








ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Evaluation of Antibacterial Activity of Selected Medicinal Plant on Extended Spectrum β -lactamase Producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium

Christiana Inuaesiet Edemekong^{1,2*} , Anulika Goodness Chukwujekwu³ , Maria Ezinne Okorie⁴ ,
Evangeline Udenweze³ , Ijeoma Frederica Obodoechi¹ , Ifeoma Precious Ogbonna^{5,6}  and NseAbasi Peter Livinus¹ 

¹Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health Care Services, Federal University of Allied Health Science, Trans-Ekulu, Enugu, Nigeria

²Department of Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria

³Department of Applied Microbiology and Brewing, Faculty of Biosciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra, Nigeria

⁴Department of Medical Biochemistry, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Federal University of Allied Health Science, Trans-Ekulu, Enugu, Nigeria

⁵Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, David Umahi Federal University of Health Science, Uburu, Ebonyi State, Nigeria

⁶International Institute for Infectious Disease, Biosafety and Biosecurity, Uburu, Ebonyi State, Nigeria

ABSTRACT

The growing prevalence of ESBL-producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium in typhoid fever patients, with resistance to most antibiotics, has heightened the need for plant-based remedies. This study was designed to evaluate the antibacterial activity of selected medicinal plants on ESBL-producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium from a clinical sample in Nigeria. A total of 200 blood samples were collected from patients suspected of typhoid fever and analyzed using standard microbiological techniques for isolation and characterization on the VITEK 2 system. *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium was screened for ESBL genes by Polymerase Chain Reaction specific primers. The antibacterial activity of ethanol extract from siam weed, bush cane, neem, Brazilian tea leaves, garlic, and ginger cloves was performed using the Agar well diffusion Technique. Of the 200 samples, *S. Typhi* accounted for 159(79.5 %). The amplification of the ESBL gene revealed a high proportion of CTX-M ($n=159/100$ %) followed by SHV ($n=81/50.9$ %) and TEM ($n=52/32.7$ %). The results of the antibacterial activity of Brazilian tea, siam weed, neem, and ginger indicate that the extracts were effective at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentrations ranging from 100-46.0%. Garlic had no antibacterial effect at 25mg/ml concentration, while All ESBL-producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium demonstrated resistance to bush cane extract across various concentrations. Since this study marks the first report of the antibacterial activity of these medicinal plant extracts on strain harboring such genotype, their prudent and judicious utilization is required in ethnobotanical/human medicine in treating ESBL-associated infectious diseases. There should be guidelines and regulations on the appropriate use of antibiotics to avert drug resistance and the spread of β -lactamase and other resistant determinants to susceptible strains.

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received October 03, 2024

Accepted December 27, 2024

Published January 06, 2025

KEYWORDS

Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium, ESBL, antibacterial activity, medicinal plant



© The authors. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License

(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>)

INTRODUCTION

Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium (*S. Typhimurium*) is a major pathogenic serotype or serovars associated with human disease acquired from various animal and their food products (Thung *et al.*, 2018; Worku *et al.*, 2022). The common risk predictor of *S. Typhi* infection is marked by poor hygiene and low socioeconomic status (Akinyemi *et al.*, 2022; Awol *et al.*, 2021; Jajere, 2019). *S. Typhi* causes typhoid fever, which manifests as Salmonellosis accompanied by abdominal pain, cough, fever, malaise, headache, and nausea (Popa and Papa, 2021; Basnyat *et al.*, 2021). The fatality rate of disease accounts for 10-30% of

cases; when properly managed, the fatality rate may decrease and account for 1-4 % (Akinyemi *et al.*, 2022; Popa and Papa, 2021). In the 1970s, the management and treatment of *S. Typhi* were achievable with effective first-line therapeutic agents such as β -lactams (ampicillin), trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole and chloramphenicol (Akinyemi *et al.*, 2022).

However, the rapid emergence and dissemination of multi-drug resistant (MDR) isolates have truncated the efficacy of these therapeutic agents (Saeed *et al.*, 2020; Pereira and Shah, 2020).

Correspondence: Christiana Inuaesiet Edemekong. Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health Care Services, Federal University of Allied Health Science, Trans-Ekulu, P.M.B. 01473, Enugu, Nigeria. ✉ christianainuaesietedemekong@gmail.com

How to cite: Edemekong, C. I., Chukwujekwu, A. G., Okorie, M. E., Udenweze, E., Obodoechi, I. F., Ogbonna, I. P., & Livinus, N. P. (2025). Evaluation of Antibacterial Activity of Selected Medicinal Plant on Extended Spectrum β -lactamase Producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium. *UMYU Scientifica*, 4(1), 28 – 36. <https://doi.org/10.56919/usci.2541.003>

Over the years, in the absence of no available treatment option, β -lactams have been extensively used to treat typhoid fever. The increase and extensive use of these drugs has resulted in an outbreak of β -lactams-resistant *S. Typhi* (Mather *et al.*, 2013; Saeed *et al.*, 2020; Pereira and Shah, 2020; Gberikon *et al.*, 2020; Ibrahim *et al.*, 2022).

The use of β -lactam drugs as growth promoters in food-producing animals (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2022; Primeau *et al.*, 2023) necessitates careful regulation to mitigate public health risks, including the rise of *Salmonella Typhi* and antibiotic resistance. This resistance is primarily due to beta-lactamase enzymes (Extended-Spectrum β -lactamases or ESBLs) produced by certain bacteria, which can hydrolyze the β -lactam ring in antibiotics, rendering them ineffective. (Joseph *et al.*, 2023). ESBLs are inhibited by β -lactam inhibitors (Tazobactam or Sulbactam Clavulanic acid), Cephamycine, and Carbapenems (Joseph *et al.*, 2023). There are several variants of ESBL genes: CTX-M, TEM, OXA, SHV, BES-1, PER, VEB-1, and GES (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2022; Primeau *et al.*, 2023). These genes produced by *Enterobacteriaceae* impede resistance mechanisms to antimicrobial therapy and limit the availability of antimicrobial options for the treatment of infection (Joseph *et al.*, 2023).

The distribution of clinical isolates of typhoidal *Salmonella* ESBL strain with MDR phenotype has been reported in existing literature in Nigeria (Akinyemi *et al.*, 2022; Ibrahim *et al.*, 2022; Okpa *et al.*, 2020), but there is a handful of information regarding the use of different herbal plant for *in vitro* antibacterial potential. Most medicinal plants such as neem, ginger, Bush cane, garlic, siam weed, and Brazilian tea plant are medicinal sources of antimicrobial agents (Circella *et al.*, 2022; Robinson *et al.*, 2022; Amadi *et al.*, 2021; Arora *et al.*, 2021; Choo *et al.*, 2020; Jagannathan *et al.*, 2020; Ibrahim and Kebede, 2020; Kanth *et al.*, 2016). The extracts of this medicinal plant offer a range of promising effects that can be linked to several beneficial molecular and cellular mechanisms. These mechanisms include the repair of DNA, scavenging of free radicals, and alterations in the cell cycle, all of which contribute to detoxification processes. Moreover, these extracts can promote autophagy and mitigate programmed cell death. Their anti-inflammatory properties further enhance immune surveillance, while they also exhibit significant anti-metastatic and anti-angiogenic activities. Additionally, the ability of these extracts to modulate various signaling pathways adds to their potential therapeutic value. (Amadi *et al.*, 2021; Ibrahim and Kebede, 2020; Peter *et al.*, 2022; Agbo *et al.*, 2024).

Although the use of conventional antibiotics tends to overshadow the exploration of plant-based compounds for therapeutic purposes due to the growing need for novel antimicrobial agents, there's a need to expand research to botanical and unaltered natural products as they are less likely to lead to antimicrobial resistance. This focus can enhance our strategies against infections and promote healthier alternatives.

Sample collection and *S. Typhi* Identification

A total of two hundred (200) blood samples were collected from patients suspected of typhoid fever at the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital, Cross River State, Nigeria located at latitude 4° 57.4" N and longitude 8° 19' 10.2" E. Exactly 1 ml of the blood sample was enriched in 5ml sterile Rappaport Vassiliadis broth™ (RVB) (Thermo Fisher Scientific™, U.S.A) and incubated for 24hrs. A loop-ful from the overnight RVB was aseptically sub-cultured onto *Salmonella-Shigella* Agar and Xylose Lysine Deoxycholate agar (Thermo Fisher Scientific™, U.S.A), respectively, and incubated at 37 °C for 24hrs. The overnight cultured plates were aseptically examined for morphological characteristics of typical colonies of *Salmonella Typhimurium* on the media (Peter *et al.*, 2024). All suspected *S. Typhi* colonies were screened by Gram staining, *Microgen™ Gn A+B –ID* System (Bioproducts Limited, Camberley, UK) and were further screened by polyvalent *Salmonella* antisera (Thermo Fisher Scientific™, U.S.A) for flagella “H” and somatic “O” antigen according to manufacturer’s instruction. The cultured and morphologically confirmed *S. Typhi* were seeded onto CHROM agar ESBL plates (HyLabs, Rehovot, Israel). The presence of white colonies on the CHROMagar ESBL plates infers ESBL-producing *S. Typhi* and was aseptically identified using the VITEK-2 Automated System (Biomérieux, France).

Polymerase Chain Reaction Amplification of ESBL genes

The *S. Typhi* genomic DNA was extracted per the manufacturer’s instructions, utilizing the advanced BioRobot EZ1 XL instrument (QIAGEN, Germany). For amplification, we employed the Master Mix QuantiTect Probe PCR Kit (QIAGEN, Hilden, Germany) and specific primers for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) were utilized to amplify genes encoding extended-spectrum β -lactamases (**bla_{TEM}**, F:ATAAAAATTCTTGAAGACGAAA; R:GACAGTTACCAATGCTTAATC; **bla_{CTX-M}**, F:CGCTTTGCGATGTGCAG, R:ACCGCGATATCGTTGGT; **bla_{SHV}**, F:TTATCTCCCTGTTAGCCACC; R:GATTTGCTGATTTGCTCGG) according to Nwosu *et al.* (2023). The detection of amplified genes was effectively carried out using agarose gel electrophoresis with SYBR Safe (Invitrogen®, USA) alongside a DNA molecular weight marker (BenchTop pGEM® DNA Marker, Promega, Madison, WI, USA). For optimal visualization of the gels, ultraviolet illumination was employed, utilizing the BenchTop pGEM® DNA Marker (Promega, Madison, WI, USA).

Preparation of Herbal medicinal plant extract

Exactly 800 grams of Siam weed, bush cane, neem, Brazilian tea leaves, and 2500grams of garlic ginger cloves were thoroughly and properly washed separately in sterile

water and air-dried at room temperature and thereafter pulverized using an automated grinder (SAISHO, china). The pulverized herbal plant was separately mixed with 4500 ml of absolute ethanol (Guangdang Guanghua Chemical Factory Co. Ltd, China) and loaded into a soxhlet apparatus (Lincoln Mark Medical, England). The mixture was heated at 82°C for 16 hr. After the extraction, a rotary evaporator (Lincoln Mark Medical, England) was used to dry the ethanol extract of the herbal plant to obtain the solid mass for bioassay.

Preparation of Different Concentrations and Antibacterial Activity of ethanol extract of medicinal plant

The preparation of different concentrations for each medicinal plant was performed separately. One gram (1 g) of each medicinal plant was reconstituted with a diluent in 10 mL of 70% Dimethylsulfoxide (Guangdang Guanghua Chemical Factory Co. Ltd, China) to achieve a concentration of 100 mg/mL. Following this, a 10⁻³ serial dilution was performed, resulting in concentrations of 50 mg/mL and 25 mg/mL. The antibacterial activity of plant extracts was evaluated using the Agar well diffusion method, following the protocols established by previous researchers (Nwankwo *et al.*, 2023; Nwode *et al.*, 2024). To begin, a suspension of bacterial cells was prepared to achieve a concentration of 1x10⁶ colony-forming units per milliliter (CFU/ml), equivalent to the 0.5 McFarland turbidity standard. This suspension was then uniformly streaked onto Petri dishes containing a sterilized Mueller-Hinton agar (Thermo Fisher Scientific™, U.S.A.), and the plates were allowed to stand for 15 minutes, providing

adequate time for the inoculated bacteria to pre-diffuse. Following this, wells were bored in the agar using an 11 mm sterile cork borer (Supertek®, U.S.A.), and each well was filled with 1 ml of the corresponding extract concentration. The inoculated agar plates were incubated for 24 hours at 37°C, allowing for effective interaction between the plant extracts and the bacterial cells. After incubation, the zones of inhibition were measured with a metric ruler and recorded in millimeters (mm).

RESULTS

Of the 200 blood samples, *S. Typhi* accounted for 159(79.5 %), while other bacteria isolates accounted for 41 (20.5 %), as presented in Figure 1. The amplification of the ESBL gene revealed a high proportion of CTX-M 159 (100 %) as the most predominant gene, followed by SHV 81 (50.9 %), while TEM 52 (32.7 %) was the least identified gene in *S. Typhi* (Figure 2).

Brazilian tea extract assayed at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration displayed antibacterial activity recording 100 %, 93 %, and 50 %. Siam weed extract was 83 %, 47 %, and 10 % at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration. Bush cane had no inhibitory effect (0.0 %) in all concentrations. Neem extract at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration had good susceptibility values of 100 %, 85.0 %, and 67 %. Ginger extract had 100 %, 63. 0%, 46. 0% at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration. Garlic extract recorded 100 %, 59.0%, and 0.0 % at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration respectively (Figure 3).

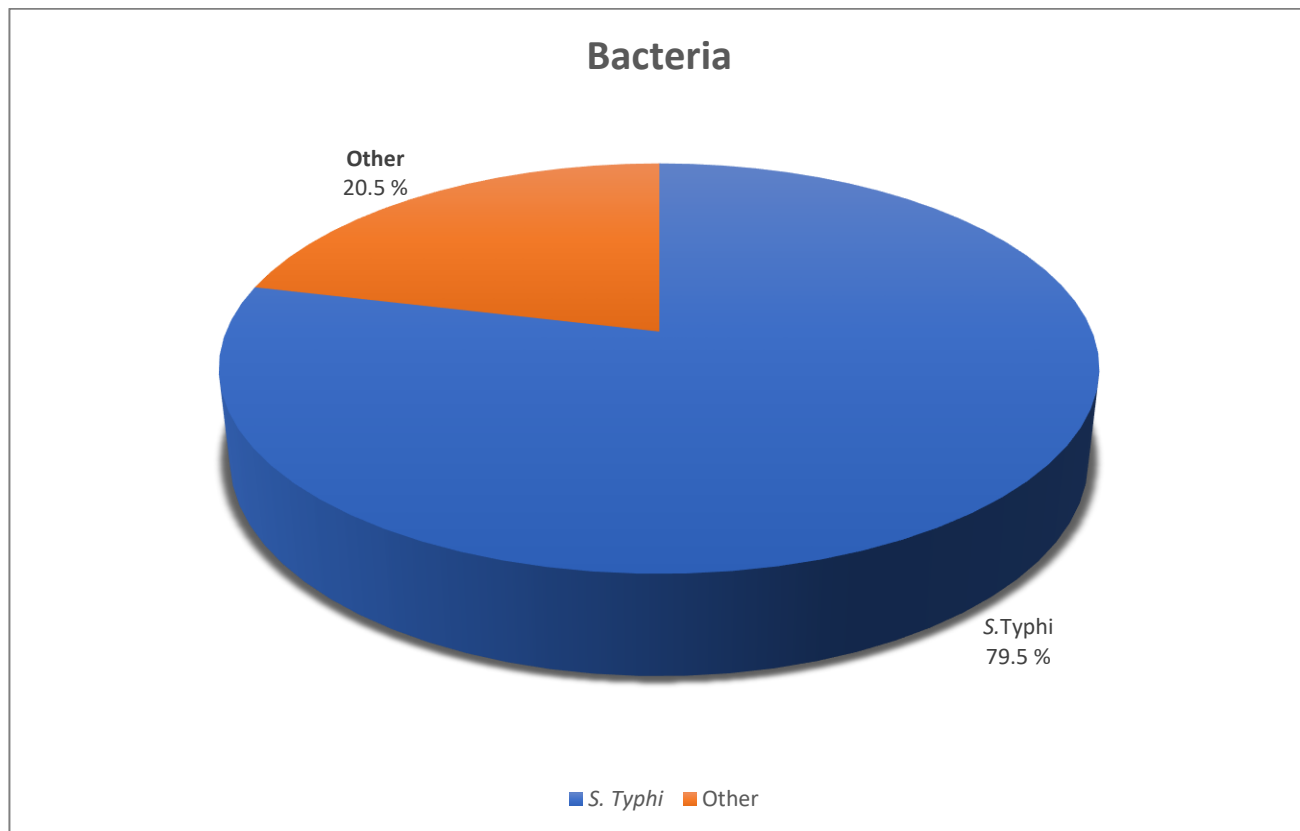


Figure 1: The percentage distribution of *S. Typhi*

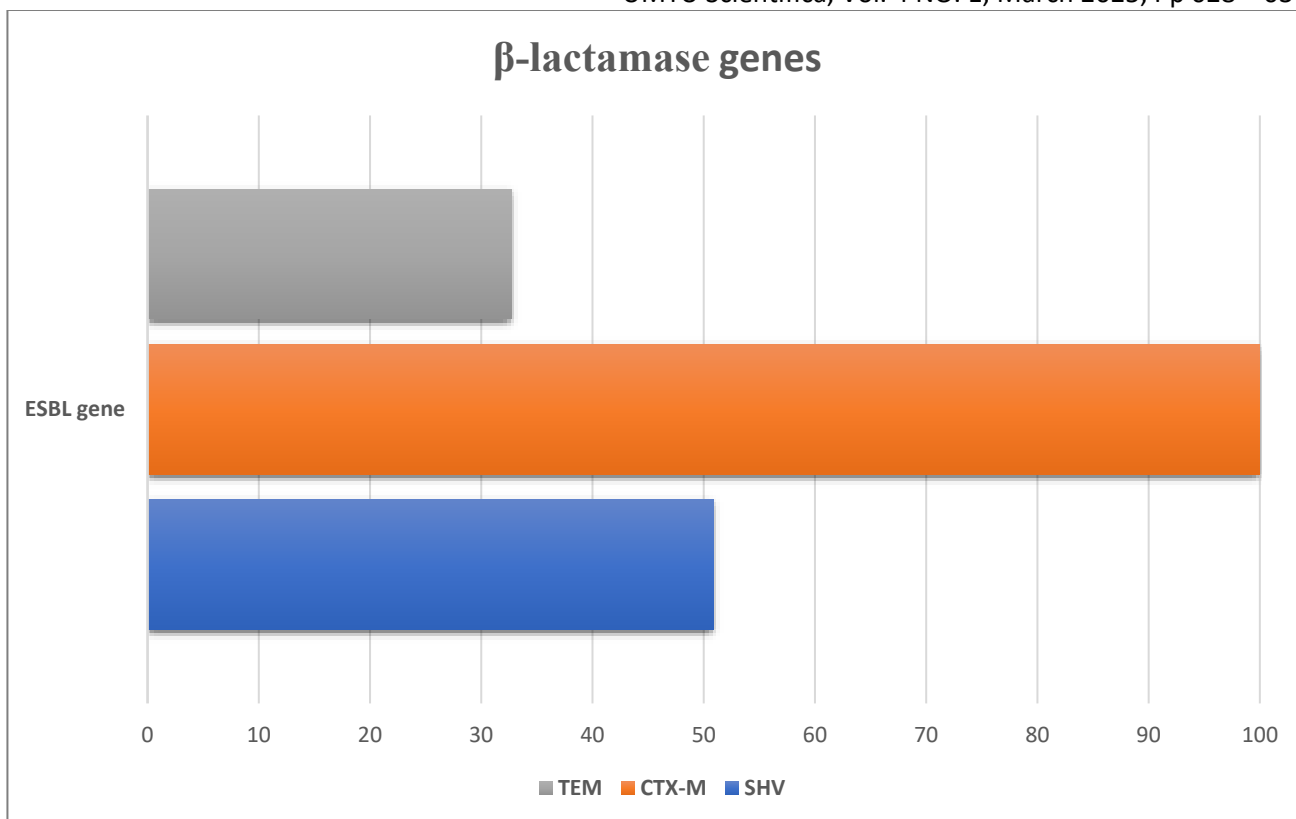


Figure 2: The frequency of amplified ESBL gene
Key: TEM = Temionera, CTX-M = Cefotaximase, SHV = Sulfhydryl variant

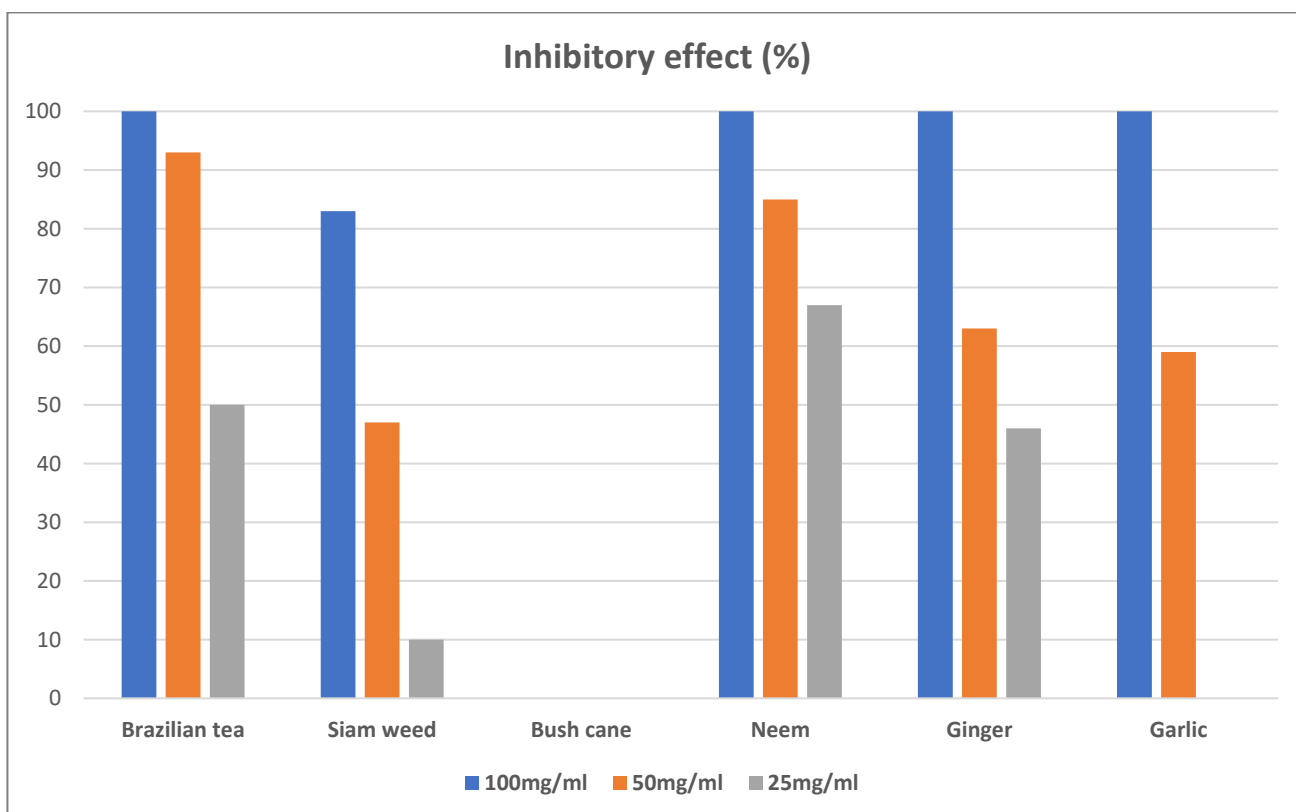


Figure 3: Antibacterial activity of selected medicinal plant

DISCUSSION

The CTX-M gene in our study emerged as the most identified ESBL genotype. This is in tandem with reports

in Lagos and Benue State, Nigeria (Akinyemi *et al.*, 2022; Okpa *et al.*, 2020). The Cefotaximase (CTX-M gene) reveals the hydrolytic capacity of extended-spectrum β -lactamases against cefotaxime antibiotic. Bacteria that

produce the CTX-M genotype are non-susceptible with cefotaxime and ceftazidime Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MICs) resistant values (greater than 64 µg/ml) and (2-8 µg/ml) respectively (Okpa *et al.*, 2020).

The CTX-M ESBLs genotypes are rapidly disseminated and are worldwide in distribution (Rotimi *et al.*, 2008; Djeflal *et al.*, 2017; Nadimpalli *et al.*, 2019; Dor *et al.*, 2020; Egwu *et al.*, 2023). The classification of these genes is based on their amino acid sequences, dividing them into five distinct phylogenetic groups: CTX-M¹, CTX-M², CTX-M⁸, CTX-M⁹, CTX-M¹⁵, and CTX-M²⁵ (Rotimi *et al.*, 2008; Bakeri *et al.*, 2003). Due to the enhanced capability to truncate the action of cephalosporins, most CTX-Ms variants can easily hydrolyze cefotaxime and ceftazidime, rendering these drugs ineffective (Okpa *et al.*, 2020; Rotimi *et al.*, 2008; Djeflal *et al.*, 2017; Nadimpalli *et al.*, 2019; Akinyemi *et al.*, 2015).

CTX-M-type β-lactamases, which are distinct from TEM and SHV-type extended-spectrum β-lactamases (ESBLs), were first identified in the 1980s and are closely related to the beta-lactamases produced by *Kluyvera* species (Rotimi *et al.*, 2008). Understanding the mechanisms by which *Salmonella* strains acquire the gene encoding CTX-M type ESBLs from *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* species is crucial. This acquisition in community settings can lead to the dissemination of this gene among various *Salmonella* serotypes, highlighting the importance of monitoring and addressing antibiotic resistance in these bacteria (Rotimi *et al.*, 2008; Nwosu *et al.*, 2023). By enhancing our awareness and implementing effective strategies, we can better manage the spread of resistance genes and protect public health.

The occurrence of SHV 81 (50.9 %) and TEM 52 (32.7 %) was reiterated in other studies (Wu *et al.*, 2013; Saliu *et al.*, 2017; Onyenwe *et al.*, 2020; Ibrahim *et al.*, 2022; Egwu *et al.*, 2023). This study highlights the presence of specific strains of *S. Typhi* that produce ESBL genotypes, which may provide valuable insights into the persistent cases of Salmonellosis observed in patients, even when treated with third-generation cephalosporins. Understanding this relationship could pave the way for more effective treatment strategies in the future. The misuse and overuse of antibiotics in both human and animal populations are well-known factors contributing to the evolution of drug-resistant bacteria. This occurs through gene mutations or the horizontal transmission of resistance genes via plasmids. The emergence of resistance, particularly in bacteria such as *Salmonella Typhi* in our study that produce CTX-M, TEM, and SHV, poses a significant public health challenge. These resistant strains often lead to the failure of empirical antibiotic therapy, resulting in increased morbidity and mortality rates. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) hinders the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and impacts food safety and food security. The rise of extended-spectrum β-lactamases (ESBLs) has resulted in higher rates of morbidity, extended hospital stays, and more costly treatment options (Husna *et al.*, 2023).

The Brazilian tea extract exerts antibacterial activity against the isolate at 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, and 25mg/ml concentration. Based on our current understanding, this finding tends to be the first published *in vitro* assessment of this plant on *S. Typhi*. Within the Efik and Ibibio tribes in Nigeria, the Brazilian tea commonly called ‘adan umoun’ is one of the ethnobotanical plants that plays a significant role in traditional medicine practices as an anti-typhoid remedy.

Additionally, Brazilian tea has several ethnomedicinal benefits, including promoting weight loss, reducing inflammation, being rich in antioxidants (which help protect against inflammation, cardiovascular issues, and liver disease), lowering blood sugar and cholesterol levels, enhancing exercise performance, and increasing bone density (Lutomski *et al.*, 2020; José *et al.*, 2023). This *in vitro* study substantiates the use of this plant as an anti-typhoidal agent and also accentuates the exploration of the antimicrobial potential of this plant.

Our findings indicate that most isolates demonstrated resistance to bush cane (*Costus afer*) extract across various concentrations. However, it is noteworthy that bush cane, referred to as “Mbriem” in the Efik and Ibibio tribes, has been documented to exhibit antibacterial activities against several pathogenic bacteria, including *E. coli*, *S. aureus*, MRSA, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Bacillus subtilis*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (Peter *et al.*, 2022; Izah *et al.*, 2019).

The phytochemical screening conducted on the rhizomes, stems, and leaves of this plant using different solvents reveals a diverse array of compounds, including glycosides, phenols, tannins, saponins, alkaloids, and triterpenes (Peter *et al.*, 2022; Akpan *et al.*, 2012; Jesus *et al.*, 2016; Boison *et al.*, 2019). This indicates the potential for further exploration of these phytochemicals and their applications. The variation in our findings could be attributed to the solvent utilized during the assay, extraction process, lack of receptors that possess an affinity for the phytomolecules, regional climatic and environmental condition of the plant, plant age, etc., Despite the poor *in vitro* activity noted in this study, the ethnomedicinal potential of this tropical plant should not be overlooked, as it offers various medicinal uses, including the treatment of helminthic, inflammation, rheumatism, arthritis, epileptic attack, stomach ailments, miscarriages, cough, hepatic disorders, hemorrhoids, and diabetes (Boison *et al.*, 2019).

Neem (*Azardicta indica*) also displayed good antibacterial activity, and the isolates susceptibility profile was concentration-dependent. Neem leave is well-known to possess enormous antimicrobial potential (Akhter and Sarker, 2019). The MIC and MBC of the neem leaf extract for *Samonella* species, *S. pullorum*, and *S. gallinarum* has been reported (Ali *et al.*, 2021). Several research have comprehensive review the large phytochemical abundance of neem (Wylie and Merrell, 2022; Saleem *et al.*, 2018; Gupta *et al.*, 2017).

Recent findings have highlighted the significant ethnobotanical applications of the neem plant. The leaf extract effectively helps in reducing tooth plaque and is beneficial for treating lice infestations. Neem is known for its beneficial compounds that may contribute to lowering blood sugar levels, promoting the healing of ulcers in the digestive tract, eliminating harmful bacteria, and preventing the formation of plaque in the mouth. It also exhibits immunomodulatory, anti-inflammatory, antihyperglycemic, antiulcer, and antimalarial properties (Wylie and Merrell, 2022; Saleem *et al.*, 2018; Gupta *et al.*, 2017). Incorporating neem into your wellness routine could support these aspects of health effectively.

The neem plant is increasingly recognized for its potential as a natural drug, exhibiting a diverse array of bioceutical properties (Nagini *et al.*, 2021; Braga *et al.*, 2020; Saleem *et al.*, 2018). Its effectiveness against both Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria highlights its promising role in addressing bacterial infections (Al Saiqali *et al.*, 2018; Zihadi *et al.*, 2019; Ibrahim and Kebede, 2020; Bhatwalkar *et al.*, 2021). Further research into its applications may lead to significant advancements in natural healthcare solutions.

Garlic cloves extract was not exceptional. The biological activity of garlic extract has been published by existing studies (Kaur *et al.*, 2021; Bhatwalkar *et al.*, 2021; Circella *et al.*, 2022). At 25mg/ml concentration, the garlic extract was ineffective. This may result from the instability of a potent antimicrobial agent known as allicin (Choo *et al.*, 2020; Belguith *et al.*, 2010). The instability of this compound is achievable through the enzymatic reaction of allinase which transforms allicin to its precursor alliin. Although alliin is somewhat unstable, this characteristic encourages a series of non-enzymatic reactions that lead to the formation of valuable compounds such as polysulfides, vinyl dithiols, and ajoene. These compounds have shown promising antimicrobial properties, highlighting potential avenues for further research and application (Nakamoto *et al.*, 2020; Quesada *et al.*, 2020). Garlic has recently garnered attention for its potential health benefits, showing promise in combating cancer, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, skin conditions, and bone disorders. These benefits are attributed to garlic's antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and lipid-lowering effects (Ansary *et al.*, 2020).

Ginger extract had a better effect on the isolates. Comparatively, similar reports have been published in animal and human *S. Typhi* strains (Gull *et al.*, 2012; Robinson *et al.*, 2022; Felicia *et al.*, 2022). The bioactive ingredient contained in ginger has been useful in the prevention and treatment of various human diseases, including asthma, diabetes, dementia, cardiovascular disease, cancer, ulcerative colitis, etc. (Kela *et al.*, 2023; Thakor *et al.*, 2023). The antimicrobial potentials of ginger have been studied extensively; therefore, it can be used to treat diseases associated with ESBL in humans.

The results of our bioassay on the medicinal plant material revealed a clear concentration-dependent effect. This supports the earlier hypothesis that the concentration of an extract is directly proportional to the degree of microbicidal activity (Peter *et al.*, 2022; Agbo *et al.*, 2024). Such findings underscore the importance of concentration in maximizing the therapeutic potential of these extracts. The significance of our *in vitro* findings, in light of the global challenges posed by antimicrobial resistance bacteria, suggests that these plants possess significant potential as a composite material with antibacterial properties. This could revolutionize the management and treatment of antibiotic-resistant *Salmonella Typhi* and related infectious diseases in human medicine.

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates the antibacterial potential of herbal plants against *Salmonella Typhi* strains that produce TEM, CTX-M, and SHV extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBL). The selected medicinal plants showed effectiveness at 100 mg/ml, 50 mg/ml, and 25 mg/ml concentration. This study is the first to report the antibacterial activity of the extract on *Salmonella Typhi* with an ESBL genotype. Therefore, it is crucial to use this extract prudently and judiciously in ethnobotanical practices and human medicine for treating infections associated with ESBL. Further research should focus on the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of the medicinal plant extract. Additionally, guidelines and regulations are necessary for the appropriate use of antibiotics to prevent drug resistance and the spread of resistant strains to susceptible strains.

AVAILABILITY OF DATA AND MATERIAL

The data from this study is available upon request from the corresponding author.

AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS

This research was conducted through collaboration among all authors. Author CIE developed the protocol, while Authors CIE, AGC, MEO, and EU collaborated on the first draft of the manuscript. Authors IFO, IPO, CIE, and NPL were responsible for the characterization and analysis of the study. Author CIE supervised the research and provided critical revisions to the manuscript. All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

None

ETHICS STATEMENT

All experiments in this study were executed following ARRIVE guidelines regarding Animal and human subjects. Ethical approval with reference No:

UCTH/Vol.34/ERC/22 was obtained from the Research and Ethics Committee of the Hospital.

REFERENCES

- Agbo O O, Thompson M D, Etu K E, NseAbasi P L, Elom K O, Peter I U, Iroha, I. R. Antibacterial activity of ethanol and methanol extract of *Vernonia amygdalina*, *Ocimum gratissimum* and *Aloe barbadensis* against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus aureus* Isolated from Wound Infected Patients. *International Journal of Pharmacog and Pharm Res.* 2024; 6(1): 54-60. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Akhter R, Sarker M W. Antimicrobial activity in leaf extract of neem in broiler. *Res Agric Livestock and Fisheries.* 2019; 6:337–343. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Akinyemi KO, Alwalokun B, Alafe OO, Mudashiru S A, Fakorede S. blaCTMgroup extended spectrum beta lactamase-producing *Salmonella typhi* from hospitalized patients in Lagos, Nigeria. *Infection and Drug Resistance.* 2015; 8 99–106. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Akinyemi, K O, Al-Khafaji NSK, Al-Alaq FT, Fakorede CO, Al-Dahmashi HOM, Iwalokun BA, Akpabio I, Alkafaas SA, Saki M. Extended-spectrum Beta-lactamases Encoding Genes among *Salmonella Enterica* serovar Typhi Isolates in Patients with Typhoid Fever from four Academic Medical Centers in Lagos, Nigeria. *Rev Invest Clin.* 2022;74(3):165-71. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Akpan M M, Odeomena C S, Nwachukwu C N, Danladi B. Antimicrobial assessment of ethanolic extract of *Costus afer* leaves Asian J Plant Sci Res. 2012; 2(3):335–341
- Al Saiqali M, Tangutur A D, Banoth C, Bhukya B. Antimicrobial and Anticancer Potential of Low Molecular Weight Polypeptides Extracted and Characterized from Leaves of *Azadirachta indica*. *Int J Biol Macromol.* 2018; 114, 906–921. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Ali E, Islam S, Hossen I, Khatun M, Islam A. Extract of neem (*Azadirachta indica*) leaf exhibits bactericidal effect against multi-drug resistant pathogenic bacteria of poultry. *Vet Med Sci.* 2021; 7(5):1921–1927. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Amadi P U, Agomuo E N, Ukaga C N, Njoku U C, Amadi J A, Nwaekpe C G. Preclinical Trial of Traditional Plant Remedies for the Treatment of Complications of Gestational Malaria. *Med (Basel).* 2021; 8 (12):34-56. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Ansary J, Forbes-Hernández TY, Gil E, Cianciosi D, Zhang J, Elexpuru-Zabaleta M, Simal-Gandara J, Giampieri F, Battino M. Potential Health Benefit of Garlic Based on Human Intervention Studies: A Brief Overview. *Antioxidants* 2020; 9: 619-620. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Arora S, Saquib S A, Algarni Y A, Kader M A, Ahmad I, Alshahrani M Y *et al.* Synergistic Effect of Plant Extracts on Endodontic Pathogens Isolated from Teeth with Root Canal Treatment Failure: An In Vitro Study. *Antibiotic.* 2021; 10 (5):45-78. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Awol RN, Reda DY, Gidebo DD. Prevalence of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi infection, its associated factors and antimicrobial susceptibility patterns among febrile patients at Adare general hospital, Hawassa, southern Ethiopia. *BMC Infect Dis.* 2021;21:30. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Bakeri SA, Yasin RM, Koh YT, Puthuchery SD, Thong, KL. Genetic Diversity of Human Isolates of *Salmonella enterica* Serovar Enteritidis. *Malaysia J Appl Microbiol.* 2003; 95, 773-780. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Basnyat B, Qamar FN, Rupali P, Ahmed T, Parry CM. Enteric fever. *BMJ* 2021; 372-437. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Belguith H, Kthiri F, Chati A, Sofah AA, Hamida JB, Landoulsi A. Study of the effect of aqueous garlic extract (*Allium Sativum*) one some *Salmonella* serovars isolates. *Emir J Food Agric.* 2010; 22:189–206. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Bhatwalkar SB, Mondal R, Krishna SBN, Adam JK, Govender P, Anupam R. Antibacterial Properties of Organosulfur Compounds of Garlic (*Allium sativum*). *Front Microbiol.* 2021;12(61):30-77. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Boison D, Adinortey CA, Babanyinah G K, Quasie O, Agbeko R, Wiabo-Asabil G K, Adinortey M B. *Costus afer*: A Systematic Review of Evidence-Based Data in support of Its Medicinal Relevance. *Scientifica.* 2019; 37(3):2-68. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Braga T M, Rocha L, Chung T Y, Oliveira R F, Pinho C, Oliveira A I *et al.* Biological Activities of Gedunin-A Limonoid from the Meliaceae Family. *Molecules.* 2020; 25(3):103-390. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Choo S, Chin VK, Wong EH, Madhavan P, Tay ST, Yong PVC, Chong PP. Review: Antimicrobial properties of allicin Used alone or in combination with other medications. *Folia Microbiol.* 2020; 65:451–465. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Circella E, Casalino G, D’Amico F, Pugliese N, Dimuccio MM, Camarda A, Bozzo G. In Vitro Antimicrobial Effectiveness Tests Using Garlic (*Allium sativum*) Against *Salmonella enterica* Subspecies *Enterica* Serovar *Enteritidis*. *Antibiotics.* 2022; 11:14-81. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Djeflal S, Bakour S, Mamache B, Elgroud R, Agabou A, Chabou S, Hireche S, Bouaziz O, Rahal K, Rolain J. Prevalence and clonal relationship of ESBL producing *Salmonella* strains from humans and poultry in northeastern Algeria. *BMC Veterinary Res.* 2017; 13:132-138. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Dor Z, Shnaiderman-Torban A, Kondratyeva K, Davidovich-Cohen M, Rokney A, Steinman A, Navon-Venezia S. Emergence and Spread of Different ESBL-Producing *Salmonella enterica* Serovars in Hospitalized Horses Sharing a Highly Transferable IncM2 CTX-M-3-Encoding

- Plasmid Front Microbiol. 2020; 11:60-61. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Egwu E, Ibiam FA, Moses IB, Iroha CS, Orji I, Okafor-Alu FN, Eze CO, Iroha IR. Antimicrobial susceptibility and molecular characteristics of beta-lactam- and fluoroquinolone-resistant *E coli* from human clinical samples in Nigeria. Scientific African. 2023; 21:18-63. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Felicia A, Debora K, Ramadhani R. *In Vitro* Antimicrobial Activity Evaluation of Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) Absolute Ethanol Extract against Uropathogenic *Escherichia coli* (UPEC). Journal Ilmiah Mahasiswa Kedokteran Universitas Airlangga. 2022; 13(02):52-53. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Gberikon GM, Aguru CU, Ogbonna, IO. ESBL Production and Multidrug Resistance of *Salmonella* Serovars Isolates in Benue State. *Am J Mol Biol*. 2020; 10, 200-223. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Gull I, Saeed M, Shaukat H *et al.* Inhibitory Effect of *Allium Sativum* and *Zingiber Officinale* Extracts on Clinically Important Drug Resistant Pathogenic Bacteria. *Ann Clin Microbiol Antimicrob*. 2012; 11:8-23. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Gupta S C, Prasad S, Tyagi A K, Kunnumakkara A B, Aggarwal B B. Neem (*Azadirachta indica*): An Indian Traditional Panacea with Modern Molecular Basis. *Phytomedicine*. 2017; 34:14–20. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Husna A, Rahman MM, Badruzzaman A T M, Sikder M H, Islam M R, Rahman M T, Alam J, Ashour H M. Extended-Spectrum β -Lactamases (ESBL): Challenges and Opportunities. *Biomedicines*. 2023; 11:2937-2939. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Ibrahim N, Kebede A. In Vitro antibacterial Activities of Methanol and Aqueous Leave Extracts of Selected Medicinal Plants against Human Pathogenic Bacteria. *Saudi J Biol Sci*. 2020; 27 (9), 2261–2268. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Ibrahim T, Ngwai YB, Ishaleku D, Tsakub PA, Nkene IH, Abimiku RH. Detection of extended spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL)–production in *Salmonella* Typhimurium isolated from poultry birds in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. *Scientific African*. 2022;16:12-43. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Izah S C, Etim N G, Ilerhunmwuwa I A, Ibibo T B, Udumo J J. Activities of express extracts of *costus afer* Ker–Gawl [Family COSTACEAE] against selected bacterial isolates, *Int J pharm Phytopharm Res*. 2019; 9(4):39-44
- Jagannathan J, Nagar P, Kaniappan A S, Raveendran A, Shekhar S. Comparison of Antimicrobial Efficacy of Natural Extracts as a Disinfectant for Removable Orthodontic Appliances: An Ex Vivo Study *Int J Clin Pediatr Dent*. 2020; 13(6):640–643. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Jajere SM. A review of *Salmonella enterica* with particular focus on the pathogenicity and virulence factors, host specificity and antimicrobial resistance including multi-drug resistance. *Vet World* 2019;12:504-21. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Jesus M, Martins A P, Gallardo E, Silvestre S. Diosgenin: recent highlights on pharmacology and analytical methodology. *J Anal Meth Chemistry*. 2016; 16-20. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- José MFB, Machado RP, Araujo PAB, Speretta GF. Physiological effects of yerba maté (*Ilex paraguariensis*): A systematic review. *Nutr Rev*. 2023; 81(9):1163-1179. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Joseph I S, Okolo I O, Udenweze E C, Nwankwo C E, Peter I U, Ogbonna I P, Iroha I R. Comparison of Antibiotic-Resistant Pattern of Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase and Carbapenem-Resistant *Escherichia coli* Isolates from Clinical and Non-Clinical Sources, *Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics*. 2023; 13(7):107-118. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Kanth M R, Prakash A R, Sreenath G, Reddy V S, Huldah S. Efficacy of Specific Plant Products on Microorganisms Causing Dental Caries *J Clin Diagn Res*. 2016;10 (12):1–3. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Kaur R, Tiwari A, Manish M, Maurya I K, Bhatnagar R, Singh S. Common Garlic (*Allium Sativum* L) Has Potent Anti-Bacillus Anthracis Activity. *J Ethnopharmacol*. 2021; 264(11):32-30. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Kela E, Sogbesan AO, Wakil UB. Evaluation of Phytochemical Composition of Ginger Extracts. *Fish Aqua J*. 2023; 14:317-319.
- Lutowski P, Goździewska M, Florek-Łuszczki M. Health properties of yerba mate. *Ann Agric Environ Med*. 2020; 27(2):310-313. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Mather AE, Reid SWJ, Maskel DJ, Parkhill J, Fookes MC, Harris SR, Brown DJ, Coia JE, Mulvey MR, Gilmour MW Petrovska L, de Pinna E, Kuroda M, Akiba M, Izumiya H, Connor TR, Suchard MA, Lemey P, Mellor DJ, Haydon, DT, Thomson NR. Distinguishable Epidemics of Multidrug-Resistant *Salmonella* Typhimurium DT104 in Different Hosts. *Science*. 2013; 341, 1514-1517. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Nadimpalli M, Fabre L, Yith V, Sem N, Gouali M, Delarocque E *et al.* CTX-M 55-type ESBL-producing *Salmonella enterica* are emerging among retail meats in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. *J Antimicrob Chemother* 2019; 74: 342–348. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Nagini S, Nivetha R, Palrasu M, Mishra R. Nimbolide, a Neem Limonoid, Is a Promising Candidate for the Anticancer Drug Arsenal. *J Med Chem*. 2021; 64 (7):3560–3577. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Nakamoto M, Kunimura K, Suzuki JI, Kodera Y. Antimicrobial properties of hydrophobic compounds in garlic: Allicin, Vinylthiin, ajoene and diallyl polysulfides. *Exp Ther Med*. 2020; 19:1550–1553. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Nwankwo CH, Okolo I, Mba A, Uzoeto H, Udenweze E, Okoli F, Thompson M, Chukwu E, Bassey N, Ngwu J Peter I *In Vitro* Assessment of Conventional and Plant-derived Antifungal Agents against *Candida* Species Prevalence among Pregnant Women in Southeastern

- Nigeria. *Int J Pharm Phytopharmacol Res.* 2023;13(1):13-8. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Nwode, V.F., Akindele, K., Edemekong, C. I., Ugwu, U. N., Asumpta, F. C., Obya, I. M., Nwatu, A. N., Onu, H., Peter, I. U., Iroha, I. R (2024). Antibacterial Activities of Herbal Extracts and Conventional Antibiotics on Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Isolated from Wound. *European Journal of Science, Innovation and Technology*, 4(4):45-56.
- Nwosu, U. O., Ibiom, F. A., Amadi-Ibiom, C.O., Iroha, C. S., Edemekong, C. I., Peter I. U and Iroha, I. R (2023). Fecal carriage of extended spectrum beta-lactamase and fluoroquinolone resistant gene in non-typhoidal *Salmonella enterica* isolates from food producing animals and humans. *Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics*, 13(9):128-134. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Okpa BO, Gberikon GM, Aguoru CU, Ogonna IO.ESBL Production and Multidrug Resistance of *Salmonella* Serovars Isolates in Benue State *Am J Mol Biol.* 2020; 10: 200-223. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Onyenwe N E, Nnamani N D, Okoro JC, Nwofor C N, Jesumirhewe C. Prevalence and gene sequencing of extended spectrum β -lactamases producing *Salmonella enterica* serovar *Typhi* from South-East Nigeria *Afri J Pharm Pharmacol.* 2020; 14(7):192-202. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Pereira NM, Shah I. Cephalosporin-resistant typhoid. *SAGE Open Med Case Rep* 2020;8:205-313. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Peter IU, Edemekong C, Balogun OM, Ikusika BA, Ngwu JN, Bassey NU, Mohammed ID, et al Phytochemical Screening and Antibacterial Activity of Aqueous Extract of *Costus afer* Plant on Selected Multidrug-Resistant Bacteria. *IOSR J Pharmacy and Biol Sciences* 2022; 17(1):39-42
- Peter, I.U., Ogonna, I.P., Edemekong, C. I., Okolo, I. O and Mohammed, I. D (2024). Screening for genes Encoding Virulence Factor in *Salmonella* serovar Typhimurium isolated from Tiger nut Juice. *Ibom Medical Journal*, 17(3): 393 - 400
- Popa GL, Papa MI. *Salmonella* spp infection-a continuous threat. *Worldwide Germs.* 2021;11:88-96. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Primeau CA, Bharat A, Janecko N, Carson CA, Mulvey M, Reid-Smith R, McEwen S, McWhirter JE, Parmley EJ. Integrated surveillance of extended-spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL)-producing *Salmonella* and *Escherichia coli* from humans and animal species raised for human consumption in Canada from 2012 to 2017. *Epidemiology and Infection.* 2023; 151(14) 1–11. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Quesada I, de Paola M, Torres-Palazzolo C, Camargo A, Ferder L, Manucha W, Castro C. Effect of garlic's active Constituents in inflammation, obesity and cardiovascular disease. *Curr Hypertens Rep.* 2020; 22-6. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Robinson K, Assumpcao ALFV, Arsi K, Donoghue A, Jesudhasan PRR. Ability of Garlic and Ginger Oil to Reduce Salmonella In Post-Harvest Poultry. *Animals.* 2022;12:29-74. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Rotimi V O, Jamal W, Pal T, Sovenned A, Albert MJ. Emergence of CTX-M-15 Type Extended-spectrum -lactamase-producing *Salmonella* species in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. *J Med Microbiol.* 2008; 57:881-886. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Saeed M, Rasool MH, Rasheed F, Saqalein M, Nisar MA, Imran AA, et al. Extended-spectrum beta lactamases producing extensively drug-resistant *Salmonella Typhi* in Punjab, Pakistan. *J Infect Dev Ctries.* 2020;14:169-76. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Saleem S, Muhammad G, Hussain M A, Bukhari S N A. A Comprehensive Review of Phytochemical Profile, Bioactives for Pharmaceuticals, and Pharmacological Attributes of *Azadirachta indica*. *Phytother Res.* 2018;32 (7):1241–1272. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Saliu EM, Vahjen W, Zentek J. Types and prevalence of extended-spectrum beta-lactamase producing *Enterobacteriaceae* in poultry. *Animal Health Res Rev.* 2017; 18(1): 46–57. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Thakor HJ, Rathi Y S, Nayak N S. Phytochemical Screening of Ginger (*Zingiber Officinale*), a Medicinal Plant. *Sch Int J Tradit Complement Med.* 2023; 6(4): 58-62. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Thung TY, Radu S, Mahyudin NA, Rukayadi Y, Zakaria Z, Mazlan N. Prevalence, virulence genes and antimicrobial resistance profiles of *Salmonella* serovars from retail beef in Selangor, Malaysia. *Front in microbiol*, 2018; 8:26-97. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Worku W, Desta M, Menjetta T. High prevalence and antimicrobial susceptibility pattern of *Salmonella* species and extended spectrum β -lactamase producing *Escherichia coli* from raw cattle meat at butcher houses in Hawassa city, Sidama regional state, Ethiopia. *PLoS ONE.* 2022; 17(1): 262-308. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Wu H, Xia X, Cui Y, Hu Y, Xi M, Wang X, Yang B. Prevalence of extended- spectrum β -lactamase-producing *Salmonella* on retail chicken in six provinces and two national cities in the People's Republic of China. *J Food Prot.* 2013; 76:2040–2044. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Wylie MR, Merrell DS. The Antimicrobial Potential of the Neem Tree *Azadirachta indica* *Front Pharmacol.* 2022; 13: 891-535. [\[Crossref\]](#)
- Zihadi M A H, Rahman M, Talukder S, Hasan M M, Nahar S, Sikder M H. Antibacterial Efficacy of Ethanolic Extract of *Camellia Sinensis* and *Azadirachta indica* Leaves on Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Shiga*-Toxigenic *Escherichia coli*. *J Adv Vet Anim Res.* 2019; 6 (2): 247–252. [\[Crossref\]](#)