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**THE ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY OF PRESUMPTIVE GROUP 'A' β HAEMOLYTIC
STREPTOCOCCI ISOLATED FROM THROATS OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN IN KANDY**

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Although Group 'A', β haemolytic Streptococcal infections are commonly met with in clinical practice, there has been no investigation of the antibiotic sensitivity of these organisms reported from Sri Lanka. We

SECTION A

report here the drug sensitivity patterns of presumptive (on the basis of the Bacitracin sensitivity test), Group A Streptococci isolated during a study of the incidence pharyngeal carriers of Streptococci among school children in Kandy.

The sensitivity tests were carried out using Stokes' method on Mueller-Hinton agar with 10% sheep blood. The results of our tests were as follows :

<i>Drug</i>	<u><i>Percentage Strains</i></u>		
	<i>Fully Sensitive</i>	<i>Intermediate Sensiti- vity</i>	<i>Resistant</i>
Penicillin	100	—	—
Erythromycin	100	—	—
Streptomycin	80	18	02
Tetracycline	09	08	83
Sulphonamide	5	42	53

(Total number of strains studied — 128)

Only 6% of strains were sensitive to all five antibiotics tested, while 51% were sensitive to four, 42% to three and 1% to two.