Activity of East African Medicinal Plants against Helicobacter pylori

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Abstract
The activity of extracts from the East African medicinal plants \textit{Entada abyssinica} (stem bark), \textit{Terminalia spinosa} (young branches), \textit{Harrisonia abyssinica} (roots), \textit{Ximenia caffra} (roots), \textit{Azadirachta indica} (leaves and stem bark) and \textit{Spilanthes mauritiana} (roots and flowers) were evaluated against 12 strains of \textit{Helicobacter pylori}. The most active extracts were those derived from \textit{T. spinosa} with an MIC\textsubscript{50} of 125 μg/ml, an MIC\textsubscript{90} of 250 μg/ml and an MIC range of 62.5–500 μg/ml. An MIC\textsubscript{50} of 250 μg/ml and an MIC\textsubscript{90} of > 4,000 μg/ml was reached by \textit{H. abyssinica} with a range of 125– > 4,000 μg/ml and by \textit{X. caffra} with a range of 62.5– > 4,000 μg/ml, respectively. It is concluded that these plants contain compounds with antimicrobial activity against \textit{H pylori}.

Key Words East African plants, Antibacterial activity, Helicobacter pylori