The purpose of this experiment was to determine whether plant extracts exhibit antibacterial properties as effectively as traditional antibiotic preparations. The project involved comparing five different extracts, (pomegranate, maitake, green tea, burdock, and dong quai), and eight different antibiotics, (Novobiocin, Tetracycline, Streptomycin, Neomycin, Erythromycin, Chloramphenicol, Penicillin, and Kanamycin) for ability to inhibit growth of both gram positive and gram negative bacteria. Staphylococcus epidermidis and Escherichia coli were used to inoculate eight Mueller Hinton agar plates. Four disks, infused with each extract were positioned with radial symmetry on two of the Staph and two of the E. coli dishes. The same procedure was used to position the antibiotic disks. The petri dishes were incubated at 39 degrees Celsius for 48 hours. The dishes were observed at 24 and 48 hours, and zones of inhibition were measured. These results support the hypothesis in part. Results show that pomegranate and green tea were moderately effective in prohibiting the growth of E. coli and Staph at 24 hours. They were shown to be less effective in preventing the growth of E. coli at 48 hours and were not effective against Staph at 48 hours. By contrast, all antibiotics except Streptomycin were highly effective in preventing the growth of Staph at 48 hours. E. coli was highly sensitive to Neomycin, Chloramphenicol, and Kanamycin. Tetracycline, and streptomycin proved to be moderately effective, and Novobiocin, Erythromycin, and penicillin were less effective at 48 hours. This study implies of this experiment that natural options aren’t the best choice when trying to heal the body.