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Antifungal activity of *Stachys acerosa* Boiss extract on *Candida* species isolated from Oral Candidiasis

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Background and Purpose: Dental caries is one of the most important global health problems. Yeasts, including *Candida* species, are also found in the oral cavity as a normal flora. An alternative approach to overcoming these issues may be the use of natural and phytochemical antimicrobials. The Middle East is exclusively used for medicinal plants used to treat diseases and infections in traditional medicine for thousands of years (1-3). On the other hand, the most of these synthetic antimicrobial products have some adverse effects, which make them less popular. Hence, the aim of this study was to evaluate the antifungal properties of *Stachys acerosa* extracts against *Candida* species.

Materials and Methods: In this study, we assessed the activities of *Stachys acerosa* leaf extracts against *Candida* species, including *C. albicans*, *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis*, using the agar-well diffusion method.

Results: The minimal inhibitory concentrations (MICs) values of fruit and leaf extracts from *Stachys acerosa* leaf extracts ranged 3.12-12.5 mg/ml against the tested *Candida*.

Conclusion: Based on the results, the ethanolic extracts of the selected plants exhibited antifungal potency against the tested fungi and could be used as an alternative natural antifungal agent and recommended to be used in the formulation of herbal mouthwash and toothpaste in future researches.

Biography

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