

COPAIBA OIL IN PREVENTING PERIODONTAL DISEASE IN DOGS

¹Pieri, F.A.; ²Mussi, M.C.; ³Fiorini, J.E.; ⁴Schneedorf, J.M.;

¹Dept. Ciência Animal, UNIFENAS, Alfenas, Minas Gerais, Brasil; ²Acadêmica Odontologia, UNIFAL, Alfenas, Minas Gerais, Brasil; ³Lab. Biologia e Fisiologia de Microrganismos, Unifenas, Alfenas, Minas Gerais, Brasil; ⁴Lab. Bioquímica, UNIFAL, Alfenas, Minas Gerais, Brasil.

The clinical and microbiological effects of copaiba oil in preventing periodontal disease, were evaluated in 18 mongrel dogs homogenous distributed in three groups. The positive control group received topically a standard solution of 0.12% chlorhexidine, the negative control group the same solution without chlorhexidine, and the test group, the latter solution with 10% copaiba oil. The treatments were carried out daily, three times a day, during 8 days. At the 9th day, the animals were tested for the presence of biofilm with a 0.5% fuchsin basic solution, following determination of plaque coverage. Clinical changes in halitosis, visible plaque and gingivitis were observed daily during treatments. Group comparison were done by ANOVA following Tukey-Kramer multiple test (plaque coverage), and Kruskal-Wallis test (clinical findings). The results from fuchsin test showed a plaque coverage area of $53.4 \pm 8.8\%$, $28.5 \pm 5.4\%$, and $22.3 \pm 5.3\%$ for negative, positive and test group, respectively, with mean differences between negative and copaiba groups ($p < 0.001$). Furthermore, halitosis, visual plaque thickness, and gingivitis decreased in the copaiba group as compared with the negative one ($p < 0.05$). These findings suggest the use of copaiba oil in preventing periodontal disease, as a possible chlorhexidine substitute in oral antiseptic therapy.