



## Assessment of the Quality of Food Services for Oranges Fruits Provided in Hospitals at Khartoum and Omdurman States

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### Abstract

This study aimed to assess the quality of food services provided to patients in hospitals and identify causes of quality problems in fruits. Samples of oranges fruits were collected for the study. Four hospitals in Khartoum and Omdurman were selected, two of which were private (Royal Care and Alamal) and two were governments (Omdurman and Alnaow). To identify the cause of the change in nutritional value and food quality, samples were collected throughout the food chain in hospitals raw food phase, storage phase, preparation phase, treatment phase, and presentation phase. The physiochemical properties moisture, protein, oil, ash, acidity, and pH were measured, with the highest value (37.31%) at Omdurman Hospital and the lowest value (84.01%) at Alamal Hospital for humidity in the preparation stage. In the storage phase, the Royal Care Hospital had the highest protein record of 0.32%, and in the preparation phase, Alnaow Hospital had record the lowest at 0.15%, The highest oil measurement rate in the treatment phase was 0.66% at Alnaow Hospital, at least in the preparation phase, and 0.11% at the Royal Care Hospital, and the highest ash measurement rate in the presentation phase was 0.32% at Royal Care Hospitals, at least in the presentation phase at Alnaow Hospital. The highest pH rate in the presentation stage was 0.61% at Royal Care Hospital, at least at the stage. Treatment at Alamal Hospital is 0.26%. In comparison, Alamal Hospital treated at 0.26%. The highest pH measurement rate at Alamal Hospital was 4.60 % during the treatment phase, and the lowest was 4.25 percent during the presentation stage. Bacterial count showed a significant decrease ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) during each stage. At all stages of the food chain, the level of yeast, mold, colon bacteria, and salmonella did not differ statistically. In light of the above, it was clear that the health safety associated with these hospitals was satisfactory.

**Keywords:** orange, hospital, food service, food chain, bacteria, yeast and mold

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## Introduction

A hospital foodservice system consists of preparing food for hospital patients as well as hospital cafeteria patrons (doctors, nurses, staff, and visitors). Conceptually, the cafeteria and patient meals components of the foodservice system can be considered separately since the food prepared for patients is, in general, different from food served in the cafeteria. Patient food is prepared to meet medical and nutritional requirements and would not sell well in the cafeteria. (Olney, 2003). The focus of this thesis is the patient meals components of the foodservice system. The patient meals component can be broken down into preparation and serving methods. Meal preparation involves making a variety of food in large quantities. In many hospitals, the staff that prepares the cafeteria food and the staff that prepares the patient meals are one and the same (Abdul-Rashid, *et al.* 2022). The equipment is commonly shared; therefore, a large amount of planning must be done to organize the utilization of the equipment and labor for each meal. The serving methods for patient meals include the process of taking patient meal orders, assembling them on trays, and then delivering the meals to the patients. Since the food preparation requirements are primarily determined by the menu items for a particular meal, food preparation methods are beyond the scope of this work. The focus of this paper is on the operational issues involved in serving meals to hospital patients (Omar, *et al.* 2020).

**Objective of this study:** The objectives of this study were to assess hospital food service quality, identify the causes of the quality problems and improvement strategies, study the effect of food handling and processing services on nutrients of orange served, evaluate the efficiency of the nutrition departments between public and private hospitals and to evaluate the food

hygienic practices on microbial loads of patients' food.

## Materials and Methods

### Study area:

Four general hospitals were selected for the study, two of them were governmental hospitals located in Omdurman city Omdurman teaching hospital and Alnaowteaching hospital and two private hospitals, one of them locate at Khartoum city Royal care international hospital, and the other locate at Khartoum Bahri city AlamalNational Hospital.

### Methods

#### Sampling:

one kg of orange samples had been chosen to demonstrate the effect of food service protocol on chemical properties and microbial loads. The samples were taken at five stages; the first stage was raw stage from the delivery procedure, the second stage was storage stage where the food materials were stored before making meals, the third stage was the preparation stage, the fourth stage was processing stage, the last stage was display stage where food served to the patients in trolley or in tray. The collection of samples was carried out according to aseptic techniques in sterile plastic bags and transferred to the laboratory in an icebox, directly with minimum delay.

#### Physio-chemical properties:

**Moisture and crude protein** contents were determined according to the method of AOAC, (2000).

**Fat content:** The fat content was determined by Gerber method according to AOAC (1990).

**Ash content:** The ash content was carried out as described by AOAC, (2000).

**Total titratable acidity:** The total titratable acidity was calculated according to Board (1988) method,

**pH Value:** The pH was measured with glass electrode pH meter (Model: HANNA instruments 8521) at ambient temperature.

**Microbiological analysis:**

Total viable count, Yeast, mould and Salmonella were determined as described by Nickerson and Sinskey (1974), and Harrigan (1998).

**Statistical analysis:**

Replicate of each sample was analyzed using statistical system, the analysis of variance was performed to examine the significant effect in all parameters, Least Significant Difference test (LSD test), was used to separate the means (Peterson, 1985).

**Results and Discussion**

**Physio-chemical properties:**

**Moisture content (%):**

Table 1 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on orange moisture content% in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had no significant

differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on orange moisture content% served at all hospitals until preparation stage which show potential significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) decrease. Moisture content value of all orange served in all hospitals and all stages were higher than moisture content that reported by Bain (1957) who stated that orange moisture content average from 21 to 71%. It can be observed that the orange moisture content didn't affect by primary stages of food chain (raw food stage, storage stage), orange served as slices hence its preparation stage include just cut it into pieces without any thermal process, the process of cutting the pulp into small pieces exposes it to the normal atmosphere and thus to lose a significant part of its moisture content.

**Table (1): Effect of food services protocol on orange moisture content (%) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	86.40 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.22	86.72 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.18	86.75 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.11	86.46 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.23	86.58 <sup>A</sup>
B	85.82 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.09	85.04 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.12	86.70 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.15	86.40 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.11	85.99 <sup>AB</sup>
C	86.83 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.14	84.01 <sup>d</sup> ±0.24	87.31 <sup>a</sup> ±0.19	86.90 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.22	86.26 <sup>AB</sup>
D	86.06 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.21	85.30 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.14	87.09 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.16	87.09 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.10	86.38 <sup>AB</sup>
E	84.76 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.11	85.08 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.12	86.60 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.15	85.61 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.17	85.51 <sup>B</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	85.97 <sup>BC</sup>	85.23 <sup>C</sup>	86.89 <sup>A</sup>	86.49 <sup>AB</sup>	
P-value	.0362*				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	1.75				
SE±	0.6124				

Mean ±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different ( $P \leq 0.05$ ).

**Key:**

A ≡ Raw food stage - B ≡ Storage stage - C ≡ Preparation stage -D ≡ Processing stage-  
E ≡ Display stage

**Crude protein content (%):**

Table 2 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on orange crude protein content in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on orange crude protein content served at all hospitals, there were potential significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increase. Protein content value of all orange Slices served in all hospitals and all stages were

comparable by protein content that reported by Smith (1924) who stated that orange protein content average from 0.9 to 0.2 %. It can be observed that the orange protein content affected by different stages of food chain, however the increase of protein content was not due to the effect of food chain stages, but from the effect of decrease in moisture content through food chain stages and therefore increased total soluble solids.

**Table (2): Effect of food services protocol on orange crude protein content (%) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	0.1833 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.02	0.2467 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.01	0.1833 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.00	0.2057 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.02	0.2175 <sup>B</sup>
B	0.3233 <sup>a</sup> ±0.02	0.1833 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.03	0.2667 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	0.2067 <sup>bcd</sup> ±0.01	0.2450 <sup>AB</sup>
C	0.2600 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.05	0.1933 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.01	0.2100 <sup>bcd</sup> ±0.02	0.1567 <sup>d</sup> ±0.01	0.2050 <sup>B</sup>
D	0.2333 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.02	0.1900 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.03	0.1867 <sup>cd</sup> ±0.01	0.1967 <sup>bcd</sup> ±0.00	0.2017 <sup>B</sup>
E	0.3033 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.04	0.2633 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.02	0.2667 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	0.2333 <sup>abcd</sup> ±0.02	0.2267 <sup>A</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	0.2607 <sup>A</sup>	0.2153 <sup>B</sup>	0.2227 <sup>AB</sup>	0.2100 <sup>B</sup>	
P-value	0.0497*				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	0.0904				
SE±	0.0316				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different ( $P \leq 0.05$ ).

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**Fat content (%):**

Table 3 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on (orange oil content %) in Sudanese hospitals. Orange oil is an essential oil produced by cells within the rind of an orange fruit (*Citrus sinensis*

fruit). In contrast to most essential oils, it is extracted as a by-product of orange juice production by centrifugation, producing cold-pressed oil. It is composed of mostly (greater than 90%) d-limonene, and is often used in place of pure d-limonene. D-

limonene can be extracted from the oil by distillation, (Bauer *et al.*, 2001).All food chain stages had no significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on (orange oil content %) served at all hospitals.Orange essential oil of all orange slices served in all hospitals and all stages were lower than that reported by (Bauer *et al.*, 2001) who stated that the essential oil percentage ranged from 0.46 to 1.70 %, depending on the species, type of extraction and form of the orange. There were slight decreases in orange essential oil during

food chain stages, that may be due to evaporation of essential oil at room temperature after processing stage, due to peeling and cutting of orange to slices prior to be served, these finding in agreement with (Mazzuz, 2001) who stated that essential oil tends to vaporize at room temperature until the oil in gaseous form is in equilibrium with the liquid phase. But, this evaporation will be minute and may not be measurable in a closed system.

**Table (3): Effect of food services protocol on orange oil content (%) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	0.1933 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.4367 <sup>b</sup> ±0.02	0.4033 <sup>b</sup> ±0.01	0.5167 <sup>b</sup> ±0.04	0.3625 <sup>AB</sup>
B	0.1700 <sup>c</sup> ±0.01	0.5333 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.02	0.4233 <sup>b</sup> ±0.03	0.4133 <sup>b</sup> ±0.02	0.3850 <sup>AB</sup>
C	0.1100 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.4000 <sup>b</sup> ±0.01	0.3467 <sup>b</sup> ±0.02	0.3767 <sup>b</sup> ±0.04	0.3083 <sup>B</sup>
D	0.1567 <sup>c</sup> ±0.04	0.4600 <sup>b</sup> ±0.05	0.4167 <sup>b</sup> ±0.02	0.6600 <sup>b</sup> ±0.05	0.4233 <sup>A</sup>
E	0.1267 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.3867 <sup>b</sup> ±0.02	0.3833 <sup>b</sup> ±0.04	0.4400 <sup>b</sup> ±0.01	0.3342 <sup>B</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	0.1313 <sup>C</sup>	0.4433 <sup>AB</sup>	0.3947 <sup>B</sup>	0.4817 <sup>A</sup>	
P-value	0.0382 <sup>*</sup>				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	0.1566				
SE±	0.0548				

Mean ±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different ( $P \leq 0.05$ )

**Key:**

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**Ash content (%):**

Table 4 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on (orange ash content) in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had no significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on orange ash content served at all hospitals. Orange ash content of all orange slices served in all hospitals and all stages were higher than that reported by Eltahir

(2015) who stated that the ash percentage of orange grown in Sudan range from 0.065-0.322%, depending on the orange species. There was slight decrease in orange ash during food chain stages that may be due to the effect of decrease in moisture content through food chain stages and therefore increased total soluble solids.

**Table (4): Effect of food services protocol on orange ash content (%) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	0.1833 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.1900 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.2033 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.1667 <sup>c</sup> ±0.03	0.1858 <sup>A</sup>
B	0.2133 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.1800 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.2367 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.1700 <sup>c</sup> ±0.02	0.2000 <sup>A</sup>
C	0.1800 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.03	0.1767 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.04	0.2067 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.2633 <sup>c</sup> ±0.01	0.2067 <sup>A</sup>
D	0.2367 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.2033 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.2100 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.1867 <sup>c</sup> ±0.03	0.2992 <sup>A</sup>
E	0.3200 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.04	0.1967 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	0.2133 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.1633 <sup>c</sup> ±0.02	0.2233 <sup>A</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	0.2267 <sup>A</sup>	0.1893 <sup>B</sup>	0.2140 <sup>AB</sup>	0.1900 <sup>B</sup>	
P-value	0.0082 <sup>**</sup>				
Lsd <sub>0,05</sub>	0.0342				
SE±	0.012				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different ( $P \leq 0.05$ ).

**Key:**

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**Titrateable acidity (%):**

Table 5 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on orange titrateable acidity percentage in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had no

significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on orange titrateable acidity percentage served at all hospitals, until preparation stage there were slightly significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increase. Titrateable acidity value of orange slices

served in all hospitals and all stages were higher than that reported by Eltahir (2015) who stated that titratable acidity of orange grown in Sudan range between 0.95 to 1.31%. The orange titratable acidity is affected by different stages of food chain. However, the decrease of titratable acidity content was not due to the effect of food chain stages, but maybe due to the effect of storage period between receiving orange batch until serving it, these findings are compatible with the finding of (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2014) who declare that there was a significant increase in titratable acidity

content during storage, this might be due to conversion of acids into salts and sugars by enzymes particularly invertase, Safdar *et al.* (1999) observed gradual increase in acidity during storage of orange concentrate at three different temperatures. The rise in acidity may be explained by the fact that the concentration of weakly ionized acid and their salts increased during storage. Another explanation for the acidity increase due to formation of acid by degradation of polysaccharides and oxidation of reducing sugars or by breakdown of pectic substances.

**Table (5): Effect of food services protocol on orange titratable acidity (%) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	1.543 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.06	1.360 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	1.367 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.04	1.300 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	1.418 <sup>A</sup>
B	1.407 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.05	1.530 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	1.357 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	1.267 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	1.390 <sup>A</sup>
C	1.500 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	1.320 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.03	1.410 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	1.450 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.04	1.420 <sup>A</sup>
D	1.673 <sup>a</sup> ±0.03	1.267 <sup>c</sup> ±0.02	1.363 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.04	1.400 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.05	1.426 <sup>A</sup>
E	1.613 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.02	1.583 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.01	1.350 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	1.323 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.01	1.467 <sup>A</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	1.547 <sup>A</sup>	1.412 <sup>B</sup>	1.389 <sup>B</sup>	1.348 <sup>A</sup>	
P-value	0.0265*				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	0.2609				
SE±	0.0913				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different (P0≤05)

**Key:**

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E ≡ Display stage

**pH-value:**

Table 6 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on (orange pH-value) in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had no significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on (orange pH-value) served at all hospitals. Orange pH-value of all orange slices served in all hospitals and all stages were comparable by results that reported by

Eltahir (2015) who stated that pH percentage of orange grown in Sudan range from 3.40 - 4.19 depending on the orange species. There were slight decreases in orange pH-value during food chain stages that may be due to the effect of increase in titrable acidity through food chain stages, and therefore decline of pH-value.

**Table (6): Effect of food services protocol on orange pH-value in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
<b>A</b>	4.38 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.07	4.49 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.05	4.41 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	4.31 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	4.40 <sup>A</sup>
<b>B</b>	4.46 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.04	4.31 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	4.33 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	4.37 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	4.37 <sup>A</sup>
<b>C</b>	4.41 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.05	4.47 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	4.38 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	4.38 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	4.41 <sup>A</sup>
<b>D</b>	4.18 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.05	4.60 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.06	4.38 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	4.57 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.02	4.43 <sup>A</sup>
<b>E</b>	4.34 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.04	4.25 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.02	4.39 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	4.30 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.01	4.32 <sup>A</sup>
<b>Overall mean hospitals</b>	4.35 <sup>A</sup>	4.42 <sup>A</sup>	4.38 <sup>A</sup>	4.39 <sup>A</sup>	
<b>P-value</b>	0.0274*				
<b>Lsd<sub>0.05</sub></b>	0.2712				
<b>SE±</b>	0.0949				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different ( $P \leq 0.05$ ).

**Key:**

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**Microbiological analysis:**

**Total viable count of bacteria log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g):**

Table 7 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on total viable count of bacteria log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g) in Sudanese

hospitals. All food chain stages had significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on total viable count of bacteria log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g) served at all hospitals. Orange total viable count of bacteria of all orange slices served in all hospitals and all stages were higher those



reported be (Plaza *et al.*, 2011) who stated that the viable count of bacteria of orange was  $1.45 \log^{10}$  CFU/g. There were fluctuated decreases in orange total viable count of bacteria during food chain stages however the sample taken from Royal care private

hospitals show potential increase in total viable count of bacteria, that may be due to cross contamination resulting from the use of contaminated tools (knives, cutting boards, dishes, etc.) in addition to the lack of personal hygiene.

**Table (7): Effect of food services protocol on Orange total viable count of bacteria log<sub>10</sub> (CFU/g) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall, of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	3.25 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.04	2.25 <sup>abc</sup> ±0.03	3.25 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.04	4.50 <sup>a</sup> ±0.06	3.31 <sup>A</sup>
B	2.00 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	4.50 <sup>a</sup> ±0.06	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	4.50 <sup>a</sup> ±0.06	2.75 <sup>A</sup>
C	2.00 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	3.25 <sup>ab</sup> ±0.04	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	1.31 <sup>B</sup>
D	2.00 <sup>bc</sup> ±0.02	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.50 <sup>B</sup>
E	4.50 <sup>a</sup> ±0.06	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>c</sup> ±0.00	1.13 <sup>B</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	2.75 <sup>A</sup>	1.35 <sup>B</sup>	1.30 <sup>B</sup>	1.80 <sup>B</sup>	
P-value	0.002**				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	2.06				
SE±	0.6982				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different (P0≤05)

**Key:**

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**Yeasts and moulds count log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g):**

Table 8 shows the effect of food services protocol on quality and safety on yeasts and moulds log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g) in Sudanese hospitals. All food chain stages had no significant differences (P≤ 0.05) on yeasts and moulds log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g) served at all hospitals. Orange yeasts and moulds of all orange slices served in Omdurman hospitals were higher than that reported be Seow *et al.*, (2012) who stated that the ash percentage of orange range from 0.1 to 1.9 log<sup>10</sup> CFU/g, and Badosa *et al.*,

(2008) reported yeasts and moulds counts for orange fruits and juices as ranging from 1 to 3 log<sup>10</sup> CFU/g. There were no growth of mold and yeasts in orange slices during food chain stages, however the sample taken from Omdurman hospital show growth in raw food stage. Contamination with fungi and yeasts in fresh fruit oranges, which are consume without storage is very rare due to the slow growth of fungi as aresultof high acidity These results are agreement to these obtains by Heard, (1999) who found that the spoilage

caused by growth of moulds is not a major issue in fresh-cut fruits, as far as limited research has shown. Nonetheless, there are possible health risks associated with moulds

found in fruits and vegetables as some moulds may produce mycotoxins or induce allergies (Tournas, 2005)

**Table (8): Effect of food services protocol on orange yeasts and moulds count log<sup>10</sup> (CFU/g) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals		Overall of food chain stages
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow	
A	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	1.13 <sup>A</sup>
B	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>B</sup>
C	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>B</sup>
D	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>B</sup>
E	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>b</sup> ±0.00	0.00 <sup>B</sup>
Overall mean hospitals	0.00 <sup>B</sup>	0.00 <sup>B</sup>	0.90 <sup>B</sup>	0.00 <sup>B</sup>	
P-value	0.00 <sup>**</sup>				
Lsd <sub>0.05</sub>	0.0006396				
SE±	0.0002236				

Mean±SD values bearing different superscripts are significantly different (P0≤05).

**Key:**

A ≡ Raw food stage - B ≡ Storage stage - C ≡ Preparation stage - D ≡ Processing stage  
E ≡ Display stage

**Salmonella and E. coli (MPN/g):**

Tables 9 and 10 show the effect of food services management on quality and safety on orange pathogen (*Salmonella* and *E. coli*) cfu/ml and MPN/g, in Sudanese hospitals. The likelihood of *Salmonella* survival on sliced citrus may vary significantly depending strain. Oranges, a citrus variety that has a higher pH (3.8 - 3.3) are able to support *Salmonella* survival and have previously been identified as vehicles for salmonellosis outbreaks caused by

consumption of contaminated oranges slices and juice (Jain *et al.*, 2005). There were no contaminations in all orange samples taken from all hospitals by *salmonella* spp. These finding was comparable by finding of Feng *et al.*, (2002) who stated that orange products (juices and jams) are usually contaminated through the equipment used in production because orange acidity is not enough to inhibit and/or kill *salmonella* cell. Acidic fruit juices have been implicated in outbreaks of highly acid-resistant *Escherichia coli* O157:H7; hence, effective sanitation of fruit

surfaces is crucial for reducing the risks posed by this pathogen, especially as *E. coli* O157:H7 has been shown to survive in OJ

(Eblenet *al.*, 2004). There was no contamination in all orange samples taken from all hospitals by *E. coli*.

**Table (9): Effect of food services protocol on orange *Salmonella* log 10 CFU/g in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals			Governmental hospitals
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow
A	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
C	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
D	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**Table (10): Effect of food services protocol on orange *E. coli* (MPN/g ) in Sudanese hospitals**

Food chain stages	Private hospitals		Governmental hospitals	
	Royal care	Alamal	Omdurman	Alnaow
A	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
C	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
D	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**Key:**

- A ≡ Raw food stage
- B ≡ Storage stage
- C ≡ Preparation stage
- D ≡ Processing stage
- E ≡ Display stage

**Conclusions**

The function of a foodservice system in a hospital is a fundamental part of the health care industry. Consequently, the efficiency of the operational aspects of foodservice can significantly impact a hospital's budget and perceived level of satisfaction by the patient. This study has provided information about microbial loads affected of food chain stage

on nutritional status of the food serve. All food chain stages had significant differences ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) on total viable count of bacteria  $\log^{10}$  (CFU/g) served at all hospitals. Mold, yeasts, *Salmonella* and *E. coli* were not detected in orange slices during food chain stages in all hospitals. Private hospitals show more organization at last stage of food services rather than governmental hospitals.

The need to keep the microbial activity as low as possible as many patients had impaired and defect immune system, can not handle microbial invasion in GIT track.

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## تقييم جودة الخدمات الغذائية لثمار البرتقال المقدمة في مستشفيات بولايته الخرطوم وأم درمان

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### المستخلص

الهدف من الدراسة هو تقييم جودة الخدمات الغذائية المقدمة للمرضي في المستشفيات وتحديد أسباب مشكلات الجودة في الفواكه. تم اختيار فاكهة البرتقال كعينة للدراسة و تم اختيار أربعة مستشفيات في منطقتي الخرطوم وامدرمان اثنين منها خاصة (رويال كير و الأمل) و اثنين حكومية (امدرمان و النو) علي التوالي. تم اخذ العينات خلال مراحل السلسلة الغذائية في المستشفيات (مرحلة الغذاء الخام ، مرحلة التخزين ، مرحلة الإعداد ، مرحلة المعالجة ومرحلة العرض) للكشف عن سبب التغيير في القيمة الغذائية و سلامة وجودة الطعام. تم قياس الخواص الفيزيوكيميائية (الرطوبة ، البروتين، الزيت، الرماد ، الحموضة و الاس الهيدروجيني) حيث سجلت نسبة الرطوبة في مرحلة الإعداد اعلي قيمة 37.31% في مستشفى امدرمان و اقلها في مرحلة الإعداد 84.01% في مستشفى الامل. و سجل البروتين اعلي قيمة في مرحلة التخزين 0.32% في مستشفى رويال كير و اقلها في مرحلة الإعداد 0.15% في مستشفى النو و سجلت نسبة قياس الزيت اعلي قيمة في مرحلة المعالجة 0.66% في مستشفى النو و اقلها في مرحلة الإعداد 0.11% في مستشفى رويال كير و سجلت نسبة قياس الرماد اعلي قيمة في مرحلة العرض 0.32% في مستشفى رويال كير و اقلها في مرحلة العرض في مستشفى النو 0.16%. و سجلت نسبة الحموضة اعلي قيمة في مرحلة العرض 0.61% في مستشفى رويال كير و اقلها في مرحلة المعالجة في مستشفى الأمل 0.26%. اما نسبة قياس الاس الهيدروجيني أعطت اعلي قيمة في مرحلة المعالجة 4.60% في مستشفى الأمل و اقلها في مرحلة العرض 4.25% في مستشفى الأمل. كما تم حساب العد الكلي البكتيري حيث اظهر انخفاض كبير ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) خلال جميع المراحل. تم حساب الخمائر ، العفن ، بكتيريا القولون و السالمونيلا وجميعها لم تظهر اي فروق كدلالة إحصائية في جميع مراحل السلسلة الغذائية. مما سبق يتضح ان السلامة الصحية المرتبطة بهذه المستشفيات كانت خالية من الملوثات.