



## **Antibacterial Activity of Methanolic Fruit Extract of *Randiadumetorum* Lamk against Oral Pathogens**

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**Abstract:**Dental caries and periodontal diseases have been documented as the most common health problems universally. Most of the chemicals and synthetic drugs currently in use have marked side effects. Hence, there has been an ideal shift from the use of modern drugs to the age-old herbs. *Randiadumetorum* Lamk is one such important plant with various established medicinal properties. The aim of the present study was to evaluate the preliminary antibacterial activity of methanolic extract of *Randiadumetorum* Lamk. (*Xeromphis spinosa* Thumb.) against common oral pathogens such as *Streptococcus mutans*, *Streptococcus sobrinus* and *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. Methanolic extract of the dried fruits of the plant was prepared. Different concentrations of the dried fruit extracts (*R. dumetorum*) were transferred to the nutrient agar plates, which had been previously inoculated with the test microorganisms. The plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 h in an incubator and the zones of inhibition were measured using well diffusion method. The extract showed potential antibacterial properties comparable with that of the standard chlorhexidine against the organisms tested. The methanolic extract of *R. dumetorum* displayed a concentration related antibacterial activity. The results showed that the inhibition of the bacterial growth was more pronounced on *Lactobacillus acidophilus* as compared to the other tested organisms.

**Key words:** *Randiadumetorum* Lamk, antibacterial activity, *Streptococcus mutans*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*.