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Antimicrobial Activity of Panchavalkala Kashaya -A Poly Herbal Formulation on Oral Microbes

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ABSTRACT

Oral diseases are a leading health issues in many countries which affect people causing pain, discomfort, disfigurement etc. The Global Burden of Disease Study 2017 estimated that oral diseases affect nearly 3.5 billion people worldwide. Poor oral hygiene leads to various conditions like dental caries, periodontal diseases like bleeding gums, gingivitis, halitosis etc. Therefore, there is need for proper care of oral cavity. At present several herbal formulations are available in market which are safe for use than allopathic medicines.

Panchavalkala Kashaya is a polyherbal compound mentioned in the classics of Ayurveda in the context of oral diseases. Panchavalkala comprises stem bark of five drugs i.e., Vata (Ficus benghalensis Linn), Udumbara (Ficus racemosa Linn), Ashwatta (Ficus religiosa Linn), Plaksha (Ficus infectoria Roxb) and Parisha (Thespesia populnea (Linn). Soland ex Correa) in equal proportion.

The study reveals that *Panchavalkala Kashaya* evaluated for its antimicrobial activity against selected oral micro-organism. The method adopted was Disc diffusion method as per NCCLS Standards. The results were found sensitive against the *S. mutans, C. albicans* and *A. actinomycetemcomitans* and found to be

resistant against *Porphyromonas gingivalis*. The largest zone of inhibition was exhibited by *Panchavalkala Kashaya* was against *S. mutans* (17mm) and *A. actinomycetemcomitans* (12mm). **Keywords**: Ayurveda, Panchavalkala, oral microbes, Antimicrobial activity

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