

EFFECT OF Gynura procumbens AQUEOUS EXTRACTION ON INTERLEUKIN-2 PRODUCTION IN PERIPHERAL BLOOD MONONUCLEAR CELLS

By

NADIRAH ANIS BINTI CHE ABDULLAH

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ABSTRACT

Background: Immunomodulation is a process which can modify the immune system of an organism by intruding with its function. Medicinal herbs and their bioactive component had indicated to be a crucial source of immunomodulators. Research has proven that the herbal preparation from plant can be safer and effective rather than conventional medicines. Objective: In this study, we want to determine the effect of Gynura procumbens aqueous extraction on Interleukin-2 expression in Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells. **Method:** Three different doses (50, 200 and 800 µg/ml) of Gymura procumbens are cultured on PBMCs with or without inhibitors (CLI-095 and Polymyxin B sulfate) to determine the expression of the IL-2 using Luminex assay. Result: Result indicated Gynura procumbens aqueous extraction has immunomodulatory effect. Data was analyzed using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to compare between control group and treated groups of different doses of Gynura procumbens were not significantly different (P >0.005), as well as cotreatment with inhibitors which analyzed using Independent sample t-test also shows not significantly different (P >0.005). Conclusion: Gynura procumbens aqueous extract has an immunomodulatory effect in PBMCs on expression of IL-2.

Keywords: Immunomodulatory, *Gymura procumbens*, Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells, Interleukin-2.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In the past couples of decades, the growing interest regarding the health care issues has increased due to lifestyle changes in the current time shows increased risk of many chronic ailments such as diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease and hypertension. Furthermore, the treatment with modern medicine occasionally cannot cure those diseases instead causes unwanted side effects. Hence, the application of natural products from plants as a remedy of the disease is widely used in various regions, especially in Asia (Bodeker, 2000).

Plants are a rich source of natural chemical which provide us foods and medicines. The plants with medicinal alternatives are known as medicinal herbs because they have the chemicals with the medicinal value. The usage of medicinal herbs has been a long time by record about 60,000 years ago (Solecki, 1975). Nowadays, science and technology diversity medical services and medicines assumed that 80% of the world population still used medicinal herbs for their treatment (van Wijk, 2000). In the Far East, Chinese medicines relish a significant place in health care with 80 % and more of them coming from plants (Lee, 2000). In the western world, which is known as the birthplace of modern medicine, they had replaced the medicinal herbs to synthetic drugs in the healthcare and scientific community. In addition, the medicinal herb is a cause of new drug development with evidence about 40% of the medical drugs has chemistry of the medicinal herbs. In United State, the medicinal herbs are consumed without prescription as a dietary supplement (O'Hara et al., 1998; Bent and Ko, 2004).