The minimum inhibitory activity that was able to inhibit bacterial growth was at 75% leaf extract concentration.