



PP 25

Anti-biofilm effect of Ayurvedic preparations: TripalaChurna and aqueous extract of Mimusopselengibark

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Introduction

Oral biofilms are complexmicrobial communities, which serve as a protective niche for pathogens. Biofilm organisms are resistant to antimicrobials. Herbal preparations have minimum side effects and are potential antimicrobials.

Objectives

We investigated the anti-biofilmeffect of bark of Mimusopselengi(Munamal)and Tripalachurnaconsisting of Aralu/Terminaliachebula, Bulu/Terminaliabellirica and Nelli/Emblicaofficinalis used in ayurvedic medicine.

Methodology

Inhibitory effect ofbark of Mimusopselengiand Tripalachurnawere investigated against both planktonicC. albicans and C. tropicalisby agar well diffusion method. Chlorhexidinegluconate0.2% was used as the control. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration for planktonic Candida was determined by alamar blue assay and Minimum Biofilm Inhibitory Concentration was determined by MTT (3-(4, 5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2, 5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay. Time to kill assay for mature biofilms was performed. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) was done to assess biofilm architecture before and after treatment.

Results

Triphalainhibited the growth of both planktonic Candida species and biofilms of Candida species. Chlorhexidinegluconate (0.2%) effectively reduced metabolic activity of Candida biofilms within 30 seconds of exposure. SEM revealed that the cell density of C. albicans biofilm had increased while the cell number of C. tropicalisbiofilm was significantly reduced after 48 hours Triphala treatment compared to negative controls:

Conclusion

Triphala had shown an inhibitory effect against biofilms of C. tropicalis. But not against C. albicans. However Triphala had a lesser inhibitory effect than 0.2% chlorhexidinegluconate.