

**P5 AN IN VITRO TESTING OF ETHANOL EXTRACT OF PIPER
BETLE LEAVE AGAINST CAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI**

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The antibacterial effect of ethanol extract of *Piper betle* (Piperaceae) was tested against *Campylobacter jejuni* isolated from chicken fecal samples. *E. coli* ATCC 25922 and gentamicin were used as standard strain and antibiotic, respectively. Using the disk diffusion method, the results revealed the inhibitory effect of the plant extract was concentration dependent and a prolonged storage of the extract significantly increased the antibacterial activity. At the concentrations of 25-400 mg/ml of the extract and 50-800 µg/ml of gentamicin, the clear zones indicating growth inhibition of *C. jejuni* were 10-30 and 23-33 mm, respectively. *E. coli* exhibited less susceptibility with inhibition zones of 0-17 mm for the plant extract and 19-25 mm for gentamicin. Based on the current findings, it can be concluded that the crude extract of *P. betle* leaves is effective against *C. jejuni*, with less potency than the standard antimicrobial drug gentamicin.