



DOI: 10.56892/bima.v6i03.49

## ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF BIOACTIVE CONSTITUENT OF N-BUTANOL SEED EXTRACT OF *Azadirachta indica*

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### ABSTRACT

Extraction of the seed powdered material of *Azadirachta indica* followed by an extensive column chromatography of the n-butanol portion on silica gel, purification over sephadex LH<sub>20</sub> and subsequently HPTLC resulted in to the isolation of a pale yellowish solid coded as compound MND. The isolated bioactive constituent was found to have mp of 222-224°C. The structure was elucidated using a combination of 500 MHz and 125MHz 1-D and 2-D NMR techniques (COSY, NOESY, HSQC, DEPT and HMBC). Thus, the isolate (MND) was determined as 4a, 7 – dihydroxy – 7 – methyl – 1 – (3, 4, 5 – trihydroxy – 6– hydro methyl – tetrahydropyran – 2 – yloxy) – 1 -, 4a, 5, 6, 7, 7a, hexahydro – cyclopenta [C] pyran – 4 – carboxylic acid methyl ester (Ipolamiide). The Antimicrobial properties of the compound MND and partition portion of the extracts were tested against *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *P. vulgari*, *P. aeruginosa*, *K. pneumoniae*, *E. coli*, *S. typhi*, *P. digitatum*, *C. albicans* and *P. nototum*. The antimicrobial sensitivity test indicated that various partition portion of the extracts inhibited the growth of *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. typhi*, *K. pneumoniae*, *P. digitatum*, *C. albicans* and *P. nototum* with 42mm, 38mm, 31mm, 29mm, 22mm, 30mm, 26mm, 27mm, 21 mm and 20 mm while the highest activity of the isolate (MND) was exhibited against *S. aureus*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli* and *S. typhi* with 42 mm, 38 mm, 31mm and 39mm respectively.

**Keywords:** *Azadirachta indica*, Active constituent, Antimicrobial, Meliaceae, Spectral data

### INTRODUCTION

Natural products research of plants with pharmaceutical value represents a key approach toward the development of new pharmaceutical products. The use of plants with therapeutic value for the treatment of diseases has been in practice for a long time and is documented (Twajj and Hasan, 2022). Humans, since primeval times have learnt to derive chemicals from plants and use them for therapeutic purposes (Jayawardene et al., 2021). The action of drugs in biological systems results from binding with receptors or enzymes. The biosynthetically altered active components of local plant extracts have enable them to bind successfully to human proteins in a process termed ‘evolutionary molecular modeling’. Bioactive plant

products can bind to enzymes and receptors thereby obstructing or stimulating them (Tsado et al., 2018; Abubakar et al., 2015a). Natural products today as in times of old are having great influence on treatments for ailments and health status of people. Natural products have made significant contributions to the evolution of the pharmaceutical industry, as many drugs have been developed from natural products as precursors (Twajj and Hasan, 2022). World Health Organization acknowledged herbal remedies and have not frowned at developing countries who have incorporate the use of safe herbal medicine in their health system (Benarba and Pandiella, 2020). The patronage for natural products is further enhanced by their availability, affordability ‘perceived’ efficacy in treatment

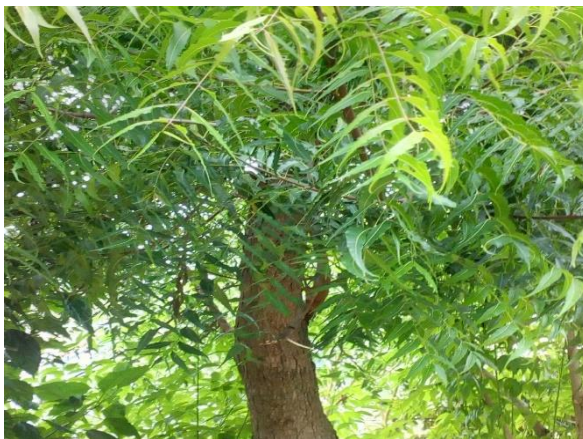
DOI: 10.56892/bima.v6i03.49

of some ailments (Welz et al., 2018). Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) is one of those plants that have wide applications among locals especially in treatment of some ailments.

*Azadirachta indica* is a fast-growing plant of the mahogany family (Meliaceae), it can reach a height of 15–30 metres (49–98 feet). The leaves are evergreen toothed leaflets which drop amidst periods of drought. Several products from the plant, especially extracts have been used for medical purposes and in cosmetics. The plant's resilient nature allows it to grow well even in poor and rocky grounds. Neem is known to endure a wide variation in environmental conditions but does not grow well in waterlogged soils or freezing temperatures. The flowers are borne in clusters in the axils of the leaves with smooth yellow-green fruit (Petruzzello, 2022). Neem (*A. indica*) can be propagated from cutting suckers or from seed. It is grown for different purposes that include source of wood, provision of shade and reforestation; products obtained from *A. indica* have found

applications in antiseptics, antipyretic and some in beauty products (Moin, et al., 2021; Adem et al., 2011).

Oil obtained from the seed has been used in the production of detergent, soap and toothpaste. Other by-products have found application in the production of fertilizers. According to Imanuddin et al. (2020), *A. indica* contains about 300 secondary metabolites that are accountable for its properties. Research has shown over the years that neem seed is essentially non-toxic to vertebrates and it is the most potent growth regulator and feeding deterrent ever assayed (Wylie and Merrell, 2022). Neem seed is reported to be rich in protolimonoids, fatty acids, cyclic tri- and tetrasulphides, alkyl sulphides and modified apocynol tetranortriterpenoids (Torres-Contreras, et al., 2022; Lin et al., 2021; Aarthy et al., 2018). In this research, a bioactive principle MND was isolated from the n-butanol seed extract of *A. indica* and the isolate was tested for its biological activities against the aforementioned microbes.

Plate I: *A. indica* treePlate II: *A. indica* seed

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Sample Collection and Treatment

Seeds of *Azadirachta indica* (Meliaceae) plant were obtained from a farm in Lapai town in Niger State, Nigeria. The plant was identified

at the Department of Biological Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University (A.B.U.), Zaria, Nigeria. The seeds were decorticated and sliced into small pieces, then dried for 7 days

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at room temperature after which they were ground into powder.

### Experimental

Perkin- Elmer (Model 341 LC) spectrometer was used to measure optical rotations at room temperature.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR experiments were performed using Bruker spectrometer at 500 MHz and 125 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR respectively. The NMR spectra obtained were referenced to  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  solvent signals at  $\delta 3.30$  ppm ( $^1\text{H}$ ) and 49.00 for ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Chemical shift values ( $\delta$ ) obtained were in part per million (ppm) in relation to TMS (internal solvent standard). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was done on plates which were precoated with RP-18 gel (merck) and silica gel F254. Spots on the TLC plates were made visible by careful spraying the plates with 10% sulphuric acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) then followed by heating the plate in the oven. Column chromatography was done on silica gel 60 (0.040 - 0.0653 mm) and column (40 – 63  $\mu\text{m}$ , 310 mm and 15 mm i.d). HPTLC was carried on the concentrated pooled fraction with Fluka silica gel precoated glass plate (20 x 20 cm) having a layer thickness of 0.25 mm using Ethyl acetate: Methanol (7:3) as the solvent system. TLC visualization was done through UV absorption at 254 nm (Mohammed, 2022; Sofi and Nabi, 2018).

### Antimicrobial Screening

Antimicrobial activities of the seed extract and isolated principle were determined using the microbes obtained from a Medical Microbiology Department of A.B.U. teaching hospital, Zaria, Nigeria. These microbes include, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Penicillium digitatum*, *Bacillus subtilis*,

*Aspergillus niger*, *Candida albicans*, *Penicillium notatum* and *Fusarium oxysporum*. The purity of the isolates was checked and maintained in slants of nutrient agar and saborand dextrose for bacteria and fungi respectively.

### Extraction and Isolation

The powdered sample was macerated using the cold maceration technique using MeOH 100 % (3.0  $\text{dm}^3$ ) at 45°C for 48 hrs with intermittent shaking. The extract was concentrated at low pressure to dryness in order to obtain semi solid material. It was re-suspended in water (800  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and exhaustively partitioned consecutively with n-hexane, (3×500  $\text{cm}^3$ ), chloroform(3×600  $\text{cm}^3$ ), ethyl acetate (3×400  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and n-butanol (5×400  $\text{cm}^3$ ). The various partition portions of the extracts were concentrated by use of rotary evaporator to obtain n-hexane, (5.92 g), chloroform (3.15 g) ethyl acetate (4.25 g), n-butanol (5.20 g) and aqueous (7.22 g) residues respectively. The different fractions of the extract obtained were subjected to preliminary phytochemical screening according standard methods (Sofi and Nabi, 2018; Chóez-Guaranda et al. 2022).

The soluble portion of n-butanol was subjected to column chromatography on a silica gel (70-230 mesh). The column was eluted sequentially using gradient solvent system of n-hexane (100 %, 400  $\text{cm}^3$ ), Chloroform/EtOAc (2:8-1:9), EtOAc/MeOH (9:1-2:9) and MeOH 100 %. Fractions from other portions were pooled together on the basis of TLC analysis to obtain 83 fractions of 20  $\text{cm}^3$  aliquot ( $F_1$  – $F_{83}$ ). Fraction ( $F_{8-68}$ = 161 mg) with three spots were subjected to repeated gel filtration using sephadex LH-20 and RP-18 column chromatography with 100 % MeOH (eluting solvent) to get amorphous mixture with two spots coded as FA(72 mg).



FA (72 mg) with two homogeneous spots was concentrated and further resubmitted for HPTLC analysis. The analysis was done using Fluka silica gel pre-coated glass plates 20×20 cm having thickness layer of 0.25mm. A thin line of about 1.5 cm was drawn with a pencil from the bottom of the plate. Pooled sample of FA (72 mg) was dissolved in MeOH to obtain concentration of 20 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>. It was then uniformly applied along the thin line with the aid of capillary tube. The plate was then left to dry before it was developed with an appropriate solvent system. The plate which developed was dried under air in fume cupboard, pencil was used to mark the position of the band of interest then scraped off the back of the plate onto a foil. The size of the scraped sorbent was reduced using pestle and mortar, then transferred onto a sintered glass funnel and repeatedly washed with Acetone, followed by evaporation of the solution obtained to give a pale yellowish isolate coded as compound MND (40.3 mg, R<sub>f</sub>0.6). Elution progress was monitored with TLC using pre-coated plate in different solvent systems; n-hexane:Ethylacetate (80:20), chloroform:ethylacetate (65:45) and EtOAc:MeOH (70:30). The chromatogram obtained was spread with 10 % H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and kept in an oven at of 105 °C for 5min then removed to ascertain the compound on the plate (Mohammed, 2022).

### Chemical Test

#### *Ferric Chloride Test*

About 5.0 % iron(III)chloride in 0.5 N hydrochloric acid was spurted on the chromatogram, fluka-silica gel precoated glass plate of compound MND. This test was to check for the presence of phenolic compounds (Abubakar et al., 2015b).

#### *Vanillin/Sulphuric Acid Test*

4.0 g solution of vanillin was dissolved in 100 cm<sup>3</sup> of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. This solution was then spread

using spray canister on the chromatogram pre-coated glass plate of compounds MND in a fume chamber. The plate was then heated in an oven at 110 °C for 5 – 10 minutes before it was removed from the oven to ascertain color formed (Mohammed et al., 2019).

#### *Liebermann Buchard's Test.*

1 cm<sup>3</sup> of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH was added to 1 cm<sup>3</sup> of chloroform and cooled in a test tube to 0 °C. Then drops of conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> were added to the test tube which contain solution of compound MND (Mohammed, 2022).

### Determination of Sugar in Compound MND

Compound MND (3.5 mg) was dissolved in 2.5 cm<sup>3</sup> of water; 2N solution of CH<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-COOH (2.5 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added and then refluxed on a water bath for 3 hours, after which the mixture was diluted with 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of water then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 5 10 cm<sup>3</sup>). The extracts of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were washed with water before evaporation to dryness *in vacuo*. The concentrated aqueous layer then was passed through Amberlite column (short) before evaporating to dryness in order to give sugar fraction (1.5 mg). These were analyzed with HPLC using CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O (85:15). Co-TLC of the sample was carried out and the sugar was analyzed with silica gel TLC in comparison to standard sugar using solvent system (Tsado et al. 2019).

### Antimicrobial Assay

0.8g of the various partition portion of the extract were weighed separately and dissolved in 10.0 cm<sup>3</sup> of DMSO to get a concentration of 80.0 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>. This concentration was the initial for the extract used to determine the antimicrobial activities of these extracts (Abu-Reidah and Taamalli, 2022). Mueller Hinton agar medium was prepared using method in the manufacturer's Instruction; sterilized at temperature of 121 °C for 15 min, the medium

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sterilized was poured into sterile Petri dishes, the plates were then allowed to solidify on cooling. The extracts were screened using diffusion method. The medium was seeded with 0.1 cm<sup>3</sup> of standard inoculums of test microbes. The inoculums were evenly spread on the surface of the medium using sterile swab. After setting, the use of standard cork borer of a number 4 sterile cork borer of 6 mm in diameter were gotten, a well was cut at the middle of each inoculated plate medium. The medium inoculated was incubated at a temperature of 37 °C for 24 hrs. Each plate was observed for zone of inhibition of growth. Transparent ruler was used to measure the zone and the result recorded in millimeters (Adamu and Sajo, 2021).

The minimum inhibition concentration of the various partition portions of extracts were obtained with the use of broth dilution method. 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of prepared Mueller Hinton broth was dispensed into a test tube, then sterilized at 121 °C for 15 min and left to cool. McFarlands turbidity standard number 0.5 was prepared to give turbid solution. 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of prepared normal saline was dispensed into sterile test tubes and the test microbes inoculated and incubated at a temperature of 37 °C for 6 hrs. Test microbes in the normal saline were diluted until turbidity marched that of the Mc-Farland's scale using visual comparison; at this point the test microbe's concentration was about 1.5 x 10<sup>8</sup> cfu/ml (Tsado et al., 2018a). Two fold serial dilution of the extract in the sterile broth was done to obtain concentrations of 80 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>, 40 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>, 20 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>, 10 mg/cm<sup>3</sup> and 5 mg/cm<sup>3</sup> respectively. 0.8 g of the extract was dissolved in 10 cm<sup>3</sup> each of the sterile broth to obtain the initial concentration. 0.1 cm<sup>3</sup> of standard inoculums of the test microbe was inoculated into different concentrations of the extract in the broth. Incubation was done at a temperature of 37 °C for 24 hrs, thereafter the test tubes were observed for growth (turbidity). The lowest concentration of the extract in the broth that did not show turbidity

was noted as the minimum inhibition concentration (Ohikhenana et al., 2017).

Minimum bactericidal and fungicidal concentrations were determined to check if the test microbes have been killed or only growth was inhibited. Prepared Mueller Hinton agar was poured into sterile Petri dishes, allowed to cool and solidify. Contents of the MIC in the serial dilutions were sub-cultured onto the prepared medium; incubation was made at temperature of 37 °C for 24 hrs, then each of the plates was observed carefully for colony growth. Plate having the lowest concentration of extract without colony growth can be considered the MBC for the bacteria and MFC for the fungi (Ohikhenana et al., 2017).

The method of Mohammed (2022) was employed for the analysis of the isolated compound, MND. Organisms used were the same as those above. The medium of choice was Tryptic say Agar (Merck KGa A), it was prepared according to instructions of manufacturer. This was dispensed in sterile plates in 20 cm<sup>3</sup> aliquots after gelling and drying, the plates were seeded with the test microbes by streaking evenly in a cotton swab. The inoculums were allowed 5 min to dry, sterile filter paper disks (4 mm) earlier soaked with the isolated compound MND in (4µl/disk) placed and pressed down gently to ensure contact. The plates were inoculated at temperature of 37 °C for 24 hrs and ruler was used to measure the zones of inhibition.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1 present TLC results of isolate MND in different solvent system. Extraction of the seed portion of *A. indica* followed by column chromatography of n-butanol portion of the extract on silica gel, then purification over sephadex LH-20 folloed by (HPTLC) lead to the isolation of compound MND. The isolate gave positive colour when tested with ferric chloride indicating the compound is phenolic (Mottaghipisheh and Iriti, 2020). It also gave

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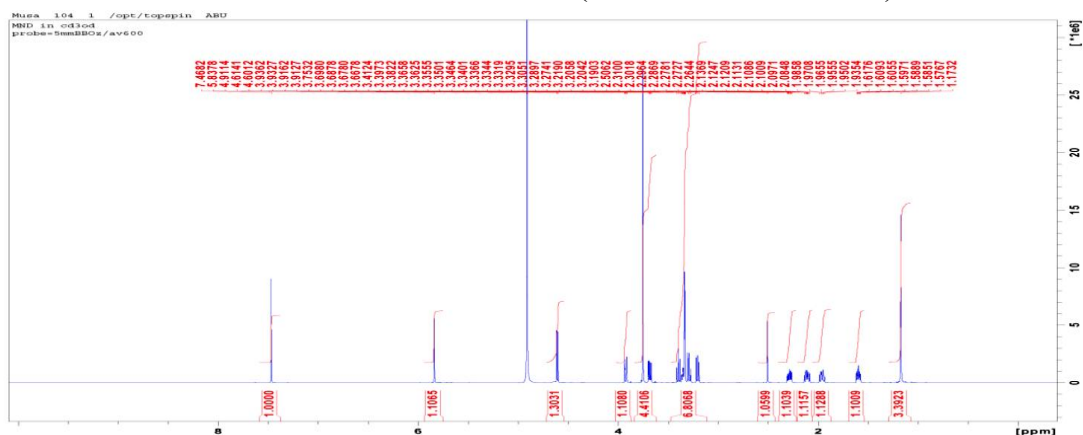
a red colour at the interphase indicating the presence of glycoside (Mottaghipisheh and Iriti, 2020).



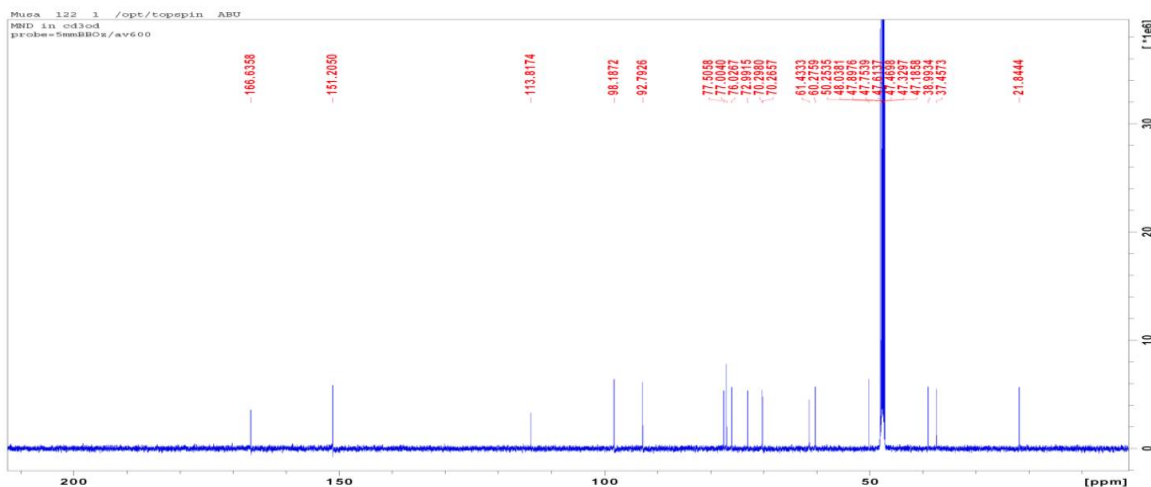
**Figure 1:** MND in different solvent system

Compound MND was obtained as a pale yellowish powder (MeOH), having  $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 39.6$  (c1.1, MeOH). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of MND (Figure 2 and table 1) displayed signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.4ppm (1H, s) and  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6ppm (1H d, 7.8Hz) corresponding to H – 3 and H – 1'. The signals at 1.2ppm (3H, s) and 3.6ppm (1H, dd, 6.0Hz) corresponds to H – 10 and H – 6' while the signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.7ppm (3H, s) is attributed to  $\text{OCH}_3$  (Brown, 2003). The signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.2 – 3.6 above are all assigned to the sugar nucleus (Adem et al., 2011). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra revealed the presence of single anomeric proton at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (4.6 1H, d, 7.8Hz corresponding to H – 1'). The presence of signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  7.4 ppm (1H, s) corresponding to H – 3, could be attributed to a methyl proton

of the aglycone while signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.7ppm (3H, s) are assigned to the methoxy group. The signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.20ppm which is shielded up field could be attributed to a tertiary methyl group (Mohammed, et al., 2015). The large J value of the anomeric proton at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.0ppm (1H, d, 7.8Hz) of H – 1' and other resonance at  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.2ppm (3H, m) -  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.6ppm (1H, dd, 6.0) attributable to H – 2 – H – 6' is an indication of a  $\beta$ - glucosyl moiety (Francis, 2003). The  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR and DEPT experiment spectrum (Table 1) exhibited 17 carbon signals. The DEPT experiment showed four (4) quaternary carbon atoms, 3 oxymethylenes a single methine and one signal attributed to a methyl group. The signal observed at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  51.03 ppm could be attributed to a methoxy group (Guimarães, et al., 2012).

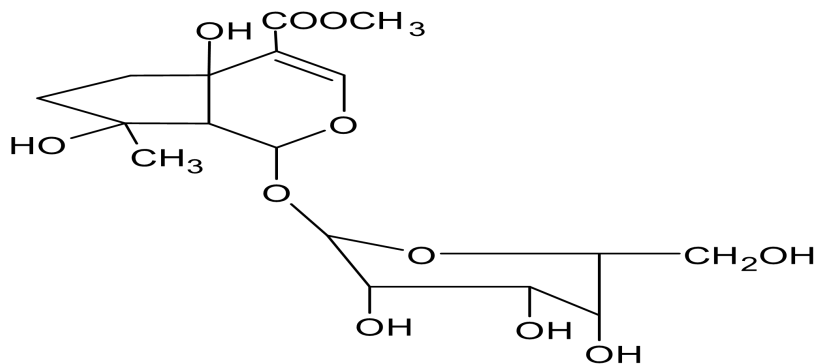


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**Figure 2:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of MND in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ 

**Figure 3:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of MND in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ 

The HSQC spectra has further facilitated the assignment of the  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  93.0ppm (C-1), 151.2ppm (C-3), 38.0ppm (C-6), 39.0ppm (C-7), 60.3ppm (C-9), 22.0ppm (C-10) and 50.3ppm ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ) with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.8ppm (H-1), 7.4ppm (H-3), 1.9ppm (H-10) and 3.7ppm ( $\text{OCH}_3$ ). These values are in complete conformity with the ipolamiide aglycone moiety (Oyvind, et al., 2006). The resonance observed at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  98.2ppm (C-1') which correlate with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6ppm (H - 1') could be attributed to an anomeric carbon while signals at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  73.0ppm (C-2'), 76.0ppm

(C-3'), 70.3ppm (C-4'), 77.0ppm (C-5') and 61.4ppm (C-6') which correlates with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6ppm (H-1'), 3.2ppm (H-2'), 3.3ppm (H-3'), 3.4ppm (H-4'), 3.4ppm (H-5) and 3.6ppm (H-6'), could be attributed to a sugar moiety. The signals observed at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  61.4ppm could be attributed to the oxymethylene carbon suggesting the presence of a glucopyranosyl moiety (Hostettmann, and Wolfende, 2004). The signal at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  22.0ppm is assigned to the methyl group as confirmed by the HSQC data.


**Figure 4:** MND 4a, 7-dihydroxy-7-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydromethyl-tetrahydropyran-2-yloxy)-1-, 4a,5,6,7,7a, hexahydro-cyclopenta [C] pyran-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester (Ipolamiide)

**Table 1:** Summary of  $^{13}\text{C}$  (125MHz) and  $^1\text{H}$  (500 MHz) NMR spectra data of compound MND in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , ( $\delta$  ppm, J in Hz)

| Position       | $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (J in Hz) | $\delta_{\text{C}}$ | DEPT          | COS<br>Y | HMBC (C-H)         |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------|--------------------|
| 1              | 5.8 (1H, d, 1.1 Hz)           | 93.0                | CH            | H-9      | C -3, C -9, C -1'  |
| 3              | 7.4 (1H, s)                   | 151.2               | CH            |          | C -1, C -5         |
| 4              | -                             | 114.0               | C             |          |                    |
| 5              | -                             | 70.3                | C             |          | C -3, C -6, C -7   |
| 6              | 1.9 (1H, m)                   | 38.0                | $\text{CH}_2$ |          | C -5, C -7, C -9   |
| 7              | 1.6 (1h, m), 2.05 (1H,m)      | 39.0                | CH            |          | C -9, C -1''       |
| 8              | -                             | 77.0                | CH            |          | C -7, C -9, C -1'' |
| 9              | 2.5 (1H, brs)                 | 60.0                | CH            | H-10     | C -4, C -5, C -1'' |
| 10             | 1.2 (3H, S)                   | 22.0                | $\text{CH}_3$ |          | C -5, C -6         |
| 11             | -                             | 167.0               | -             |          | -                  |
| $\text{OCH}_3$ | 3.7 (3H, S)                   | 50.3                |               |          | -                  |
| 1'             | 4.6 (1H, d, 7.8Hz)            | 98.2                | CH            | H-2'     | C -1, C -2'        |
| 2'             | 3.2 (3H, m)                   | 73.0                | CH            |          | C -3'              |
| 3'             | 3.3 (3H, m)                   | 76.0                | CH            |          | C -2'              |
| 4'             | 3.4 (3H, m)                   | 70.3                | CH            |          | C -3'              |
| 5'             | 3.4 (3H, m)                   | 77.0                | CH            |          | C -6'              |
| 6'             | 3.6 (1H, dd, 6.0)             | 61.4                | $\text{CH}_2$ |          | C -1'              |

The COSY spectroscopic analysis has exhibited the correlation of  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.8ppm with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  2.5 ppm and  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6 ppm with 3.2 ppm (Table 1). The NOESY spectrum of MND has shown that  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  5.8 ppm (H - 1) is in the same environment with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  1.2 ppm (H - 10) and  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6 ppm (H - 1). This also shows the correlation of  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.6 ppm (H-1') with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  3.6 ppm (H-6') (Table 1). The HMBC spectrum revealed the correlations between protons and the neighboring carbons up to 3 bonds. The connectivity between the various atoms and other units in the molecules was established, correlations were established between  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  93.0 ppm (C-1) with  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  151.2 ppm (C-3)  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  60.3 ppm (C-9) and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  98.2 ppm (C-1'). So also correlations were established between  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  22.0 ppm (C-10) a methyl group of the aglycone with the  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  70.3 ppm (C-5) and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  38.0 ppm (C-6). The correlation between  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  151.2 ppm (C-3) with  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  93.0 ppm (C-1) and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  70.3ppm (C- 5) was established. The following correlations were also observed  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  60.0 ppm (C - 9) with  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  4.0 ppm (C- 4),  $\delta_{\text{C}}$

70.3 ppm (C-5) and  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  98.2 ppm (C-1') respectively (Zheng – Xiang et al., 2012).

Based on the aforementioned correlations from HMBC (Table,2) the aglycone was confirmed to be a cyclopentano pyran ring system (Zheng – Xiang et al., 2012).The connectivity between the sugar unit and the aglycone moiety was hence established, the anomeric proton  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ , 4.6ppm (H-1') and the  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  93.0ppm (C-1) of cyclopentano pyran ring (aglycone) was ascertain. This firmly confirmed the structure of MND as Ipolamiide. However, on the basis of the spectral analysis (1D and 2D NMR) and comparison with  $^1\text{H}$  – NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR of the reference data, Compound MND was unambiguously the same as (Ipolamiide), molecular formula of  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{27}\text{O}_{11}$  and  $[\text{M}]^+$  424 as the molecular weight. Thus, MND is named as 4a, 7-dihydroxy-7-methyl-1-(3,4,5-trihydroxy-6-hydromethyl-tetrahydropyran-2-yloxy)-1-, 4a, 5,6,7, 7a,



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hexahydro-cyclopenta [C] pyran-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

Table 2 present results of the phytochemical screening of partitioned portion of the seed extract. The results of the various extracts indicated the presence of tannins, alkaloids, flavonoids, carotenoids and glycosides in the methanol and water fractions but were not detected in the hexane extract. The distribution of the studied phytochemicals in the solvents used was dependent upon their polarities and those of the extracting solvents (Ndamitso et al., 2013). These phytochemicals are ubiquitous in plants and are usually common in human diet. They are

known to inhibit microbes which could be resistance to orthodox antibiotics. Flavonoids' free – radical scavenging property has given rise to multiple biological functions that include anti-bactericidal, anti-inflammatory, anti-carcinogenic, immune stimulatory, vasodialatory, anti-allergic and anti-viral functions (Agidew, 2022). Consequent, the presence of flavonoids in the ethyl acetate and n-butanol extract in this study has shown the therapeutic efficacy of the extract and has given credence to the folkloric use of the plant for treatment of ailments especially inhibitory effect on *S. aureus*, *K. pneumoniaer*, *S. typhi*, *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa*.

**Table 2:** The results of phytochemical screening of the partition portions of the seed extract of the plant *Azadirachta indica*

| Constituents              | Test                       | Observation        | Portions of Extracts |                |    |                 |       |    |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|----|-----------------|-------|----|
|                           |                            |                    | Hex                  | M <sub>E</sub> | Cl | E <sub>ta</sub> | n-But | Aq |
| Carbohydrate General Test | Molisch                    | Red colouring      | -                    | +              | -  | -               | -     | +  |
| Sugar Test                | Aniline                    | Red colour         | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | +  |
| Sugar (Monosaccharide)    | Barfoed's                  | Red ppt            | -                    | +              | -  | -               | -     | +  |
| Red Sugar                 | Fehling's                  | Red ppt            | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | +  |
| Tannins                   | Lead Ethanoate             | White ppt.         | -                    | +              | -  | -               | +     | +  |
|                           | Iron (III) Chloride        | Blue – Black       | -                    | +              | -  | -               | +     | +  |
|                           | Ethanoic acid              | White ppt          | -                    | +              | -  | -               | -     | -  |
|                           | Methanol's                 | Red ppt            | -                    | +              | -  | -               | +     | +  |
| Saponins                  | Frothing                   | Persist frothing   | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | -  |
|                           | Lieberman B.               | Blue or green      | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | -  |
| Phlobatannins             | Hydrochloric Acid          | Red ppt            | -                    | +              | -  | -               | +     | -  |
| Carotenoids               | Carr price's               | Blue to red color  | -                    | +              | -  | -               | -     | +  |
| Emodol                    | Borntrager's               | Red color          | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | -  |
| Flavones aglycones        | Shibata's                  | Red to Orange      | -                    | -              | -  | -               | -     | -  |
| Terpenoids                | Lieberman B.               | Pink to Red colour | +                    | +              | +  | +               | +     | -  |
| Alkaloids                 | Mayer's                    | Buff ppt           | -                    | +              | +  | +               | +     | -  |
|                           | Wagner's                   | Dark brown ppt     | -                    | +              | +  | +               | +     | -  |
|                           | Dragendoff's               | Orange red ppt     | -                    | +              | +  | +               | +     | +  |
| Flavonoids                | Shinoda                    | Dee red            | -                    | +              | +  | +               | -     | -  |
|                           | Tetraoxosulphate (vi) acid | Deep yellow        | -                    | +              | +  | +               | -     | -  |
| Cardiac glycoside         | Legal's                    | Deep red colour    | -                    | +              | -  | +               | -     | +  |
|                           | Kedd's                     | Violet colour      | -                    | +              | -  | +               | -     | +  |
|                           | Keller – kilanis           | Reddish brown      | -                    | +              | -  | +               | -     | +  |
|                           | Baljet                     | Orange to Deep red | -                    | +              | -  | +               | -     | +  |
|                           | Lieberman                  | Bluish green       | -                    | +              | -  | +               | -     | -  |

Key: + = Present, - = Absent, Hex = N-Hexane, M<sub>E</sub> = Methanol, Cl = Chloroform, E<sub>ta</sub> = Ethyl acetate, n-But = n-butanol and Aq = Residual aqueous portion.

DOI: 10.56892/bima.v6i03.49

Tannins have been reported to inhibit the growth of microorganisms by precipitating out the microbial protein hence depriving them growth (Deghima, et al., 2021; Huang, et al., 2018; Mujeeb et al., 2014). Tannins were present in the methanol, ethyl acetate and n-butanol fractions of the extract. This explains the good antimicrobial activity of the extract on tested pathogens (Huang et al., 2018). The presence of carbohydrate and reducing sugars in the extract of *A. indica* seed indicate that energy content was high and could be a source of raw material for food and drug industries that utilized carbohydrates reducing sugars (Deghima, et al., 2021). Saponin was detected in some portions of the extract and was found to produce antifungal activity against *C. albicans* (Porte et al., 2022; Działo et al., 2016).

The antibacterial activity of the n-butanol fraction of the seed extract was found to be fairly good against gram (+) bacteria e.g. *S. aureus* and gram (-ve) bacteria e.g. *K. pneumonia* and *E. coli*. The antifungal activity of ethyl acetate and n-butanol fraction of the

seed extract was found to have little activity against *P. notatum*. The antimicrobial sensitivity test indicated that, the extracts inhibited the growth of *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *S. typhi*, *C. albicans* and *P. digitali*. The extracts did not inhibit the growth of *B. subtilis*, *A. niger* and *F. oxysorum*. The increase in concentration of the extract also increases the zone of growth inhibition of some of the micro-organism. The highest growth inhibition of 42mm, 38 mm, 31 mm, 39 mm diameter, was exhibited by (4µl/ disk), 80mg/ml of compound MND against *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *P. aeruginosa*, *S. typhi* and *E. coli* respectively. The lowest zone of growth inhibition was observed with 20 mm and 21 mm diameter as against *C. albicans* and *P. notatum* from the MND (4µl/disk) and (80mg/ml). The highest minimum inhibition concentrations of the extracts on the test isolate was exhibited against *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli* and *S. aureus* from n-butanol (10 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>). The lowest MIC recorded was against the test Microbes from the n-hexane fraction of the methanol extract.

**Table 3:** Antimicrobial Assay of some microorganisms against MND and various seed extracts of *A. indica* with their zone of inhibition (mm)

| Extract                     | Sa | Sp | Pv | Pa | Kp | Ec | St | Bs | Pd | Ca | An | Fo | Pn |
|-----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| n-hex (80mg/ml)             | 11 | 12 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 12 | 12 | -  | 9  | 16 | -  | -  | 4  |
| CHCl <sub>3</sub> (80mg/ml) | 18 | 20 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 19 | 15 | -  | 10 | 10 | -  | -  | 12 |
| EtoAc (80mg/ml)             | 25 | 27 | 21 | 24 | 22 | 26 | 22 | -  | 12 | 13 | -  | -  | 13 |
| N – BuOH (80mg/ml)          | 32 | 35 | 22 | 29 | 32 | 32 | 27 | -  | 28 | 24 | -  | -  | 22 |
| Aq (80mg/ml)                | 20 | 23 | 20 | 19 | 16 | 20 | 19 | -  | 11 | 17 | -  | -  | 18 |
| Compound MND (4ul/disk)     | 42 | 38 | 31 | 39 | 34 | 30 | 26 | -  | 27 | 21 | -  | -  | 20 |
| Ampiclox                    | 47 | 42 | 38 | 43 | 43 | 35 | 30 | -  | 37 | 28 | -  | -  | 25 |

Key:-n-hex = n-hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub> = Chloroform, EtoAc = Ethylacetate, n - BuOH = n-Butanol, Aq = Aqueous, Sa = *S. aureus*, Sp = *S. pyogenes*, Pv = *P. vulgaris*, Pa = *P. aeruginosa*, Kp = *K. pneumonia*, Es = *E. coli*, St = *S. typhi*, Bs = *B. subtilis*, Ca = *C. albicans*, An = *A. nigar*, FO = *F. oxysorum*, Pn = *P. notatum*.

DOI: 10.56892/bima.v6i03.49

**Table 4:** Minimum Inhibition Concentration of MND and the various partition portion of the extracts against microorganisms

| Microorganisms           | MND (mg/cm <sup>3</sup> ) |    |    |    |    | n-hex (mg/cm <sup>3</sup> ) |    |    |    |     | EtoAc (mg/cm <sup>3</sup> ) |    |    |    |     | n-BuoH (mg/cm <sup>3</sup> ) |    |    |    |    | Aq (mg/cm <sup>3</sup> ) |    |    |    |     |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----------------------------|----|----|----|-----|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
|                          | 80                        | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5  | 80                          | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5   | 80                          | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5   | 80                           | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5  | 80                       | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5   |
| (+) <i>S. aureus</i>     | -                         | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                        | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| (+) <i>S. pyogenes</i>   | -                         | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | ++ | -                        | -  | -  | 0x | ++  |
| (-) <i>P. vulgaris</i>   | -                         | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                            | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                        | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| (-) <i>P. aeruginosa</i> | -                         | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                        | -  | -  | 0x | ++  |
| (-) <i>K. pneumoniae</i> | -                         | -  | -  | -  | 0x | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | ++  | -                           | -  | -  | -  | 0x  | -                            | -  | -  | -  | 0x | -                        | -  | -  | -  | 0x  |
| (-) <i>E. coli</i>       | -                         | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                        | -  | -  | 0x | ++  |
| <i>S. typhi</i>          | -                         | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | ++ | -                        | -  | -  | 0x | ++  |
| <i>B. subtilis</i>       | -                         | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                            | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                        | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| <i>P. digitalis</i>      | -                         | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -                           | -  | 0x | +  | ++  | -                           | -  | 0x | ++ | +++ | -                            | -  | 0x | ++ | ++ | -                        | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| <i>C. albicans</i>       | -                         | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | 0x | +  | ++  | -                            | -  | -  | 0x | +  | -                        | -  | -  | 0x | ++  |
| <i>A. niger</i>          | -                         | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                            | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                        | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| <i>F. oxysporum</i>      | -                         | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                           | -  | -  | -  | -   | -                            | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                        | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| <i>P. notatum</i>        | -                         | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -                           | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -                           | -  | 0x | +  | ++  | -                            | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -                        | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |

Key: -n-hex = n-hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub> = Chloroform, EtoAc = Ethylacetate, n - BuOH = n-Butanol, Aq = Aqueous, Sa = *S. aureus*, Sp = *S. pyogenes*, Pv = *P. vulgaris*, Pa = *P. aeruginosa*, Kp = *K. pneumoniae*, Es = *E. coli*, St = *S. typhi*, Bs = *B. subtilis*, Ca = *C. albicans*, An = *A. niger*, FO = *F. oxysporum*, Pn = *P. notatum*.

**Table 5:** Minimum Bactericidal/Fungicidal concentrations of MND and various extract against test microorganism

| Test Organisms           | MND(mg/ml) |    |    |    |     | n-hex (mg/ml) |    |    |     |     | EtoAc (mg/ml) |    |    |     |     | n-BuoH (mg/ml) |    |    |    |    | Aq (mg/ml) |    |    |    |     |
|--------------------------|------------|----|----|----|-----|---------------|----|----|-----|-----|---------------|----|----|-----|-----|----------------|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|-----|
|                          | 80         | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5   | 80            | 40 | 20 | 10  | 5   | 80            | 40 | 20 | 10  | 5   | 80             | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5  | 80         | 40 | 20 | 10 | 5   |
| (+) <i>S. aureus</i>     | -          | -  | -  | -  | 0x  | 0x            | +  | ++ | +++ | +++ | -             | 0x | +  | ++  | +++ | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| (+) <i>S. pyogenes</i>   | -          | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -             | 0x | +  | ++  | +++ | -             | -  | 0x | +   | ++  | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| (+) <i>P. vulgaris</i>   | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -              | -  | -  | -  | -  | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| (-) <i>P. aeruginosa</i> | -          | -  | -  | -  | 0x  | -             | 0x | +  | ++  | +++ | -             | -  | 0x | +   | ++  | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| (-) <i>K. pneumoniae</i> | -          | -  | -  | -  | 0x  | -             | -  | -  | 0x  | ++  | -             | -  | -  | -   | 0x  | -              | -  | -  | -  | 0x | -          | -  | -  | -  | 0x  |
| (-) <i>E. coli</i>       | -          | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -             | 0x | +  | ++  | +++ | -             | -  | 0x | +   | ++  | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | -  | 0x | +  | ++  |
| <i>S. typhi</i>          | -          | -  | -  | 0x | +   | -             | 0x | +  | ++  | +++ | -             | -  | 0x | +   | ++  | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | -  | 0x | +  | ++  |
| <i>B. subtilis</i>       | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -              | -  | -  | -  | -  | -          | -  | -  | -  | 0x  |
| <i>P. digitalis</i>      | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | 0x            | +  | ++ | +++ | +++ | -             | -  | 0x | +   | ++  | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| <i>C. alnilans</i>       | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ | -             | 0x | +  | +++ | +++ | -             | 0x | +  | +++ | +++ | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |
| <i>A. Niger</i>          | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -              | -  | -  | -  | -  | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| <i>F. oxysporum</i>      | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -             | -  | -  | -   | -   | -              | -  | -  | -  | -  | -          | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| <i>P. notatum</i>        | -          | -  | 0x | +  | ++  | -             | 0x | +  | +++ | +++ | -             | 0x | +  | +++ | +++ | -              | -  | 0x | +  | ++ | -          | 0x | +  | ++ | +++ |

Key: - = No turbidity (No growth), 0x =MIC, + = light turbid (light growth), ++ = Moderate turbid, +++ = High turbidity

The antimicrobial effects of the extracts observed on the micro-organisms could be attributed to the presence of aforementioned secondary metabolites present in the plant (Huang, et al., 2018). Tannins are known to exhibit great potential in phytomedicines, as astrigent as well as anti-parasitic property (Deghima, et al., 2021). Terpenes have been

reportedly used as anti-tumor and an antiviral agent; some are known to be cytotoxic to tumor cells. The eudesmane sesquiterpenes are reported to exhibit high antibacterial properties (Działo, et al., 2016; Tanko, et al., 2020). Saponins, have anti-oxidant, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory and anti-viral properties (Agidew, 2022) while flavonoids

DOI: 10.56892/bima.v6i03.49

are known to exhibit anti-inflammatory properties (Panche et al., 2016). The large zone of inhibition exhibited by the MND against *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*, *P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *Kleb. P.* and *S. typhi* justifies the use of *A. indica* by traditional healers. The presence of alkaloids also add to the medicinal importance of *A. indica* as significant quantities have been used locally as analgesic, anti-malarial and as stimulants (Sharifi-Rad et al., 2019). Phenolic compounds which represent varieties of natural antioxidants, have been used as nutraceuticals and also in control of human pathogenic (Mutha et al., 2021).

*E.coli* have been known to be a common cause of diarrhea, infant death and other diarrheagenic infections in humans. The moderate growth inhibition against *E. coli* might be attributed for the use of the seed portion of the extract to treat diarrhea and dysentery. (Diggle and Whiteley, 2020; Kumar and Goel, 2019). The high MIC of *S. aureus* is important in the health care sector, this is because it could be used as an alternative to orthodox antibiotics for treatment of infections caused by the microbes (Gnanamani et al., 2017). *S. aureus* is also known to play an important role in causing skin diseases including superficial and deep follicular lesion. The MIC exhibited by MND extract against *S. aureus* can be important in health care delivery, since it can be used as alternative to Orthodox antibiotics in the treatment of infections caused by these microbes (Tong et al., 2015). The use of these extracts and MND against *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae* and *S. typhi* would reduce the cost of healthcare, since *A. indica* seeds are readily available and affordable (Shaba et al., 2013).

### CONCLUSION

The presence of the studied metabolites in the seed portion of *A. indica* suggests great

potential in the extract as source of phytomedicines. The zone of inhibition shown by the various extracts and MND against *S. aureus*, *P. pyogenes*, *K. Pneumoniae*, *E. coli* and *S. typhi*, justifies its use in traditional medical practice for the treatment of sores, boils and dysentery. The strong activity of the isolate and n-butanol extract on the test microbes, shows that, the seed extract of *A. indica* can be a good source of compounds that are effective against some infectious diseases causative agents. The isolated MND have exhibited impressive activity against some of the test microbes, especially when the isolate is less combine with other secondary metabolites. Therefore, the observed antimicrobial properties of the seed extract of *A. indica* corroborate its use in the ethno medicine.

### Acknowledgment

The authors wish to express their gratitude to the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for funding this study and the management of IBB University, Lapai for creating an enabling environment for research to thrive.

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