

UJI PH CUKA APEL (APPLE CIDER VINEGAR) DALAM MENGHAMBAT PERTUMBUHAN CANDIDA ALBICANS (C. ALBICANS)

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Background. *C. albicans* is a fungus that is normally present on the skin and in mucous membranes. *C. albicans* becomes an infectious agent when there are some change in the body environment and pH, that allows it to grow out of control, especially in immunocompromised patients. Apple cider vinegar contains alkaline-forming substances, that it is good to help maintain the acid-base balance of the body, also have antibacterial agent and resources to the growth inhibitory of *C. albicans* by stabilizing the pH which created an environment that is not suitable for its growth. **Purpose.** The aim of this study was to search for alternative therapies in preventing the onset of infection *C. albicans* in the oral cavity. **Method.** This search was done with the help a volunteer, who used to wear removable denture after one year. *C. albicans* was swabbed from the mucosa that contacts with fitting surface of the denture, and swabbed from the denture as well. The swabbed material was incubated in Sabouraud Dextrose Agar to let the *C. albicans* to grow. Apple cider vinegar was diluted in different pH and concentration, 100% (pH 2); 50% (pH 2); 25% (pH 2,1); 12,5% (pH 2,1); 6,25% (pH 2,2); 3,13% (pH 2,2); 1,56% (pH 2,3); 0,78% (pH 2,3). After 24 hours incubated, the colony of *C. albicans* would be counted. **Result.** The result of this study was not consistent with the hypothesis presented, because at the same pH 2,1 with different concentration 25% there were no colonies of *C. albicans*, but at concentration 12,5% there are colony of the growth of *C. albicans*. **Conclusion.** Apple cider vinegar's pH cannot inhibit the growth of *C. albicans*, but the concentration did.

Key words: Apple cider vinegar, *Candida albicans*, pH, Concentration.