

ABSTRACT

Background: Pyrexia or fever is a disease caused by a result of secondary impact of other diseased states due to the resetting of the hypothalamic set-point. From scientific discovery, antipyretic drugs such as paracetamol, aspirin, NSAIDs, and opioid have been developed for use and of which mostly produces side effects including gastrointestinal bleeding, renal, hepatotoxic effect, etc. Hence, many herbal plants have been found to be having antipyretic effects. Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) is one of medical plant commonly found in Indonesia. Emphirical study suggested that it has an antipyretic property.

Objectives: This study investigates the antipyretic activity of the methanolic extract of cashew leaves (*A. occidentale* L.) dried baker's yeast induced fever in experimental rats.

Method: 36 Wistar rats weighing 150-200 g were used. They were divided into six groups of six rats each. Group one serves as normal group and were not induced pyrexia, group two was treated with 10 mL/kg aquadest as negative control, group three was given 45 mg/kg of paracetamol suspension as positive control, while group four, five, and six were treated with 20 mg/kg, 40 mg/kg, and 80 mg/kg of methanolic extract of *A. occidentale* respectively. A suspension of dried baker's yeast was injected intraperitoneally to induce fever in all the experimental animals except group one. After 5 hours, the rectal temperature was taken and the animals were administered *A. occidentlate* L., paracetamol and aquadest orally. The body temperature of the rats was measured rectally every hour over a period of 4 hours.

Result: The methanolic extract of *A. occidentale* 20 mg/kg, 40 mg/kg and 80 mg/kg were significantly ($p < 0.05$) reduced the rat rectal temperature induced by dried baker's yeast compared to control group.

Keywords: *Anacardium occidentale*, baker's yeast, antipyretics, paracetamol, fever, anacardic acid.

INTISARI

Latar Belakang: Pireksia atau demam merupakan suatu kondisi yang disebabkan oleh dampak dari penyakit yang mendasari yang mengakibatkan berubahnya *set-point* di pusat termoregulasi hipotalamus. Berdasarkan data-data penelitian, obat-obatan antipiretik yang saat ini digunakan memiliki efek samping cukup serius seperti perdarahan gastrointestinal, kerusakan ginjal dan efek hepatotoksik. Oleh sebab itu, terapi alternatif demam menggunakan herbal dikembangkan. Jambu mete (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) merupakan salah satu tanaman obat yang cukup banyak ditemukan di Indonesia. Hasil studi empiris mengungkapkan bahwa daun jambu mete memiliki khasiat menurunkan demam.

Tujuan: Mengetahui aktivitas antipiretik ekstrak metanol daun jambu mete (*A. occidentale* L.) pada hewan coba yang diinduksi demam menggunakan injeksi suspensi *dried baker's yeast*.

Metode: Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian eksperimen kuasi desain *pre* dan *post test* dengan kelompok kontrol pembanding parasetamol sebagai kontrol positif dan akuades sebagai kontrol negatif. Subjek penelitian adalah 36 ekor tikus putih galur Wistar yang dibagi menjadi 6 kelompok uji yang masing-masing diberikan suspensi parasetamol 45 mg/kg, akuades 10 mL/kg, ekstrak metanol daun jambu mete 20, 40 dan 80 mg/kg serta satu kelompok normal yang tidak diinduksi demam dan tidak diberi bahan uji apapun. Bahan uji diobservasi aktivitas antipiretiknya dengan cara menghitung penurunan suhu rektal tikus. Perhitungan dilakukan pada jam ke-0, 1, 2, 3, 4 setelah pemberian bahan uji. Hasil penelitian yang didapatkan berupa penurunan suhu rektal tikus putih dan luas di bawah kurva yang dipresentasikan sebagai rata-rata \pm kesalahan baku rata-rata dan disajikan dalam bentuk tabel dan grafik lalu dianalisis menggunakan uji statistik analisis varian satu jalan dan *post-hoc test* tipe LSD.

Hasil: Ekstrak metanol daun jambu mete dosis 20 mg/kg, 40 mg/kg dan 80 mg/kg memiliki efek antipiretik ($p < 0,05$) pada suhu rektal tikus putih yang diinduksi demam menggunakan injeksi suspensi *baker's yeast*.

Kata Kunci: *Anacardium occidentale*, *baker's yeast*, antipiretik, parasetamol, demam, asam anakardik