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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58531

Title: Antimicrobial Efficacy of Hemigraphis colorata Ethanolic Extract Against Cariogenic Bacteria Associated with Primary Teeth: An In Vitro Study

Recommendation:

Accept as it is .....
✓ Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revision .....
Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strength of the study:

- The study addresses an important topic in pediatric preventive dentistry
- The research objective is clear and clinically relevant
- Well-defined laboratory methodology improves reproducibility
- Appropriate positive and negative controls were included
- Results are presented clearly with supporting tables
- The discussion is supported by relevant scientific literature
- The study highlights the potential of herbal alternatives for oral healthcare

Weakness of the study:

- The study is limited to in vitro laboratory conditions
- Only two cariogenic bacterial species were evaluated
- MIC and MBC values were not determined
- Cytotoxicity and antibiofilm activity were not assessed
- Statistical analysis requires more detailed presentation
- Minor grammatical and formatting corrections are needed
- Clinical applicability requires further in vivo validation

Reviewers Comments:

The manuscript evaluates the antimicrobial activity of *Hemigraphis colorata* ethanolic extract against two important cariogenic bacteria associated with primary teeth. The topic is relevant, particularly considering the increasing interest in herbal alternatives for preventive dentistry. The experimental design is appropriate, and the methodology is described in sufficient detail to allow reproducibility. The results are presented clearly and supported by relevant literature. The manuscript is generally well written, although minor grammatical errors and formatting inconsistencies should be corrected to improve readability. Since this is an in vitro laboratory study, ethical clearance involving human participants is generally not applicable; however, the authors should clearly mention this or provide an institutional approval statement if required. The study limitations, including the absence of MIC, MBC, cytotoxicity, antibiofilm evaluation, and clinical validation, should be emphasized further. Overall, the findings provide useful preliminary evidence supporting the antimicrobial potential of *Hemigraphis colorata* and the manuscript is suitable for publication after minor revision.

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Previously Published anywhere/Plagiarism check:
The manuscript appears to be an original laboratory investigation, and no obvious evidence of previous publication or duplicate submission was identified during review. No clear indication of plagiarism was observed. However, the journal should perform a routine plagiarism similarity check before publication to confirm originality and ensure compliance with publication ethics.