



MB_013
Bacteriological Study Of Multidrug-resistant Isolates From Locally Produced
Hibiscus (Zobo) Drink Sold In North Central, Nigeria

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With the predominance of multidrug-resistant (MDR) bacteria among the populace, edible foods and drinks are fast becoming a major concern in most communities. Three (3) samples of locally prepared hibiscus drinks from three locations were aseptically collected and transported to the Microbiology Laboratory of the Federal University of Technology, Minna. Samples were serially diluted and were inoculated on various media through the spread plate method. The bacterial isolates were identified based on their Gram reaction and other biochemical tests. The antibiotic susceptibility tests were carried out on the bacterial isolates using the disc diffusion method on Muller hinton agar. The result revealed that out of all the locally prepared drinks sampled, Zobo (3.4×10^3) from the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Bosso campus had the highest microbial count. Various bacterial pathogens were isolated and identified with *Salmonella* spp. having the highest frequency of occurrence (25%). The antibiotic susceptibility tests revealed that all bacterial isolates were Multidrug-resistant and as such are a great threat to the health of the general public especially the regular consumers of these locally prepared drinks. Hence, there is a need for adequate and continuous surveillance by food regulatory bodies in Nigeria, to curtail the spread and infections associated with Multidrug resistant bacteria.

Keywords: Locally prepared drinks; Multi-drug resistant bacteria; Zobo

MB_014
Seroprevalence of Chikungunya virus in Children Presenting with Febrile illness in Lagos

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Chikungunya Virus (CHIKV) belongs to the family *Togaviridae* causing a debilitating mosquito borne disease known as chikungunya fever, a febrile illness. CHIKV is an important threat to public health but has poor surveillance and management in Nigeria. This study was carried out to determine the prevalence of CHIKV among children with febrile conditions attending a health facility in Lagos state, Nigeria. Socio-demographic variables were collected using a structured questionnaire. A total of 150 blood samples of febrile patients aged 0-14 years comprising 78 (52%) males and 72 (48%) females were collected, RNA was extracted from the serum samples and amplified using one-step RT-PCR with specific CHIKV primers. The resulting amplicons (172bp) were run on 2% agarose gel and viewed on gel imager for the presence of CHIKV. A total of 11 (7.3%) serum samples were positive for CHIKV RNA. The positive samples consist of 5 (3.3%) males and 6 (4%) females ($P > 0.05$). All the positive samples were from children aged 1-10 years. The common symptom observed in CHIKV positive individuals in this study was high fever which was observed in all cases. This study reveals that most febrile illnesses that are treated as presumptive malaria, often without proper medical examination and laboratory diagnosis, may actually have febrile illnesses of viral etiology. It is therefore recommended that all patients presenting with febrile illness and are negative for malaria test or other common related diseases should be investigated for CHIKV infection and other arboviruses.

Keywords: Chikungunya, Febrile illness, RT-PCR, Prevalence, Lagos

