



اَوْبُوْ سَيِّدِيْ تَيْكُوْلُوْ كِيْ مَبَادَا
UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

**ANTI-ACANTHAMOEBA ACTIVITY OF MULTIPURPOSE
CONTACT LENS SOLUTIONS AGAINST
ACANTHAMOEBA SPP. OF KERATITIS PATIENTS**

By

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**Thesis Submitted in Practical Fulfillment for the Degree of Bachelor of Medical Laboratory
Technology (Hons), Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Teknologi MARA
2017**

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is based on my original work and has not been submitted previously or currently for any other degree student at UiTM or other institutions.

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940621-11-5012

2013251966

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the name of ALLAH, Most Gracious and Most Merciful

Alhamdulillah and I am very grateful to Allah S.W.T, for giving me strength, ability and health to complete my final year project that took about four months.

Firstly, I would like to appreciate and thank to my supervisor, Dr. Tengku Shahrul Anuar for teaching and giving me more knowledge regarding to my final year project. His encouragement, guidance and suggestion that he gave to me were helpful in completing my final year project successfully.

I would like to thank also to Faculty of Health Sciences and Dr Mazura Binti Bahari, coordinator of Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Technology (Hons) for the supports. I also want to take this opportunity to thank to all the staffs from the Centre of Medical Laboratory Technology for providing all the equipment for me during my laboratory work. Moreover, my gratitude also goes to my beloved co-supervisor Miss Rosnani Hanim because of the idea and knowledge that she gave about my final year project. Besides, I also would like to thank to Integrative Pharmacogenomics Institute for giving me permission to use apparatus in their department.

A special appreciation and thanks to my mother, Aini Awang and also to my family members for always pray and give moral support and encouragement throughout my study in Puncak Alam.

Lastly, I would like to thank to my teammates especially my group members, Aini Suraya Nizam, Nurulain Alias and Nurul 'Izzati Zulkifli for their favor, idea and support to complete my project.

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ABSTRACT

Acanthamoeba spp. is an opportunistic free-living amoeba that widely distributed in the environment and it has tendency to produce serious corneal infection that can result in permanent visual impairment or blindness known as chronic *Acanthamoeba* keratitis (CAK). Approximately 92% of *Acanthamoeba* keratitis patients were among contact lens wearers. Therefore, the usage of effective multipurpose contact lens solutions is currently recommended to prevent *Acanthamoeba* keratitis among contact lens wearers. This study was performed to determine the effectiveness of multipurpose contact lens solutions against *Acanthamoeba* spp. after 4, 6, 8 and 24 hours soaking time and also to classify the group of *Acanthamoeba* spp. based on their morphology using methylene blue stain. To determine the effectiveness of multipurpose contact lens solutions, two clinical specimens from keratitis patients were tested with five multipurpose contact lens solutions in which ASept® Plus, Oxysept®, Opti-free® Puremoist®, Renu®fresh™ and Complete® Revitalens™. The specimens were isolated in triplicate on non-nutrient agar seeded with heat-killed *Escherichia coli* suspension and been incubate at 30°C. Daily screening for the presence of *Acanthamoeba* spp. was done up to two weeks by using inverted microscope. The morphology of *Acanthamoeba* spp. was identified using methylene blue stain. Fisher's exact test was applied to determine the significance value of the results. The results revealed that both of hydrogen peroxide and non-hydrogen peroxide multipurpose contact lens solutions used in this study did not shows any anti-*Acanthamoeba* activity after 4, 6, 8 and 24 hours. This result is not significance since the *p-value* was higher than 0.001. Regarding to the morphology of *Acanthamoeba* spp., both of clinical isolates belongs to Group II of *Acanthamoeba* spp. As a conclusion, multipurpose contact lens solutions used in this study were not effective as anti-*Acanthamoeba* agents because of the active compounds in the contact lens solutions were insufficient. Thus, the addition of extra active compound in contact lens solutions such as propylene glycol for the disinfection of *Acanthamoeba* spp. should be developed in order to reduce the incidence rates of CAK among contact lens wearers.