

Antifungal Effect of Synthetic Isomer (R)-(+)-Citronellal against *Candida* Strains

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SUMMARY. Fungi of *Candida* genus are responsible for most oral infections in immunocompromised patients, especially of people with HIV/AIDS. In this study, the synthetic isomer (R)-(+)-citronellal was evaluated for its antifungal effects. Five *Candida albicans* and five *C. tropicalis* strains were used in the study. All the microorganism strains were obtained from the Laboratory of Mycology collection. The microdilution method was used for antifungal assay of the monoterpene. Nistatin (100 UI/mL) was the standard drug. The obtained results showed fungicide activity against both fungi strains.

RESUMEN. Hongos del género *Candida* son responsables de la mayoría de las infecciones orales en pacientes inmunocomprometidos, especialmente de las personas con VIH/SIDA. En este estudio, el isómero sintético (R)-(+)-citronelal se evaluó por sus efectos antifúngicos. Cinco cepas de *Candida albicans* y cinco de *C. tropicalis* se utilizaron en el estudio. Todas las cepas de microorganismos se obtuvieron de la colección del Laboratorio de Micología. Para el ensayo antifúngico del monoterpene se utilizó el método de microdilución. Nistatina (100 UI / mL) fue el fármaco estándar. Los resultados obtenidos mostraron la actividad fungicida contra las dos cepas de hongos.

KEY WORDS: Antifungal, *Candida tropicalis*, *Candida albicans*

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