



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***EFFECTS OF HARUAN PRESSURIZED IN WATER EXTRACT ON SK-N-SH
HUMAN NEUROBLASTOMA CELL LINE IN VITRO***

BUHARI IBRAHIM

FPSK(m) 24



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By

BUHARI IBRAHIM

**Thesis submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, University Putra Malaysia in
Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science**

June 2015

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to:

Almighty Allah who made this research work possible,
My parents,
My wife and son, and
My Supervisor Prof. Dr. Abdul Manan Mat Jais
For the efficient support they gave me throughout the time of the study.



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in Fulfilment of
the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science

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June 2015

Chairman: Professor Abdul Manan Mat Jais, PhD
Faculty: Medicine and Health Sciences

Effects of haruan pressurized in water extract (HPIWE) on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cell line was studied *in vitro*. MTT assay, phase contrast microscopy and flow cytometry were employed to evaluate the effects of HPIWE on SK-N-SH cells. To start with, MTT assay was run to observe the effect of the haruan extract on cell viability of SK-N-SH human neuroblastoma cells. The cells were treated with various concentrations of the HPIWE to undertake a first step in screening the extract for its cytotoxic effects. The result showed the cell viability of 68.8 % at the highest concentration of 100 µg/ml, indicating that HPIWE possesses no cytotoxic effect because no IC₅₀ could be determined. Another MTT assay was run with 250 µg/ml of the extract as highest concentration to observe if increasing the concentration will produce better result. However, the result indicates about 72% cell viability of the SK-N-SH cells. Therefore, since 100 µg/ml produces less viability, it was adopted for subsequent experiments. This concentration was then used to study the effects HPIWE on cellular morphology of the SK-N-SH cells using phase contrast microscope. No alteration of cellular morphology was observed on SK-N-SH cells as compared to the control cells which did not receive treatment. Based on the MTT assay and the morphological studies by phase contrast, there were no observable effects of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH cells. Our study further search for the apoptotic effects of the extract using ApoBrdU *in situ* DNA fragmentation assay kit followed by quantification of the DNA strand break using flow cytometry. One-way ANOVA test was used to compare the difference between the treated cells and the control cells (untreated cancer cells). The analysis showed that the HPIWE induced apoptosis in a time dependent manner and significant value (*p < 0.05) was obtained when compared with the control. The result confirmed that the HPIWE induced apoptosis on the SK-N-SH human neuroblastoma cancer cells. However, the amount of cells that underwent apoptosis were less than 50% of the total cells, meaning that even from the flow cytometry result, no IC₅₀ could be generated. Therefore, the result of flow cytometry could be correlated with the MTT assay result, because in both assays, over 30% of cell death was recorded. However, the overall result of the study showed that HPIWE was not an effective anti-proliferative agent on SK-N-SH cells. Therefore, further studies should target the use of non-polar haruan extract for cancer related studies. Also angiogenesis and cell migration assay should be used to demonstrate the effect of HPIWE on brain cancer and or other cancer cell lines.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Master Sains

KESAN ESTRAK HARUAN BERTEKANAN DALAM AIR KE ATAS GARIS SEL NEUROBLASTOMA SK-N-SH MANUSIA IN VITRO

Oleh

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Kesan haruan bertekanan dalam ekstrak air (HPIWE) pada SK-N-SH garis sel neuroblastoma dikaji in vitro. MTT assay, mikroskopik sebaliknya fasa dan sitometri aliran telah digunakan untuk menilai kesan HPIWE pada sel-sel SK-N-SH. Sebagai permulaan, analisis MTT telah dijalankan untuk melihat kesan ekstrak haruan pada daya maju sel-sel neuroblastoma manusia, SK-N-SH. Sel-sel telah dirawat dengan pelbagai kepekatan HPIWE untuk dilaksanakan sebagai langkah pertama dalam saringan ekstrak untuk kesan sitotoksik itu. Keputusan menunjukkan kebolehan sel 68.8% pada kepekatan tertinggi 100 µg / ml, menunjukkan bahawa HPIWE tidak mempunyai kesan sitotoksik kerana tiada IC₅₀ dapat dikenalpasti. Satu lagi analisis MTT telah dijalankan dengan ekstrak 250 µg / ml sebagai kepekatan tertinggi untuk melihat jika peningkatan kepekatan yang akan menghasilkan keputusan yang lebih baik. Walau bagaimanapun, keputusan kajian menunjukkan kira-kira 72% daya maju sel-sel SK-N-SH. Oleh itu, 100 µg / ml menghasilkan kurang daya maju, ia telah diterima pakai untuk eksperimen berikutnya. Kepekatan ini telah digunakan untuk mengkaji kesan HPIWE pada morfologi sel sel SK-N-SH menggunakan mikroskop Sebaliknya fasa. Tiada perubahan morfologi sel diperhatikan pada sel-sel SK-N-SH berbanding dengan sel kawalan yang tidak menerima rawatan. Berdasarkan analisis MTT dan kajian morfologi sebaliknya fasa, tiada perubahan HPIWE dikesan pada sel-sel SK-N-SH. Kajian kami untuk mencari kesan apoptotic ekstrak dengan menggunakan ApoBrdU in situ pemecahan kit analisis DNA diikuti dengan kuantifikasi rehat strand DNA menggunakan pengalir sitometri. Sehalu ujian ANOVA telah digunakan untuk membandingkan perbezaan di antara sel-sel dirawat dan sel-sel kawalan (sel-sel kanser yang tidak dirawat). Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahawa HPIWE dirangsang apoptosis dengan cara yang bergantung kepada masa dan nilai signifikan (* p < 0.05) telah diperolehi berbanding dengan kawalan. Hasilnya mengesahkan bahawa HPIWE teraruh apoptosis di SK-N-SH sel-sel kanser neuroblastoma manusia. Walau bagaimanapun, jumlah sel-sel yang menjalani apoptosis kurang daripada 50% daripada jumlah sel-sel, yang bererti bahawa walaupun dari hasil sitometri aliran, tiada IC₅₀ boleh dihasilkan. Oleh itu, hasil daripada aliran sitometri boleh dikaitkan dengan hasil analisis MTT, kerana dalam kedua-dua tujuan esei, lebih 30% daripada kematian sel direkodkan. Walau bagaimanapun, keputusan keseluruhan kajian menunjukkan HPIWE bukan agen anti proliferatif berkesan ke atas sel-sel SK-N-SH. Oleh itu, kajian lanjut perlu menyasarkan penggunaan ekstrak haruan bukan kutub untuk kajian kanser yang berkaitan. Juga angiogenesis dan analisis

penghijrahan sel boleh digunakan untuk menunjukkan kesan HPIWE kepada kanser otak dan atau garis sel kanser lain.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 29 June 2015 to conduct the final examination of Buhari Ibrahim on his thesis entitled "Effects of Haruan Pressurized in Water Extract on Sk-N-Sh Human Neuroblastoma Cell Line *In Vitro*" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	i
ABSTRAK	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
APPROVAL	v
LIST TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xiv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xv
CHAPTER	
1 INTRADUCTION	1
1.1 Justification of the Study	2
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Research Questions	2
1.4 Hypothesis	2
1.5 Main Objective	2
1.51 Specific Objectives	3
2 LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1 Cancer	4
2.2 Brain Cancer	5
2.3 Brain Cancer Cell Lines	5
2.4 Current Brain Cancer Treatment	5
2.4.1 Surgical Removal of Brain Tumours	5
2.4.2 Radiotherapy	5
2.4.3 Chamotherapy	6
2.5 Natural Products Used for Anti-cancer Therapy	6
2.6 Relevance of HPIWE to Anti-cancer Therapy	6
2.6.1 Anti-oxidant Potential of HPIWE	16
2.6.2 Anti-angiogenic Potential	17
2.7 Cytotoxicity Assay	19
2.8 Mode of Cell Death and Method of Detecting Cell Death	19
2.8.1 Apoptosis	19
2.8.2 Necrosis	20
2.8.3 Phase Contrast Microscopy	22
2.8.4 Flow cytometry	24
3 MATERIALS AND METHODS	25
3.1 Materials	25
3.2 Preparation of Haruan Pellet	25
3.3 Preparation of HPIWE	25
3.4 Cells Maintenance	26
3.4.1 Cells Thawing	26
3.4.2 Trypsinization	26
3.4.3 Cells Sub-culturing	27
3.5 Cytotoxic Effects of HPIWE on SK-N-SH Cells	27

3.5.1	MTT Assay	27
3.6	Phase Contrast Microscopy Morphological Features of SK-N-SH Cells Treated with HPIWE	28
3.7	Quantification of Apoptotic Cells using Flow cytometry by APO-BrDU Kit	28
3.7.1	Induction of Apoptosis	28
3.7.2	Cell Fixation	28
3.7.3	Cells Detection by Flow cytometry	29
3.8	Statistical Analysis	29
4	RESULT	30
4.1	Results for MTT Assay	30
4.2	Phase Contrast Microscopy for SK-N-SH Cells	33
4.3	Flow cytometric Analysis of DNA Fragmentation (Apoptosis)	37
5	DISCUSSION	42
5.1	Cytotoxic Effects of HPIWE on SK-N-SH Cells	42
5.2	Phase Contrast Microscopy Morphological Features of SK-N-SH Cells	43
5.3	Quantification of Apoptosis by Flow cytometry	43
6	SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	45
	REFERENCES	46
	BIODATA OF STUDENT	62
	LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	63

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
2.1	The Amino Acids and Fatty Acids Content of HPIWE	9
2.2	The amino acids composition of aqueous haruan extract from Zakaria <i>et al.</i> , 2007	11
2.3	The fatty acids composition of aqueous haruan extract from Zakaria <i>et al.</i> , 2007	12
2.4	The amino acids compositions of Haruan extracts from Dahlan <i>et al.</i> , 2010	14
2.5	The fatty acids compositions of Haruan Extracts from Dahlan <i>et al.</i> , 2010.	15
2.6	Table 2.6 The <i>In vitro</i> antioxidant activity of roe protein hydrolysates of <i>Channa stratus</i> from (Galla <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	18
4.1	Mean score \pm standard deviation of percentages of apoptotic cells (DNA fragmentation) of control cells and cells treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of HPIWE at different time interval.	41

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
2.1	Haruan Fish (adapted from Mohd Shafri and Abdul Manan, 2012)	8
2.2	Apoptosis and Necrosis	21
2.3	Apoptosis Detection in Time-lapse Phase-contrast Microscopy of SK-N-SH cells (Huf <i>et al.</i> , 2012). The left picture shows normal cells, while the right picture is showing the apoptotic cells	23
2.4	Ethanol induced cell death in SK-N-SH cells (Kim <i>et al.</i> , 2002). The left picture shows normal cells, while the right picture is showing the apoptotic cells.	23
4.1	Scatter plot of the MTT Assay after 72 hours treatment ($y = -0.1982x + 84.701$). This result indicated that no significant cytotoxic effect of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH cancer cells. Data shown are mean \pm SD of triplicate (n=9) independent experiments with a correlation coefficient $R^2 = 0.4324$.	31
4.2	Scatter plot of the MTT Assay after 72 hours treatment with 250 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ as highest concentration ($y = -0.1147x + 97.284$). This result further proved that no significant cytotoxic effect of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH cancer cells. Data shown are mean \pm SD of triplicate (n=3) independent experiments with a correlation coefficient of $R^2 = 0.9067$.	32
4.3	Phase contrast micrographs of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell lines treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (A) Untreated SK-N-SH cell line (B) 24 h treatment. The extract did not alter the morphology of the cells. Mag 20x	34
4.4	Phase contrast micrographs of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell lines treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (C) Untreated SK-N-SH cell line (D) 48 h treatment. The extract did not alter the morphology of the cells. Mag 20x	35
4.5	Phase contrast micrographs of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell lines treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (E) Untreated SK-N-SH cell line (F) 72 h treatment. The extract did not alter the morphology of the cells. Mag 20x	36
4.6	Dot plot of BrdUTP/PI Flow Cytometry for SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell line treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (A) 24 h Untreated cells (B) 24 h treated cells. The lower left quadrants show the viable cells, which exclude PI and negative to BrdUTP. The upper right quadrants contain late apoptotic cells, positive for BrdUTP binding and PI uptake. The lower right quadrants contain apoptotic cells, BrdUTP positive and PI negative and the upper left quadrants contain necrotic cells which take PI and BrdUTP.	38

- 4.7 Dot plot of BrdUTP/PI Flow Cytometry for SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell line treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (C) 48 h Untreated cells (D) 48 h treated cells. The lower left quadrants show the viable cells, which exclude PI and negative to BrdUTP. The upper right quadrants contain late apoptotic cells, positive for BrdUTP binding and PI uptake. The lower right quadrants contain apoptotic cells, BrdUTP positive and PI negative and the upper left quadrants contain necrotic cells which take PI and BrdUTP. 39
- 4.8 Dot plot of BrdUTP/PI Flow Cytometry for SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cancer cell line treated with 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration value. (E) 72 h Untreated cells (F) 72 h treated cells. The lower left quadrants show the viable cells, which exclude PI and negative to BrdUTP. The upper right quadrants contain late apoptotic cells, positive for BrdUTP binding and PI uptake. The lower right quadrants contain apoptotic cells, BrdUTP positive and PI negative and the upper left quadrants contain necrotic cells which take PI and BrdUTP. 40

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
A	Reagent for Cell Culture Work	54
B	Cytotoxicity Assays	56
C	Statistical Analysis	57



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

%	Percent
°C	Degree Celsius
ABU	Ahmadu Bello University
AECS	Aqueous extract of <i>Channa striatus</i>
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
AO	Acridin Orange
ATCC	American Type Culture Collection
BrdUTP	Bromodeoxyuridine triphosphate
Cm	Centimetre
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
COX-2	Cyclo-oxygenase
DDH ₂ O	Deionized distilled water
DHA	Deicosahexaenoic acid
DMSO	Dimethylsulfoxide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleotide acid
EDTA	Ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EPA	Ecosapentaenoic acid
FA	Fatty acid
FACS	Fluorescence-activated cell sorting
FBS	Fetal bovine serum
FITC	Fluorescein isothiocynate
HL-60	promyelocytic leukaemia
PHIWE	Haruan Pressurized in water extract
H	Hours
HT-29	human colon adenocarcinoma
IC ₅₀	Inhibition concentration for 50% of cell population
INRG	International neuroblastoma risk group
KCl	Potassium chloride
KH ₂ PO ₄	Potassium dihydrogen phosphate
LECS	Lipid extract of <i>Channa striatus</i>
MEM	Eagle's Minimum essential Medium
mL	Millilitre
mm	Millimetre
MTT	Microculture tetrazolium
NFKB	Nuclear Factor Kappa Beta
NYSC	National youth service corps
OD	Optical density
PBS	Phosphate buffer saline
PDECGF	Platelet-Derived Endothelial Cell Growth Factor
PDGF	Platelete drive growth factor
PGE ₂	Prostaglandin-E ₂
pH	Hydrogen ion concentration
PhD	Doctor of philosophy
PUFA	Polyunsaturated fatty acids
RNase	Ribonuclease
Rpm	Rotation per minute
SD	Standard deviation
TdT	Terminal deoxynucleotidyl Transferase

TUNEL

Terminal deoxyribonucleotide Transferase-mediated dUTP

Nick-End Labelling

UPM

Universiti Putra Malaysia

VEGF

Endothelial growth factor

w/v

Weight per volume

WHO

World Health Organization

μL

Microlitre



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Cancer is one of the major causes of death globally. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated the sum of 14 million new cancer cases and about 8.2 million deaths due to cancer in the year 2012, and it was said the death record could hit 13.1 million by the year 2030. About 60% of total cancer cases in the world occur in Asia, Africa, and Central and South America. These regions were said to account for 70% of total cancer death in the world (World Cancer Report, 2014). According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Globocan of the World Health Organisation (WHO), in 2012, the number of cancer incidence and cancer death stood at 37,000 and 21,700 respectively.

Brain cancer is the second most popular cancer among children after leukaemia (Siegel *et al.*, 2013). Brain tumour may be categorised into primary and secondary tumours. Primary tumour originated from the brain tissue, whereas secondary tumour metastasizes from other tissues (Villarreal-Garza. *et al.*, 2013). Even though brain cancer was termed the third most cause of death in adult under the age of 34 years, more of these tumours show up after the age of 50 years (Castro *et al.*, 2003).

Neuroblastoma is the prevailing solid malignant tumour in infancy and childhood. Two-thirds of the tumour metastasize from other organs (Modak and Cheung, 2010). Despite the fact that neuroblastoma accounts for only 8% of all childhood malignant tumours, 15% of childhood cancer deaths are due to it (Castel *et al.*, 2013). Treatment of neuroblastoma includes induction of high dose radiotherapy, chemotherapy, stem-cell transplantation and surgical removal of the tumour (Navarra *et al.*, 2014). Although, some level of improvement was accomplished using the earlier mention methods of treating brain malignancy, a number of patients with high risk of neuroblastoma do not respond to the conventional therapy, or the symptoms appear to come back later (Castel *et al.*, 2013). Therefore, screening of natural products that can cure this disease may give an alternative treatment with no or less side effects.

Natural products derived from marine animals such as, coral, sponges, microorganisms and fishes was shown to possess anti-inflammatory, anti-viral and anti-cancer effects. It was reported that 74.8% of currently used anti-cancer drugs such as taxanes, vinca alkaloids and camptothecin class of compounds are sourced from natural products (Newman and Cragg, 2012).

Haruan fish, found in many tropical countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand is widely known as a source of food and traditional medicinal products since pre-historic time (Abdul Manan, 2007). Preliminary bioactive component (Zakaria *et al.*, 2007) include proteins, peptides, glycoproteins, fat, and minerals (Abdul Manan, 2007). Amino acids; histidine, lysine, aspartate and arginine are reported to produce antioxidant effect (Dahlan-daud *et al.*, 2010; Frankel, 1998). The amino acids as well as the fatty acids content of the fish could give a tremendous effect on cancer treatment. An earlier report by Nur Syamsiah (2012) suggested the cytotoxic and anti-proliferative effects different fractions of haruan traditional extract (HTE) on colon-rectal and Leukaemia cancers. Also, antioxidant effects of aqueous extract of *Channa*

striatus (AECS) was demonstrated using 2,2-diphenyl-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) assay, azino-bis(3 ethylbenzothiazoline-6 sulphonic acid (ABTS) and ferric reducing ability of power (FRAP) (Radzak *et al.*, 2014). The authors were able to correlate the antioxidant effects of AECS with cytotoxicity assay on in human liver hepatoma HepG2 cells by the MTT assay.

Therefore, this study evaluated the anti-proliferative effect of HPIWE on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma, brain cancer cell *in vitro*.

1.1 Problem Statement

Neuroblastoma is a solid brain tumour that accounts for more than 15% of childhood cancer death. However, conventional treatment of the tumour using chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery is associated with toxicity, drug resistance and screening effect of blood brain barrier. Search for potential agent from natural product with less side effects will be a welcome development.

1.2 Justification of the study

HPIWE showed the anti-proliferative effects on human colon adenocarcinoma (HT-29) and Human promyelocytic leukaemia (HL-60). The inhibitory concentration (IC_{50}) value of $78.0 \pm 0.28 \mu\text{g/ml}$ and $44.0 \pm 0.37 \mu\text{g/ml}$ was found in the two cells respectively. However, the potential of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cells have not been studied. Because our interest was on cancer that affects neuronal cells, SK-N-SH cell was used throughout the study.

1.3 Research Questions

- a) Could HPIWE inhibit proliferation of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cell line *in vitro*?
- b) Will there be any change in the morphological appearance of SK-N-SH when treated with HPIWE?
- c) Could HPIWE induce apoptosis on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cells when observed under Flow cytometry?

1.4 Hypothesis

HPIWE inhibit proliferation of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma via apoptosis.

1.5 Main Objectives

To determine the effects of the HPIWE on human neuroblastoma cell line.

1.5.1 Specific Objectives

1. To determine the anti-proliferative effects of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cells *in vitro* using MTT assay.
2. To study the morphological features of SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cells treated with HPIWE using phase contrast microscope
3. To determine the apoptotic effect of the HPIWE on SK-N-SH neuroblastoma cells by flow cytometry.



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