

PREVALENCE OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT ENTEROCOCCI ISOLATED FROM FOOD

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ABSTRACT

Enterococci have continued to attract attention as emerging pathogen both in Hospital and the environment. Interest on their prevalence has therefore become of interest. Their resistance to multiple antibiotics was investigated from foods in Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria. From the 20 samples collected from food vendors which include: rice, beans, fufu and pounded yam were investigated for the presence of Enterococci. 3 (15%) were positive for enterococci. This study has revealed the prevalence of Enterococci strain in ready-to-eat-food in Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria. The enterococci showed resistant trait to a number of antibiotics. They do not show resistance to Gentamycin.

The mere presence of Enterococci in food is indicative of poor sanitary quality of food, which may be from contaminated water. The result of this research reveals the need for proper hygiene and inspection of food outlets.