



## Waste Water: A Source of Multidrug Resistant *Escherichia coli* and Faecal streptococci Contamination

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**Abstract:** Ten isolates each of *Escherichia coli* and faecal streptococci purified from different samples of waste water showed high resistance to 24 antibiotics tested by disc diffusion method. All the *Escherichia coli* strains were sensitive only to three antibiotics viz. cotrimoxazole, levofloxacin and impenem and were sensitive or partially sensitive to norfloxacin. For nalidixic acid, amikacin, sparfloxacin and vancomycin 60, 40, 20 and 10% *Escherichiacoli* strains respectively showed resistance. Similarly for faecal streptococci, high degree of drug resistance was observed and all isolates were resistant to as many as 21 antibiotics and for cotrimoxazole, vancomycin and impenem 70, 60 and 40% isolates. The high multiple antibiotic resistance index (MAR) indicates high risk to public health and calls for proper monitoring of waste water treatment and disposal.

**Key Words:** Antibiotic resistance, *Escherichia coli* and faecal streptococci (FS), Multidrug resistant, Wastewater

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