

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**CYTOTOXIC AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITIES OF MIXED NATURAL
PRODUCT (*TRIGONELLA FOENUM GRAECUM*, *COCOS NUCIFERA* AND
ALOE BARBADENIS) ETHYL ACETATE EXTRACT AGAINST URINARY
TRACT INFECTION CAUSING BACTERIA AND HUMAN COLORECTAL
CANCER CELL LINES**

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**Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of requirements for Bachelor of
Pharmacy**

Faculty of Pharmacy

2014

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful. Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah for the strength He had given and His blessing in completing this thesis. Special appreciation goes to my supervisor, Assoc. Prof Dr Kalavathy A/P Ramasamy for all her guidance and supports. Her invaluable feedbacks and suggestions throughout this project were really helpful. There are so many things which I have gained from learning alongside her. Not to forget, Dr Lim Siong Meng my co-supervisor who had also guided and advised me. Both my supervisors had motivated me towards completion of this thesis. I would also like to thank the research assistant, Miss Norsaliha bt AnurShah, who had guided us throughout the experiments. I also wish to thank all the postgraduate students at Collaborative Drug Discovery Research (CDDR) Laboratory, who had directly or indirectly helped us. I would like to acknowledge all staffs and lecturers of the Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) specifically those from the Faculty of Pharmacy that had given reliable information and guidance throughout this study. Last but not least, my deepest gratitude goes to my beloved parents; Mr Sa'don bin Othman and
for their prayer, loves and moral supports. Thank you very
much.

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ABSTRACT

Trigonella Foenum Graecum (TFG) is a family member of *Fabaceae* group. Chemical compounds from this plant were known to exhibit antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities. The present study investigated the cytotoxic and antimicrobial effect induced by ethyl acetate extract of TFG supplemented with coconut water (CW) and Aloe Vera (AV) against colorectal cancer (CRC) cells (HCT116) and against *Escherichia coli*, *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus* and *S. typhi* and *B. subtilis*. The antimicrobial activity was accessed after 48 hours of incubation by using disk diffusion method. Meanwhile the anticancer effect of this extract was accessed using sulforhodamine assay after treatment and cultured for 72 hours. For comparison purpose, ground TFG extracts and positive controls (antibiotics for antimicrobial study and 5-FU for cytotoxic assay). For antimicrobial activity, ethyl acetate extract of TFG+CW+AV exhibited antimicrobial effect only against 2 Gram positive and 1 Gram negative bacteria. Meanwhile 2 Gram negative bacteria, *S. typhi* and *E. coli* show no sensitivity. In SRB assay of this extract inhibited HCT116 in a dose dependent manner. This extract shows better antimicrobial and cytotoxic activity than ground TFG and the positive control have better action for both antimicrobial and cytotoxic activity among all the extracts. However, ethyl acetate TFG+CW+AV extract shown a better action against human colon cancer. Further studies using different solvents should be explored to harness the full antimicrobial and anticancer potential of TFG+CW+AV.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Trigonella foenum-graecum (TFG) or Fenugreek is commonly used in Africa, Asia, and Mediterranean countries for its edible values (Anju, & Sreeja, 2010). It is also used among Ayurvedic practitioners. Fenugreek seed (FS) can be used for a variety of purposes. Whilst its extract from acts as flavouring agent in simulated maple syrup, its leaves are used in food intake (Basu & Srichamroen, 2010). FS acts as food preservatives in food products (Sindhu et al., 2012) and it is well known for its good quality protein source (El Nasri & El Tinay, 2007). In India, the ripe seeds are commonly applied in cosmetics (Sindhu et al., 2012). Fresh fenugreek leaves are good for the digestive system (Rashmi et al., 2011). Fenugreek is used traditionally as demulcent, laxative and as lactation stimulant (Dash et al., 2011). Infusion of fenugreek has been utilized to treat sore throat (Rashmi et al., 2011) It has also shown hypocholesterolemia effect in rats and dogs (Shaban et al., 2009). Xue et al. (2007) reported that FS showed hypoglycaemic and hypocholesterolemic effects on type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus patients.

Colorectal cancer (CRC) accounts for the fourth most common cancer incident and the second most common cause of cancer deaths after lung cancer (Colon Cancer: A Review of the Epidemiology). In 2012, almost 694,000 CRC deaths were recorded globally (WHO, Cancer). Based on the American Cancer Society (2014), almost 136,830 people were diagnosed with CRC in 2014. In