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|  |  | Herbs, an Alternative to Modern Medicine?  Conclusions |
| [**Home**](http://docs.google.com/index.html)[**Introducion**](http://docs.google.com/intro.html)[**Hypothesis/Prediction**](http://docs.google.com/Hypo.html)[**Experiment**](http://docs.google.com/experiment.html)[**Data**](http://docs.google.com/data.html)[**Recommendations**](http://docs.google.com/recs.html)Conclusions[**Bibliography**](http://docs.google.com/biblio.html) |  | Our data tends to supports our hypothesis and prediction, that the herbal treatments could be used properly to control the bacterium. Of the six treatment gradients that we used, the Cat's Claw and the Garlic Oil seemed to produce the best results overall. It appears that the Echinacea was unable to control the Bacillus Cereus as well as the other two, and only had a small zone of inhibition. The best of the treatments was the Cat's Claw 3:1 gradient, it produced the largest zones of inhibition and it was the only powder member of the group.  The six types of treatments were able to combat the bacterium, but with only small zones of inhibition, ranging from .5 mm to 3 mm. What was interesting was that we originally compared ours to Elisa and Christina'' experiment from 1998 (An Antibiotic Alternative?), and they began with a large zone of inhibition, but after 5 days it shrank, and the bacterium over ran the treatments. Our treatments in the experiment had the opposite effect, where we started with a small zone of inhibition, but it grew each day. And after 4 days, it began to stabilize. After the fourth day the zone of inhibition stopped growing, but the zones did not decrease. We believe that by only using one pill and creating this constant resistance, if a person takes multiple pills for an extended period of time, the zones will increase, and the treatments will be able to combat the bacterium even further.  A possible explanation for this phenomenon is the fact that Christina and Elisa had used fresh garlic, where we used pills. By using fresh garlic, some of the properties could have been lost through evaporation, or the fact the fresh substances don't last as long as pills unless taken each day. It's also possible that the Cat's Claw being in powder form had more of an effect because it's concentrated, rather than the liquid used.  Even though doctors prescribe antibiotic for every minor aliment, one should be aware of the resistant strains of bacterium. With the use of herbal remedies it gives a person an alternative to the conventional medicine, and it'll give something else the bacterium will have to learn to combat.  This experiment was both fun and educational. Using the Scientific Method and actually conduction and researching and actual experiment, it gave a little more insight and thought to the problem solving process. It also taught co-operation and combined thinking to make this experiment work properly. I (Eric) have always had an interest in the bio-tech field and hope to continue later on in college as a major. |