CLAIMS

1. A disinfection method comprising the steps of:
bringing a disinfecting agent containing catechins into contact with an item to be disinfected, and irradiating the disinfection agent with light.

2. The disinfection method according to claim 1, wherein the catechins have a gallate group.

3. The disinfection method according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the disinfecting agent comprises an aqueous proanthocyanidin solution.

4. The disinfection method according to claim 3, wherein the concentration of proanthocyanidin in the aqueous proanthocyanidin solution is 0.25 to 4 mg/mL.

5. The disinfection method according to claims 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein the light has a wavelength of 350 nm to 500 nm.

6. A disinfection device comprising:
a disinfecting agent comprising:
an aqueous proanthocyanidin solution whose concentration of proanthocyanidin is 0.25 to 4 mg/mL, and
light emitting means provided to be capable of irradiating the disinfecting agent in contact with an item to be disinfected with light having a wavelength of 350 to 500 nm.

CLAIMS

1. An agent containing catechins, for use in disinfecting an item in oral cavity, by bringing the agent into contact with the item and irradiating the thus agent-contacted item with light having a wavelength of 350 nm to 500 nm.

2. The agent according to claim 1, wherein the catechins have a gallate group.

3. The agent according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said agent comprises an aqueous proanthocyanidin solution.

4. The agent according to claim 3, wherein the concentration of proanthocyanidin in the aqueous proanthocyanidin solution is 0.25 to 4 mg/mL.

5. The agent according to any one of claims 1 to 4, further containing a hydrogen peroxide solution.

6. A device for use in disinfecting an item in oral cavity, comprising:
an agent comprising:
an aqueous proanthocyanidin solution whose concentration of proanthocyanidin is 0.25 to 4 mg/mL, and
light emitting means provided to be capable of irradiating the agent in contact with the item with light having a wavelength of 350 to 500 nm.