25107 PHARM/TP

THE KENYA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

25107 PHARM/TP

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

A RESEARCH PROJECT ON:

EFFECTIVENESS OF NITROIMIDAZOLES IN TREATMENT OF AMOEBIASIS AT ST. CAMULLUS MISSION HOSPITAL IN MIGORI DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Amoebiasis for along time has remained a challenge for treatment in Migori District. Response of *Entamoeba histolytica* to nitroimidazoles in that region has not been perfect because majority of patients who have been treated for this disease complain of relapses even for years.

It will nevertheless be unwise to declare these drugs totally or partially ineffective against the parasite since amoebic patients are not usually admitted in hospitals where close surveillance on their progress and on how they comply to the drugs can be done. Majority of these patients take these drugs at home thus the poor response could be due to drug incompliance, drug-drug interactions, drug-food interactions, or many other factors. These factors therefore cannot be taken for granted.

It is also known that nitroimidazoles (mostly metronidazole and tinidazole) are the drugs of choice for treatment of acute intestinal amoebiasis.

Use of these drugs in combination with other antibiotics also mar the assumption that only these nitroimidazoles are active against the amoeba parasite in the trophozoid forms in the intestines. The purpose of this research therefore is to establish the effectiveness of metronidazole and tinidazole in treatment of intestinal amoebiasis.