

ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY AND CARDIOPROTECTIVE ACTIVITY OF BANGUN-BANGUN LEAVES (*PLECTRANTHUS AMBOINICUS* LOUR.) ETHANOLIC EXTRACT

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: The objectives of this study were to determine the antioxidant activity and cardioprotective activity of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract.

Methods: Bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract was obtained by maceration process. The antioxidant activity test was performed by 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) free radical scavenging method with various concentrations of extract. The absorbance was measured by visible spectrophotometric method and calculated the inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) value for antioxidant activity analysis. Cardioprotective activity test was performed by measuring the cardiac troponin T (cTnT) level, creatine kinase-muscle/brain (CK-MB) level, and histology of the heart tissue. Animals induced with doxorubicin at the 8th day and the 9th day, bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract was administered from the 1st day to the 9th day with various doses of extract.

Results: Bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract had IC₅₀ value of 57.79 µg/mL. Difference dose of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract shows difference cardioprotective activity. Bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract at dose 300 mg/kg bw did not differ significantly to the positive control group and normal group. The higher the dose of an extract the greater the decrease in cTnT and CK-MB levels and increase protection against heart damage.

Conclusion: Bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract had strong antioxidant and had cardioprotective activity.

Keywords: Antioxidant, Cardioprotective, Bangun-bangun leaves, Ethanolic extract, Doxorubicin.

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INTRODUCTION

Doxorubicin is an anthracycline antibiotic chemotherapeutic agent widely used as an anticancer with cardiotoxic side effects. Heart tissue has a very active metabolic ability but has a low source of antioxidants when compared with other organs. The use of doxorubicin is reported to the risk of side effects on heart tissue and suppresses the immune system [1].

Indonesia is a country rich in natural materials. These assets include plants, animals, and minerals. Many types of plants have been utilized by the community for healing, disease prevention, increased endurance, and refreshment of the body. Society is increasingly aware of the importance of back to nature by utilizing natural medicines because it is relatively safer than chemical drugs [2].

Bangun-bangun leaves contain saponins, flavonoids, polyphenols, essential oils, beta-carotene, niacin, carvacrol, calcium, fatty acids, oxalic acid, and fiber. Phytochemical studies reveal there are several types of flavonoids such as quercetin, luteolin, apigenin, saligenin, and genkwanin. Quercetin significantly facilitates cell survival by inhibiting cell apoptosis and maintaining cell morphology by inducing rearrangement of cytoskeletal proteins. By combining quercetin with doxorubicin, it will reduce cardiotoxicity in cancer chemotherapy [3]. The objective of this research was to determine the antioxidant activity and cardioprotective activity of buildup leaves ethanolic extract.

METHODS

This study is an experimental study to determine the antioxidant activity and cardioprotective activity of bangun-bangun leaves extract with various concentrations and various doses.

Tools

The tools used in this research were laboratory glassware, aluminum foil, desiccator (Iwaki), oven (Fisher), blender (National), rotary evaporator (Heidolph), vortex (Thermo), test tube (Iwaki), Beckman coulter (Beckman), link Dako epitope retrieval (Dako), tissue processor (Leica), paraffinausgieb station (Leica), spectrophotometer (Shimadzu), Cobas, and analytical balance (Boeco).

Materials

The materials used in this research were wax, doxorubicin, quercetin, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ketamine, Histoplast paraffin, creatine kinase-muscle/brain (CK-MB) reagent, cardiac troponin T (cTnT) reagent, toluene (Merck), distilled water (Brataco), hematoxylin-eosin (Merck), alcohol (Merck), methanol (Merck), and 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) (Sigma-Aldrich).

Preparation of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract

About 500 g of dried and powdered bangun-bangun leaves was put into the vessel, added 3.75 L of ethanol, allowed for 5 days, filtered, squeezed the pulp, and washed with ethanol, to obtain 5 L of macerate. The extract was concentrated with a rotary evaporator and dried with a freeze dryer [4].

Phytochemical screening of build leaves ethanolic extract

Phytochemical screening of wake-up leaves ethanolic extract was performed to determine the compounds of alkaloids, flavonoids, glycosides, anthraquinone, saponins, tannins, steroids, and triterpenoids.

Antioxidant activity test

Quercetin solution prepared by gradual dilution to obtain solution with concentration of 1.25 µg/mL, 2.50 µg/mL, 5.00 µg/mL, and 10.00 µg/mL.

Bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract solution prepared by gradual dilution to obtain solution with concentration of 12.5 µg/mL, 25.0 µg/mL, 50.0 µg/mL, and 100.0 µg/mL. 2 mL of solution with each concentration, added 2 mL of 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) solution with concentration of 7 mM, and measured the absorbance by spectrophotometer on maximum wavelength 729 nm.

Cardioprotective activity test

The experimental animals were grouped into seven groups, each consisting of five female rats with treatment on the 1st-9th day, at the 10th day, all experimental animals fasted 12 h, anesthetized with ketamine 70 mg/kg bw intraperitoneally, sacrificed, taken blood samples from the hearts for the measurements of cTnT and CK-MB, the organ is taken for histology [5-8]. The experimental animal treatment is shown in Table 1. Measurement of cTnT: 1.0 mL of blood from rat heart is inserted into Vacutainer tube containing heparin anticoagulant, shaken until homogeneous with heparin, pipetted 150 µL, inserted into the sample cup, and measured cTnT levels. Measurement of CK-MB: 0.5 mL of blood from rat heart inserted into Vacutainer tube without heparin anticoagulant, allowed to room temperature, centrifuged at 3500 rpm for 15 min, pipetted 200 µL, inserted into sample cup, and measured CK-MB.

Histologic examination of mouse organ was examine by histologic preparations of heart organ with hematoxylin eosin reagent. Mouse heart organ taken, soaked with formalin buffer, trimmed with thickness ±0.5 cm, dehydrated with alcohol, washed with xylene, soaked in xylene and paraffin mixture, rehydrated with stratified alcohol, immersed in hematoxylin solution, dipped into in xylene, spilled with Entellan, and observed using a light microscope [9].

Data analysis

Data of research result determined homogeneity and normality to determine statistical analysis used. Data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA test to determine the mean difference between treatments using SPSS 19.0 program. If there is a significant difference, further proceed with the Tukey test to determine the differences value between treatment groups. Based on the significance value, $p < 0.05$ is considered statistically significant.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Plant identification

The results of plant identification at the Center for Biological Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (Bogor) indicate that bangun-bangun plant has family Lamiaceae and species *Plectranthus amboinicus* Lour.

Phytochemical screening

Phytochemical screening is performed on bangun-bangun leaves to obtain the information of classes of secondary metabolite compounds contained in the plant. The results of phytochemical screening of the bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract were show that alkaloids (-), flavonoids (+), glycosides (+), saponins (+), tannins (-), triterpenoids (+), and steroids (+). The antioxidant activity is resulted by flavonoid and saponin compounds. The antioxidant activity depends on the functional group in the compound structure: Hydroxyl group or hydrogen donor group (-NH or -SH) will increase antioxidant activity [10].

Antioxidant activity of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract

Absorbance and scavenging percentage of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin (as the positive control) to 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) (as the free radical) can be seen in Table 2.

Regression line equation was calculated from the concentration as the absciss (X) and scavenging percentage as the ordinate (Y). The regression line equation obtained was $Y = 0.6221 X + 11.6274$. The inhibitory concentration (IC_{50}) value was calculated from the regression line equation by substituted the scavenging activity as the ordinate (Y) with 50. The IC_{50} value obtained for waking up leaves ethanolic extract was 57.79 µg/mL. The IC_{50} value obtained for quercetin was 11.33 µg/mL.

Antioxidant activity of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract is categorized as strong antioxidant, while the antioxidant activity of quercetin is categorized as very strong antioxidant. $IC_{50} < 50$ µg/mL was a very strong antioxidant, IC_{50} between 50 µg/mL and 100 µg/mL was a strong antioxidant, IC_{50} between 100 µg/mL and 150 µg/mL was a moderate antioxidant, and IC_{50} between 151 µg/mL and 200 µg/mL was a weak antioxidant. Quercetin has stronger antioxidant activity, due to bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract is not a pure compound and may still contain other compounds that have no antioxidant activity. The antioxidant activity of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract was caused by phenolic compounds and polyphenolic compounds (flavonoids and saponins) in the extract [11].

Cardioprotective activity of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract

The cTnT value and the CK-MB value of waking up leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin (as the positive control) in doxorubicin-induced rat can be seen in Table 3.

Animals were treated with the various doses of waking up leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin from the 1st day to the 9th day and

Table 1: The experimental animal treatment

No.	Group	Description	Treatment (1 st -9 th day)	Doxorubicin induced (8 th day and 9 th day)
1.	I	Normal Control	×	×
2.	II	Blank Control	Carboxymethyl Cellulose Sodium 1%	✓
3.	III	Negative Control	×	✓
4.	IV	Positive Control	Quercetin 10 mg/kg bw	✓
5.	V	Extract 1	Extract 75 mg/kg bw	✓
6.	VI	Extract 2	Extract 150 mg/kg bw	✓
7.	VII	Extract 3	Extract 300 mg/kg bw	✓

Table 2: Absorbance and scavenging percentage of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin to 2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid)

No	Extract concentration (X)	Extract absorbance ($\lambda=729$ nm)	Extract scavenging percentage (Y) (%)	Quercetin concentration (X)	Quercetin absorbance ($\lambda=729$ nm)	Quercetin scavenging percentage (Y) (%)
1	Blank	0.5456	0.00	Blank	0.4760	0.00
2	12,5 µg/mL	0.4336	20.35	1.25 µg/mL	0.4118	12.53
3	25.0 µg/mL	0.3353	38.54	2.50 µg/mL	0.3903	17.85
4	50.0 µg/mL	0.2856	47.64	5.00 µg/mL	0.3376	29.07
5	100.0 µg/mL	0.1400	68.53	10.00 µg/mL	0.2762	41.96

followed by doxorubicin at the 8th day and the 9th day. The levels of endogenous antioxidants in the heart are so small that the myocardium is a highly sensitive organ to the damage caused by free radicals caused by doxorubicin. Doxorubicin with dose 20 mg/kg bw can already cause cardiotoxicity.

The cTnT level and the CK-MB level in doxorubicin group were the highest and different with other treatments. Doxorubicin forms free radicals, thereby increasing oxidative stress (anion peroxide and hydrogen peroxide) which causes cardiotoxic by forming ROS that exceeds the detoxification of cardiomyocytes. The cardiomyocyte structure, in which 50% of the organelles are mitochondria, becomes the target of doxorubicin [12].

The cTnT level and the CK-MB level in normal group were not found different with quercetin group with dose 10 mg/kg bw and wakeup leaves ethanolic extract group with dose 300 mg/kg bw. Bangun-bangun of leaves of ethanolic extract has cardioprotective activity that may be produced by flavonoids contained in the bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract. *P. amboinicus* Lour. contains flavonoid in the form of quercetin (very strong antioxidant) and protects cardiomyocytes. The flavonoid protector effect is strongly associated with antioxidant activity, preventing iron chelate [13] and carbonyl reductase-1 inhibitor [14]. Flavonoids are able to protect intracellular calcium depletion and inhibit apoptosis of cardiac myocytes [15]. Heart tissue histology of bangun-bangun leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin in doxorubicin-induced rat can be seen in Fig. 1

Table 3: The cTnT value and the CK-MB value of waking up leaves ethanolic extract and quercetin in doxorubicin-induced rat

Treatment	cTnT	CK-MB
Normal	155.60±4.03	228.08±6.53
Doxorubicin	3651.20±7.66	3158.78±43.90
Extract 75 mg/kg bw	1981.60±32.30	2397.52±6.25
Extract 150 mg/kg bw	1324.20±34.99	1504.28±29.92
Extract 300 mg/kg bw	670.40±41.37	787.70±34.66
Quercetin 10 mg/kg bw	673.40±41.59	851.12±27.68
Carboxymethyl cellulose sodium 1%	3298.80±10.47	3095.86±3.74

cTnT: Cardiac troponin T, CK-MB: Creatine kinase-muscle/brain

Normal muscle tissue structure belongs to the normal group, wake group, leaves ethanolic extract group with dose 300 mg/kg bw, and quercetin group with dose 10 mg/kg bw which means that no myocardial damage occurs. The results of cardiac histology examination in the doxorubicin group occurred bleeding, damage to some cell nuclei, i.e., pyknosis (characterized by shrunken cell nuclei and dark color) and progressed to chronic conditions, i.e., karyolysis (characterized by very pale and colorless cell nuclei), cell nuclei have loss of shape, fragmentation and damage of heart muscle fibers (myocytolysis).

Reactive oxygen species can affect proteins and nucleic acids, particularly ion channels and ion transporters. Oxidative stress also affects homeostasis Ca²⁺ directly through mitochondrial transduction induction of mitochondrial transition with changes in calcium transport in the mitochondria. Changes in calcium transport can cause tissue damage, cell death, and heart contraction disorders. Endogenous antioxidant enzymes such as glutathione peroxidase, catalase, and superoxide dismutase have the ability to deactivate free radicals [16].

Flavonoids can increase the activation of endogenous antioxidants and reduce free radicals. Flavonoids inhibit the enzymes responsible for producing superoxides such as xanthine oxidase. Flavonoids can inhibit cyclooxygenase and lipoxygenase, thus reducing the production of free radicals [13,17-19].

CONCLUSION

Ethanolic extract of waking leaves IC₅₀ value of 57.79 µg/ml and has strong antioxidant activity. Ethanolic extract of wakeup leaves has a cardioprotective activity to lowering the CK-MB value and lowering the damage of mouse heart tissue induced by doxorubicin based on the histologic of cardiac tissue.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTION

All the authors have the same contribution in this research (carried out the research, collected the data, analyzed the data, and formatted the manuscript).

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interests in this research and this article.

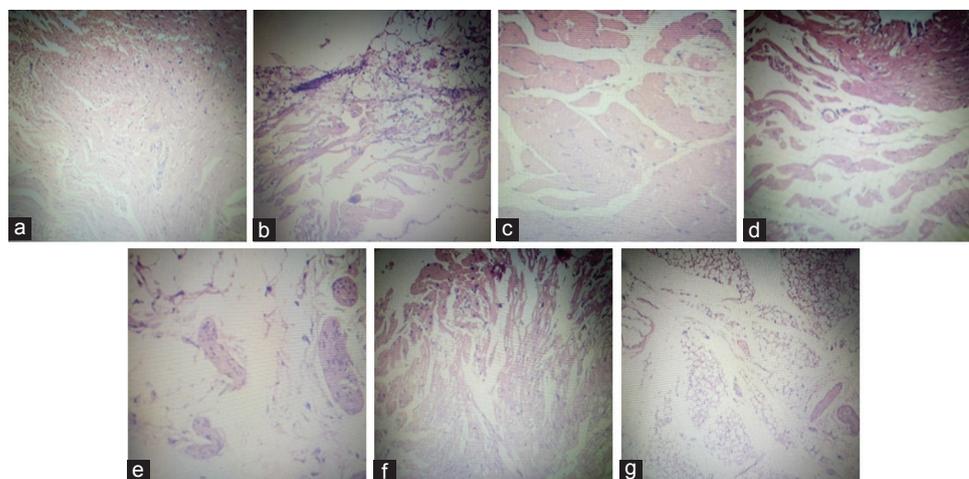


Fig. 1: (a) Normal, (b) doxorubicin, (c) quercetin 10 mg/kg bw, (d) extract 75 mg/kg bw, (e) extract 150 mg/kg bw, (f) extract 300 mg/kg bw, (g) carboxymethyl cellulose sodium 1%

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