

Antifungal properties of *Allium sativum* extracts on *Candida* species

ABSTRACT

Candida albicans, *Candida tropicalis* and *Candida krusei* frequently cause many infections in immunodeficient humans. The infection invariably becomes invasive and disseminate to other body sites. Tests of antifungal effect of *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), *Peperomia pellucida* (“ketumpang air”) and *Allium sativum* (Garlic) extracts on the three *Candida* species through paper disc diffusion method showed that all the three *Candida* species were resistant to *A. indica* and *P. pellucida*, but susceptible to *A. sativum* extract. Subsequently, the effect of different concentrations of garlic extract on the growth of *C. albicans* was evaluated to determine the IC50 and LD50. The effect of garlic extract suggests that sublethal doses can reduce the colonization of *Candida* species in the oral cavity of humans by suppressing the virulent hyphal growth form.

Keyword: *Azadirachta indica*; *Peperomia pellucida*; *Allium sativum*; *Candida* species