OMICS Group Conferences
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2nd International Conference and Exhibition on
Dental & Oral Health
April 21-23, 2014 Crown Plaza Dubai, UAE

In vitro assessment of endodontic medicaments against *E. faecalis* and *C. albicans*

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Aim: The aim of this study was to evaluate the antimicrobial effect of calcium hydroxide paste, Ledermix R Paste and Klorhexidine gel.

Material and Methods: The antimicrobial efficacy of the tested substances was evaluated using the agar diffusion test, against *Enterococcus faecalis* (ATCC 29212) and *Candida albicans* (ATCCC 10231) with 0. 5 McFarland. In the 5. 5 mm diameter discs (Liofilchem - blank disc) each medicament was applied and incubated at 37°C/24h. The experiment was done in five replicates for each group. Kruskal-Wallis statistical test was used to evaluate the differences between the susceptibility of individual microbial species to the endodontic irrigants. Significance level was set at 5%.

Results: The largest growth inhibition zones were produced when the test bacteria were in contact with 2% chlorhexidinegluconate gel, being significantly different from zones produced by Calcium hydroxide paste and Ledermix. This difference was significant for *E. Faecalis* (KW=6:49, P <0. 05) and *C. Albicans* (KW=7. 26, P <0. 05). The results of this study indicate that, as far as its antimicrobial properties are concerned, chlorhexidine gel has a great potential to be used as an endodontic auxiliary chemical substance.