antifungals and have a promising role in future oral health care..

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3. Evaluation of the antimycotic activity of grape fruit plant extract on candida species-an invitro study

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Background:. Oral candidiasis is one of the most common pathological conditions affecting the oral mucosa. Denture-induced stomatitis may also be considered a variant of erythematous oropharyngeal candidiasis and is seen in 65% of denture wearers. Synthetic antifungals are removed from the market due to their harmful effect on environment, residue problem and carcinogenic effect. Fungicides from plant products are safer due to rich source of bioactive phytochemicals like alkaloids, terpenoids, polyacetylenes, unsaturated isobutylamides and phenolics. Plants and plant products are continuously being explored in medicine against the increasing number of antibiotic resistant organisms.. Materials and methods:. Volatile oil was extracted by hydrodistillation method from grapefruit leaves. Antimicrobial activity of volatile oil against various atcc strains of candida was determined by agar diffusion method using mic/mfc method and also tested for cytotoxicity test on human gingival fibroblasts. The oil was effective against the tested atcc strains of candida and was less cytotoxic to the hgf cells when compared to the commercially available antifungals amphotericin b and flucanazole. . Results:. Leaf extract significantly ($p < 0.05$) produced larger zone of inhibition against test pathogens and were less cytotoxic ($p < 0.001$) compared to amphotericin b and flucanazole.. Conclusions:. Plant extracts are superior to the synthetic