**Reviewer’s Comments**

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**ANTIHYPERLIPIDEMIC EFFECT OF THE ETHANOL EXTRACT *SCAEVOLA TACCADA*(GAERTN)ROXB.) LEAVES**

**ABSTRACT**

Hyperlipidemia is the elevation of one or more total cholesterol and triglycerides in blood. Beruwaslaut(*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.). leaves have chemical content, such asglycosides, alkaloids. flavonoids, phenols and saponins with cholesterol-lowering activity. The research aimed to determine the effect ofethanolextractof*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.. leaves in hyperlipidemic rats WITH Cholesterol and trglyceride parameter. The research used 30 samples divided into 6 groups: group I (negative control) was given Na.CMCof 1% w / v , group II (positive control) was given simvastatin of 1.023 mg/kgbw, Group III was given gemfibrozil 167.60kg/BW, group IV, V and VI were respectively given ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada*(Gaertn)Roxb with the doses of 700 mg/kgbw 900 mg/kgbw, and 1100 mg/kgbw. The sample was fed a high-fat diet during treatment and induced pure cholesterol for 28 days, the provision of dosage form was done orally once a day for 14 days and the measurement of rat cholesterol and triglycerides,level was done on day 0, 29, and 43. The research data were processed statistically by One way Anova test followed by Post Hoc Bonferroni test. The results showed that the positive control group had no significant effect compared on ethanol extract *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb. group (p>0,5). In conclusion, the ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb. leaves had an activity in reducing cholesterol and trygliceridelevel in rat hyperlipidemia and with an effective dose of 1100 mg /kgbw

Keyword :antihyperlipidemia, ethanol extract, Scaevolataccada(Gaertn.) Roxb

**INTRODUCTION**

Cardiovascular disorders (CVD) are major noncommunicable diseases worldwide and atherosclerosis is the major risk factor for morbidity and mortality associated with CVD.[1]

Dyslipidemias, including hyperlipidemia (hypercholesterolemia)and low levels of high-density-lipoproteincholesterol (HDL-C), are major causes of increasedatherogenic risk; both genetic disorders and lifestyle (sedentarybehavior and diets high in calories, saturated fat,and cholesterol) contribute to the dyslipidemias seen indeveloped countries around the world[2]. It has been estimated that, by 2030, more than 24 million people per year will suffer from cardiovascular problems [3]

Several studies have proven that traditional plants are efficacious in lowering cholesterol levels, one of which is the leaves of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb. which can treat various diseases including swelling, diabetes mellitus, eye infections, headaches, swelling of the skin. feet, aches, coughs and flu. *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbhas active compounds, namely scaevolin glycosides, alkaloids, flavonoids, phenols and saponins [4]

Flavonoid compounds have been shown to inhibit the oxidation of LDL which is the beginning of the formation of atherosclerosis.

Previous data of*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbcanreduce cholesterol level in concentration 7% of the extract *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb. In Rahmawati'sresearch using ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb leaves has potential as an antioxidant with an ES50 value of 78.98ppm [5]. And in the research of Sukmawati using diethyl ether fraction on 3% *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb leaf has activity as free radicals or antioxidants with a value of 0.054[6]

From the description above, a research was carried out on the activity of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbbased ethanol extract to reduce cholesterol and trigylceride levels in hyperlipidemic rats.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**Materials**

The tools used are a set of glass tools, stirring rod, watch glass, beaker, scissors, human analyzer (Microlab 300), mouse cage, cannula, filter paper, micropipette, oven, tweezers, mouse restrainer, centrifuges, spoits, Eppendorf tubes, analytical scales (OHaus), animal scales, rotary evaporators, micropipette tips, and vortices (Mixer).

The materials used are ethanol, *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb, Natrium CMC 1%, high fat diet feed, total cholesterol testing reagent, simvastatin and gemfibrozil

**Plant Material**

The harvested leaves from PinrangRegency, South Sulawesi Province of Indonesia

**Preparation of ethanolic extracts**The simplicia of the *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb is weighed as much as 500 g then put into a maceration container and soaked with 96% ethanol solvent until all the simplicia is immersed. Soak the simplicia for the first 6 hours, stirring occasionally, then let stand for 18 hours. The simplicia that has been soaked is filtered to obtain macerate and the resulting residue is remacerated 2 times with new solvent. The maserate obtained was collected and then evaporated using a rotary vacuum evaporator to obtain a thick ethanol extract.

**Preparation of 1% Na-CMC suspension**

Na-CMC is weighed as much as 1 gram, and put little by little into 50 mL of heated aquadest (70oC) while stirring with a stirring rod until homogeneous. Enough volume up to 100 mL, then put into a container and labeled.

**Preparation of simvastatin suspension 1.023 mg / kgBW**

Simvastatin® tablets were weighed as many as 10 tablets and the average weight was calculated. After that, the tablet is crushed in a mortar and then weighed as much24,112 mg of simvastatin powder, then suspended with 10 mL of Na-CMC 1% w / v.

**Preparation of gemfibrozil suspension**

Gemfibrozil tablets were weighed as many 10 tablets and their average weight was calculated. The tablets are crushed in a mortar until smooth then the powder is weighed which is equivalent to 167.60 mg of gemfibrozil. then tablet suspended with Na-CMC 1% w / v to 10 mL [7]

**Manufacture of high fat diet feed**

A high-fat diet, each 1 kg is prepared by mixing 150 g / kg wheat flour, 540 g / kg corn flour, 100 g / kg green bean flour, 10 g / kg duck egg yolk, and 200 g / kg beef fat. After all the ingredients are evenly mixed, the dough is made in small parts and then dried in the oven [8]

**Making pure cholesterol at a dose of 200 mg / kgBW**

Pure cholesterol is weighed as much as 800 mg and then dissolved in 40 mL of quail eggs

**Preparation of ethanol extract suspension Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.)**

The suspension of the ethanol extract of leaves of Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.) at a dose of 700 mg/kgbw, 900 mg/kgbw, and 1100 mg/kgbw were made by weighing each extract as much as 700 mg, 900 mg, and 1100 mg. then suspended with 10 mL of Na-CMC 1% w / v.

**Treatment of test animals**

The Rats were adapted for ± 14 days. Initial cholesterol levels were measured before induction on day 0. Then, the rats were grouped into 5 groups with 5 rats per group. The rats were induced by pure cholesterol orally and were given high fat diet (DTL) ad libitum for 35 days. On the 35th day, the cholesterol levels of the rats were measured after being induced [3]. Then, the rats were treated with oral test preparation and DTL feed ad libitum once a day until the 48th day. The test preparations given are as follows:

Group I (negative control), was given Na-CMC 1%.

Group II (positive control), was given simvastatin dose of 1.023 mg/kgbw.

Group III (positive control), was given gemfibrozil dose of 167,60 mg/kgbw.

Group IV, given the ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbleaves at a dose of 700 mg / kgbw.

Group V, given the ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbleaves at a dose of 900 mg/kgbw.

Group VI, given the ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbleaves at a dose of 1100 mg/kgbw.

On the 48th day, the cholesterol levels of the rats were measured after being given uji (end). The rats were fasted for 14-18 hours before each blood draw.

**Blood sampling process**

Blood was drawn through the lateral vein in the tail of the rat. Blood was collected in an Eppendorf tube as much as 0.5 mL, then centrifuged for 10 minutes at 3000 rpm, then the serum (clear layer) was taken.

**Measurement of rat blood cholesterol levels**

The rat blood serum was taken as much as 3 µL, then added with 300 µL of cholesterol reagent, vortexed and incubated for 5 minutes 25 seconds. Cholesterol levels were measured using a Human Analyzer (Microlab 300) at a wavelength of 500 nm.

**Measurement of rat blood triglyceride levels**

Rat blood serum with a volume of 3 µL was added with 300 µL of triglyceride reagent. then vortexed and incubated for 7 minutes 5 seconds. The mixture was put into a Human Analyzer to measure its triglyceride level at a wavelength of 505 nm

**Data analysis**

Cholesterol level data obtained from the research results will be analyzed using statistical analysis using the One Way Anova test and followed by the Bonferroni Post Hoc test.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**:

Hyperlipidemia is a systemic disease characterized by dyslipidemia in serum. Increased levels of cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL and decreased HDL levels are major factors in the development of diseases related to blood lipid levels, namely cardiovascular disease, ateroskerosis and obesity [9]. High lipid concentration (hyperlipi-demia) in association with obesity, weight gain, hypertension and diabetes have been reported to be one of the major risk factors of cardiovascular disease, a leading cause of death [10].One of the traditional plants that can be used to lower cholesterol levels is Beruwaslaut(*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.)) Roxb. This plant contains chemicalcompound flavonoids, alkaloids, steroids and saponins[11].

Empirically, the people of South Sulawesi, Pinrang Regency uses the Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.) as an antidiabetic [4]. Rahmawati (2013) found that the ethanol extract of Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.) was potential as an antioxidant with an ES50 value of 78.98 ppm and antioxidant activity was also present in diabetic rats by reducing the malondialdehyde value by 58,980%, and this activity was the same with vitamin E [11,12].This study to evaluated the effectiveness of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb. extract as an antyhipelipidemia by measuring the biochemical parameters cholesterol and triglycerides.

The variation of concentration 700 mg/kgbw; 900 mg/kgbw and 1100 mg/kgbwin this research based on previous data showed a concentration of 7% could reduce cholesterol levels in test rats, which were then converted into a dosage equal to 700 mg / kgBW.

The results of measurements of cholesterol levels before induction, after induction, treatment and percentage reduction of ethanol extract of leaves *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbleaves can be seen in table 1 below:

Table 1. Results of measurement of the average cholesterol level of test animals

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cholesterol(mg/dL)** | **Group 1** | **Group 2** | **Group 4** | **Group 5** | **Group 6** |
| baseline (Day 0) | 44,80 ± 4,66 | 44,20 ± 3,56 | 44,20 ± 7,33 | 44,60 ± 5,77 | 40,80 ± 8,76 |
| Induction (HFD) | 85,60 ± 10,21 | 86,20 ± 7,12 | 86,60 ± 4,16 | 89,40 ± 3,78 | 83,40 ± 7,13 |
| Days 14 (Treatment) | 77,60 ± 7,30 | 25,80 ± 8,76 | 28,20 ± 11,71 | 26,40 ± 5,86 | 23,60 ± 5,86 |
| Percentage Reduction | 8,80\* | 69,93# | 67,75# | 70,48# | 71,64# |

The groups 1 and 2 received suspension Na. CMC 1% w/v and Simvastatin 1,023 mg/kgBB; groups 4,5 and 6 are 700, 900 and 1100 mg/kgbw of ethanol extract of Leaves *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb, respectively, \* p<0,05 significantly group 1 compared to groups 2,4,5 and 6, # p>0,05 nonsignificantlygroup 2 compared to groups4,5and 6

 The results of the average cholesterol measurement in table 1 show that there is an increase in cholesterol levels with a range of 40.8 - 44.8 mg / dl to a range of 83.40 -89.40 mg / dl after the induction of a diet high in cholesterol and pure cholesterol. for 35 days. This shows that giving a diet high in fat and pure cholesterol will cause an increase in the amount of fat in the form of triglycerides. The lipid will be deposited in adipose tissue, especially those under the skin and in the abdominal cavity and will be used as material for the formation of VLDL and LDL in the liver so that it can affect total cholesterol levels. All test groups except the control group Natrium CMC 1% w / v after giving therapy for 14 days experienced a decrease in cholesterol levels with a large decrease occurring in the simvastatin group and the EEDBL group at a dose of 1100 mg / kgBW. Based on the results of the ANOVA statistical test and Bonferonni follow-up test, the percent reduction in cholesterol levels showed that the simvastatin control group against the EEDBL group at doses of 700, 900 and 1100 mg / kgbb was not significantly different (p <0.05). This means that EEDBL has the same effect as simvastatin in reducing cholesterol levels. By looking at the percent reduction in cholesterol levels, the largest was the EEDBL group with a dose of 1100 mg / kgbb. The use of simvastatin as a cholesterol drug in this study because it is a statin drug class with a mechanism of inhibiting the 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-coenzyme A reductase HMG-CoA reductase in the cholesterol synthesis process in the liver.[1].

The results of measurements of trigliseride levels before induction, after induction, treatment and percentage reduction of ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxbleaves can be seen in table 2 below:

Table 2. Results of measurement of the average trigliseride level of test animals

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Trigliseride(mg/dL)** | **Group 1** | **Group 3** | **Group 4** | **Group 5** | **Group 6** |
| baseline (Day 0) | 79,33 ± 13,91 | 86,33 ± 7,93 | 87,66 ± 6,59 | 78 ± 12,08 | 77 ± 11,34 |
| Induction (HFD) | 186,33 ± 9,84 | 182,66 ± 2,62 | 185 ± 5,71 | 182 ± 11,86 | 185,66 ± 6,79 |
| Days 14 (Treatment) | 187,33 ± 8,57 | 65,66 ± 11,02 | 137,66 ± 10,20 | 112,33 ± 6,23 | 101,33 ± 17,13 |
| Percentage Reduction | -0,53 %\* | 64,10 %# | 25,53 %\* | 37,86 %# | 45,19 %# |

The groups 1 and 3 received suspension Na. CMC 1% w/v and Gemfibrozil 167,60mg/kgBB; groups 4,5 and 6 are 700, 900 and 1100 mg/kgbw of ethanol extract of Leaves *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb, respectively, \* p<0,05 significantly group 1 compared to group3,4,5 and 6, # p>0,05 nonsignificantlygroup 3 compared to 5 and 6

The results of the measurement of the average triglycerides in table 2 show that there is an increase intriglyceride levels with a range of 77.00 - 87.66 mg / dL to a range of 182.00 -186.33 mg / dL after the induction of a high cholesterol and pure cholesterol diet for 35 days. This shows that giving a diet high in fat and pure cholesterol will cause an increase in the amount of fat in the form of triglycerides.

The more fat levels are consumed, the triglyceride synthesis in the body will also increase [13]. All test groups except the control group Natrium CMC 1% w / v after giving therapy for 14 days experienced a decrease in triglyceride levels with a large decrease occurring in the simvastatin group and the EEDBL group at a dose of 1100 mg / kgBW. Based on the results of the ANOVA statistical test and the continued bonferonni test, the percent reduction in triglyceride levels showed that the simvastatin control group against the EEDBL group at doses of 900 and 1100 mg / kgBW was not significantly different (p <0.05). This means that the EEDBL doses of 900 and 1100 mg / kg have the same effect as simvastatin in reducing triglyceride levels according to the percent reduction in cholesterol levels, the largest in the EEDBL group at a dose of 1100 mg / kgbb. The use of gemfibrozil as an anti-hyperlipidemia in this study because it is a class of fibrate Fibrates reduce triglycerides through PPARα-mediated stimulation of fatty acid oxidation, increased LPLsynthesis, and reduced expression of apoC-III[14].

The results of measuring cholesterol and triglyceride levels from the ethanol extract of Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.) showed that the doses of 900 and 1100 mg / kgbb were effective doses. This is thought to be due to the chemical content of flavonoids, saponins and alkaloids from Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.). Alkaloids have hypolipidemic activity by inhibiting fatty acids which are the basic ingredients for the formation of triglycerides.

Flavonoid are the constituen of Beruwaslaut (*Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.)[10]. Numoerous studies have been approved the potential role of flavonoid as antidiabetic, antihyperlipidemic and antioxidant [13,15] Saponins can reduce triglyceride by inhibited pancreatic lipase activity[16]. Flavonoids and saponins are antioxidants that can help lower triglyceride levels by increasing the activity of the lipoprotein lipase enzyme which works to convert triglycerides into free fatty acids [17].

**Conclusion**

The conclusion of this study is that the ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.leaves has an effect on reducing cholesterol levels in hyperlipidemic rats. The concentration of ethanol extract from *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxblevaes which is the most effective in reducing cholesterol and triglyceride levels of hyperlipidemic rats is ethanol extract of *Scaevolataccada* (Gaertn.) Roxb.leaves with a dose of 1100 mg/kgbw

Conflict of interest

Author’s Contribution

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