

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**RELEVANCE OF GENETIC
POLYMORPHISM OF *HLA-B*1502* IN
CARBAMAZEPINE-INDUCED
CUTANEOUS ADVERSE DRUG
REACTIONS**

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Science

Faculty of Pharmacy

October 2014

AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

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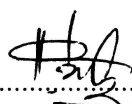
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Thesis Title : Relevance of Genetic Polymorphisms of *HLA-B*1502* in Carbamazepine-induced Cutaneous Adverse Drug Reactions

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ABSTRACT

Adverse drug reaction (ADR), commonly termed as unwanted reaction is a long-standing and a major medical problem that comes with many clinically important drugs. ADRs are broadly categorized into predictable (type A) and unpredictable (type B) reactions. Predictable reaction is usually dose dependent, related to the known pharmacologic actions of drugs, and occurs in healthy individuals. Unpredictable reactions are generally dose independent, are not related to the pharmacologic actions of drugs, and only occur in susceptible individuals. Stevens Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) are two fatal ADR encountered in some patients prescribed carbamazepine or phenytoin. US FDA had published a medical alert with a recommendation of *HLA-B*1502* screening before these two (2) drugs were prescribed to patients with Asian ancestry as the likelihood of SJS/TEN were highly associated with *HLA-B*1502*. For the methods, eighty (80) healthy unrelated individuals and eighty six (86) patients attending clinics at Department of Neurology of a local hospital were recruited. DNA was extracted from blood samples obtained from each patient. *HLA-B*1502* genotype was determined by AS-PCR developed in house. All statistical analysis was performed using SPSS software version 20. *P* values ≤ 0.05 were considered statistically significant. The strength of association between *HLA-B*1502* with CBZ-induced SJS-TEN was estimated by calculating the odd ratio. For the results, among the 86 patients, 40 were newly registered patients and genotype screening was conducted before patients were prescribed with CBZ. Among this group, 17.5% were positive for *HLA-B*1502*. In another cohort in which CBZ had been withdrawn due to SJS/ TEN; all of them (15) were positive for *HLA-B*1502*. One patient with positive *HLA-B*1502* however did not develop SJS/TEN and is therefore tolerant. The frequency of *HLA-B*1502* allele in CBZ-SJS/TEN after CBZ prescribed was 32.6%. The calculated ratio of patients at risk of developing SJS/TEN based on this small samples size is 120.2727 (95% CI : 6.1202 – 2363.5775; $p = 0.0016$). For the conclusion, the screening of patients for the *HLA-B*1502* allele before the initiation of carbamazepine treatment and withholding carbamazepine from *HLA-B*1502*-positive patients can reduce the incidence of carbamazepine-induced SJS-TEN among the Malaysia. This study conclude that the implementation of *HLA-B*1502* screening is necessary to avoid patients at risk of SJS/TEN from being prescribed CBZ due to the high odd ratio observed in this study.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all I am grateful to Almighty ALLAH S.W.T. in giving me patience, in giving me strength and in giving me time to complete this project.

I would to express my special appreciation and thanks to my supervisor, Prof. Dr. Teh Lay Kek, for allowing me to work on this project. Thank you for your exemplary guidance, monitoring, support, patience, and constant encouragement throughout the course of this thesis. I wouldn't get through this project without you. I also would like to extend thanks to Prof. Dr. Mohd Zaki Salleh as Director of Integrative Pharmacogenomics Institute (iPROMISE) to allowing me to do the laboratory work and used many equipments, apparatus, and machines in this lab. The blessing, help, and guidance given by him time to time shall carry me a long way in the journey of life on which I am about to embark.

I am obliged to all iPROMISE members, for the valuable information provided by them in their respective fields. I am grateful for their cooperation during the period of my works. Thanks to all wonderful friends that I have made in UiTM Puncak Alam.

Last but not least, I thank my parents, Zakaria and Hamsiah, for all their prayers for me, who called me every weekend and asked how I was doing. Thanks a lot, mak and ayah. Thanks for your understanding why I wanted to get educated in Puncak Alam. I also would like to thank all my brothers and sisters, Saiful Azly, Rozi Aida, Ady Syahrizal, and Nur Azlinda for being there whenever I needed them.

Thank you.

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