

***In Vitro* Antibacterial activity of Ethanolic - aqua extract of *Tagetes minuta* leaves.**

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ABSTRACT:

Tagetes minuta is a plant that has been used in traditional medicine for the treatment of various illnesses. In this study, the ethanolic extract of *T. minuta* was tested for its antibacterial activity against selected microorganisms of clinical significance. In an antibiotic susceptibility assay using the plant extract and DMSO control, the results from the study showed that the extract was active against *Proteus vulgaris* with zone of inhibition of 17.30±0.333mm, *Escherichia coli* 9.30±0.333mm, *Salmonella typhi* 11.83±0.44mm, *Bacillus cereus* 8.00±0.000 and *Enterobacter aerogenes* 16.67±0.882mm. The penicillin positive control showed high zones of inhibition while the DMSO negative control showed no zones of inhibition. An analysis of variance test on the results showed that there were significant differences in the zones of inhibition of the extract and penicillin against all the organisms (p<0.0001). These results have shown that the growth of these organisms can be controlled with the extract, hence making the extract components potential agents for incorporation into drug production.

KEYWORDS: Tagetes minuta, Asteraceae, Antibacterial activity, Ethanol, Extract, Leaves.
