Potential Drug Screening of Alpinia galanga (L.) Willd **Bioactive Compound against Inhibitor Enoyl-Acyl** Carrier Protein Reductase (INHA) Mycobacterium tuberculosis

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Tuberculosis is a respiratory disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis that has remained a global endemic for decades and is expected to persist as a significant health challenge. Its incidence has been rising worldwide, particularly in Southeast Asia, including Indonesia. The combined treatment of tuberculosis that was carried out did not have significantly different results from that of a separate treatment. This molecular docking study targeted InhA protein with bioactive compounds from Alpinia galanga. InhA protein is a protein that has been the target of first-line treatment, namely isoniazid. InhA protein plays a role in synthesising mycolic acid, one of the constituents of Mycobacterium tuberculosis cell walls. Alpinia galanga has antimicrobial, anti-bacterial and other properties. The docking results showed that four bioactive compounds of Alpinia galanga, namely galanal A, pinobanksin, galangin, and alpinone had lower affinity values than the control drug (isoniazid). Based on the amino acid residues, these four compounds showed better hydrogen and hydrophobic bonding than the control drug (isoniazid). Based on literature studies, these four compounds also have antimicrobial and anti-bacterial properties. Therefore, by targeting InhA through NADH inhibition, the elongation of FAS II can potentially be suppressed.

Keywords: Alpinia galanga; in silico; InhA protein; medicinal plant; tuberculosis

I. INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) is a respiratory disease that has become a Asian nations rank among the regions with the highest global endemic for the past few decades caused by burden of MDR/RR-TB globally (WHO, 2020; Cohen et al., Mycobacterium tuberculosis. This disease is estimated to be 2019; Kemenkes RI, 2021). Every year, Indonesia experiences difficult to eradicate in the next few decades, even though the an increase in the number of TB patients with confirmed WHO has declared a tuberculosis-free world by 2020. Until status by 8060 people and patients undergoing treatment 2020, the majority of tuberculosis cases were concentrated in each year by 4557 people (Kemenkes RI, 2021). TB low-income and developing countries, with approximately transmission occurs through particulates or airborne droplets 10% classified as multidrug-resistant or rifampicin-resistant that come out of the mouth and nose of an infected person tuberculosis (MDR/RR-TB). Indonesia and other Southeast when coughing, talking, or singing (Centers for Disease

that the risk factors for a person contracting tuberculosis were exposure to drug-resistant TB patients in health facilities and being people with HIV/AIDS (ODHA) (Angelia et al., 2020). TB resistance arises due to multiple factors, including variations in the susceptibility of bacterial strains to drugs, substandard drug management, underlying cardiovascular conditions, HIV/AIDS infection, and alcohol consumption (Safaev et al., 2021).

Currently, tuberculosis treatment involves first-line therapies, second-line therapies, and fixed-dose combinations (FDCs) (Sotgiu et al., 2015; Jilani et al., 2021; Lima et al., 2017). FDCs are pre-formulated combination drugs packaged into a single tablet. According to the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines, FDCs are categorised into three formulations: two-drug combinations (ethambutol + isoniazid or isoniazid + rifampicin), three-drug combinations (ethambutol + isoniazid + rifampicin or ethambutol + pyrazinamide + rifampicin), and four-drug combinations (ethambutol + isoniazid + pyrazinamide + rifampicin) (WHO, 2011). The fixed-dose combination method has advantages in drug supply management, but the FDC formulation is no different from separate drugs, only combining these drugs in one capsule that can be consumed once (Albanna et al., 2013). In a previous study it was demonstrated that there were no significant difference treatments between separate drug formulations using the FDC formulation in TB patients at the end of the intensive phase. Several factors such as the use of co-administered drugs are thought to reduce the effectiveness of the drug (Cesar, 2014).

Mycolic acid is one of the cell wall constituents, and it protects bacteria when in unfavourable conditions (Chiaradia et al., 2017). Mycolic acid synthesis starts from acetyl-CoA carboxylase, which activates malonyl-KOA for fatty acid synthesis I (FAS I) (Goude & Parish, 2008). FAS I has a de novo synthesis of short chain fatty acids and produces hexacosanyl-S-CoA. The FAS II system will extend fatty acids synthesised by FAS I to produce meromycolic acid. In each cycle, fatty acids will elongate by adding two carbon units so that successive activities occur, namely -ketoacyl ACP reductase, trans 2 enoyl ACP reductase, (3R)-hydroxyacyl-ACP dehydrogenase and -ketoacyl ACP synthase (Goude &

Control and Prevention, 2016). In another study, it was stated Parish, 2008). Enoyl acyl carrier protein reductase (InhA) is a protein that plays a role in the mycolic acid biosynthesis process in M. tuberculosis in the FAS II stage (He et al., 2007). InhA protein has been the target of first-line treatment, namely isoniazid (PaweŁczyk & Kremer, 2014). In the case of resistance, isoniazid treatment does not work optimally in targeting the InhA protein due to mutations in katG so that this mycolic acid biosynthesis process continues (Duan et al., 2014; Vilchèze et al., 2014). This monofunctional enzyme such as InhA could be a key candidate for new drug targets for developing anti-TB drugs (Vilchèze et al., 2014).

> Alpinia galanga (galangal), a member of the Zingiberaceae family, possesses antibacterial properties. Previous studies have demonstrated its use in traditional medicine, particularly for reducing oxygen concentration in latent tuberculosis cases, where bacteria exist in a dormant and non-replicating state (Gupta et al., 2014). Based on this background, a molecular docking study of the active compound of the plant Alpinia galanga was conducted against InhA protein which is expected to be a tool in the drug discovery development.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Bioactive Compound Data Collection

About 75 structures of bioactive compounds derived from Alpinia galanga were obtained from a number of literatures (Samart, 2007; Tungmunnithum et al., 2020; Manse et al., 2017; Morita et al., 1986). The CID number was recorded for validation purposes. The 3D structure of the bioactive compound obtained from **PubChem** was (https://pubchem.ncbi.mlm.nih.gov). Each compound CID number was recorded for further validation purposes.

B. Lipinski Rule of Five Assessment

All compounds downloaded from PubChem will first be tested using the Lipinski rule of five parameters (https://www.scfbiolitd.res.in/software/drugdesign/lipinski .jsp). Compounds used in oral therapy are generally in the form of small molecules (Goodwin et al., 2017). This test aims to determine whether the bioactive compound can be developed as an oral drug based on its physical and chemical characteristics (Lipinski, 2004).

C. Target Protein Preparation

Enoyl acyl carrier protein reductase (InhA) was used as a target in this study. InhA has been the target of first-line treatment, namely isoniazid and plays a role in the biosynthesis of mycolic acid in *M. tuberculosis* which catalyses the reduction of long-chain *trans 2-enoyl-ACP* in the FAS-II (Fatty acid Synthase - II) pathway (He *et al.*, 2007; PaweŁczyk & Kremer, 2014). The InhA structure (2IED) is downloaded from the RSCB PDB (https://www.rscb.org/) in PDB format. The downloaded protein then purifies the target protein from native ligands and water molecules using PyMol (https://www.pymol.org).

D. Molecular Docking and Visualisation

The docking process uses the PyRx software (https://pyrx.sourceforge.io/). Chemical compounds are minimized and converted to pdbqt format to facilitate docking. InhA is converted to pdbqt format before docking. In this study, the control drug used was isoniazid, which is the first-line drug for tuberculosis and plays a role in inhibiting mycolic acid synthesis (Widodo et al., 2016). The dimensions used in the docking process are X=75.5359Å, Y= 78.6879Å, and Z=85.7672Å. Two types of visualization are used, namely 2D and 3D visualisation. For 3D visualisation using PyMol (https://www.pymol.org), while for 2D visualisation using LigPlot (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/throntonsrv/software/LigPlus). After that, 4 bioactive compounds with the lowest bond energy values were selected for visualisation.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of 75 natural compounds from the *Alpinia* galanga plant selected 4 compounds that have binding affinity interactions with the best InhA target protein, namely galanal A (3050416), pinobanksin (73202), galangin (5281616), and alpinone (5317747). These compounds had lower affinity values than the control (Isoniazid; -5.6 kcal/mol), ranging from -8.8 kcal/mol to -8.5 kcal/mol (Table 1).

From the results of visualisation analysis, the natural compound with the best binding affinity compared to other compounds is Galanal A (-8.8 kcal/mol). Galanal A binds to InhA protein, it is found that hydrophobic bond interactions in the Phe97 section; Ile95; Gly14; Ala94; Ile16; Gly40 and hydrogen bond interactions on the Gly96 moiety; Ile15; Phe41. The second compound after Galanal A is Pinobanksin (-8.8 kcal/mol). Pinobanksin binds to the target protein and hydrophobic interactions are found at the Leu 63; Gly40; Ile95; Ile47 as a hydrophobic bond as well as Thr39; Ile15; Gly14 as a hydrogen bond.

Galangin (-8.5 kcal/mol) is the third compound after pinobanksin. Galangin binds to InhA proteins at the Ala94, Ile95 moieties; Thr196; Ile21; Tyr158; Gly192; Phe149; Pro193 with hydrophobic bonds and bound to the Gly96 moiety; met199; Ile194; Ala198; Leu197 with hydrogen bonds. The fourth compound after galangin is Alpinone (-8.5 kcal/mol) which has the same binding affinity as galangin. Alpinone only has hydrogen bonds when it binds to the InhA protein. Alpinone binding to the target protein is at the Pro193; Phe149; met199; Tyr158; Gly192; Ile194; Ile21; met147; Ser20; Gly14; Ala94; Leu197; Thr196; Ile16.

Table 1. Docking results from 5 bioactive compounds in Alpinia galanga

No	Compound	Affinity (kcal/mol)	Amino Acid	Interaction
1	Galanal A	-8.8	Phe97; Ile95 ; Gly14 ; Ala94; Ile16; Gly40	Hydrophobic interactions
			Gly96	Hydrogen bond (3.15)
			Ile15	Hydrogen bond (3.06)
			Phe41	Hydrogen bond (2.98)
2	Pinobanksin	-8.6	Leu 63; Gly40; Ile95 ; Ile47	Hydrophobic interactions
			Thr39	Hydrogen bond (2.98)
			Ile15	Hydrogen bond (3.01 and 3,31) Hydrogen bond (3.06)
			Gly14	
3	Galangin	-8.5	Ala94, Ile95 ; Thr196 ; Ile21 ; Tyr158; Gly192; Phe149 ; Pro193 Gly96	Hydrophobic interactions
			•	Hydrogen bond (3,18 and 2.82)
			Met199	Hydrogen bond (3.18)
			Ile194	Hydrogen bond (3.01)
			Ala198	Hydrogen bond (2.88)
			Leu197	Hydrogen bond (2.79)
4	Alpinone	-8.5	Pro193; Phe149 ; Met199; Tyr158;	Hydrophobic interactions
			Gly192; Ile194 ; Ile21 ;	
			Met147; Ser20; Gly14;	
			Ala94; Leu197 ;	
			Thr196 ; Ile16	
5	Isoniazid	-5.6	Leu63; Ile95 ; Ile47; Ile15; Gly40	Hydrophobic interactions
			Gly14	Hydrogen bond (3.06 and 3.31)
				Hydrogen bond (2.98)
			Thr39	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

^{*} Note: the bold mark represents the amino acid NADH binding site residues

composed of long-chain mycolic acids, a cross-linked peptidoglycan network, and arabinogalactan (Bhat et al., 2017). The enoyl-acyl carrier protein reductase (InhA) is a key enzyme involved in mycolic acid biosynthesis and serves as a critical target for tuberculosis treatment (He et al., 2007). In this study, isoniazid, a first-line anti-tuberculosis drug, was selected as a control due to its ability to target the InhA protein (Marrakchi et al., 2000). As a prodrug, isoniazid inhibits mycolic acid synthesis bv activating catalase/peroxidase enzymes (KatG) and MnCl2, leading to the formation of isonicotinoyl anions (radicals). These radicals covalently bind to the NADH active site of InhA, thereby inhibiting its function (Palomino et al., 2014; Jena et al., 2014).

The docking results of 75 active compounds of Alpinia galanga contained 4 compounds that showed the results with the best binding affinity values compared to the control drug isoniazid seen from the parameters of affinity values and NADH function. Inhibition of NADH can inhibit enzymatic

Mycobacterium tuberculosis has a complex cell wall from Alpinia galanga showed that they could bind stably compared to the control. The binding affinity value indicates the compound's ability to bind to the target protein (Thafar et al., 2019). The lower the binding affinity value, the more reactive the molecule is, and it is predicted to interact and bind to the target protein spontaneously (Damayanti et al., 2017).

In molecular docking studies, amino acid residue parameters are used to assess the strength of interactions between a compound and its target protein, particularly through hydrogen bonding. The ability of a compound to bind to the same amino acid residues at the active site is a key factor in evaluating its potential as an inhibitor (Fajar et al., 2021). Hydrogen bonds facilitate substrate interactions with the target protein by forming new bonds within the proteinligand complex (Bégué et al., 2008; Zhao et al., 2011). The four analysed compounds are associated with a crucial NADH-binding residue, suggesting their potential to inhibit amino acid residues (Table 1). These four natural compounds activation because NADH binds to InhA so that it will thereby inhibiting the synthesis of mycolic acid as one of the building blocks of cell walls (Vögeli et al., 2018; Takayama et al., 2005). The four compounds from the Alpinia galanga plant have a range of hydrogen bond distance values between 2.79 – 3.15 Å. According to Jeffrey, there are three categories

inactivate the fatty acid-II (FAS-II) elongation pathway of hydrogen bonds: the strong category when the value of the donor-acceptor distance is between 2.2 – 2.5 Å, the medium category is between 2.5 - 3.2 Å, and the weak category is 3.2 - 4.0 Å. Based on this, the categories of the four compounds are included in the medium category (Jeffreya & George, 1997).

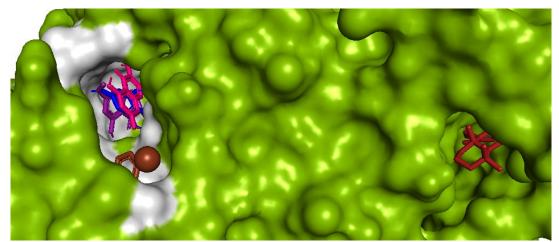


Figure 1. 3D visualisation results of bioactive compounds and drug controls with InhA protein

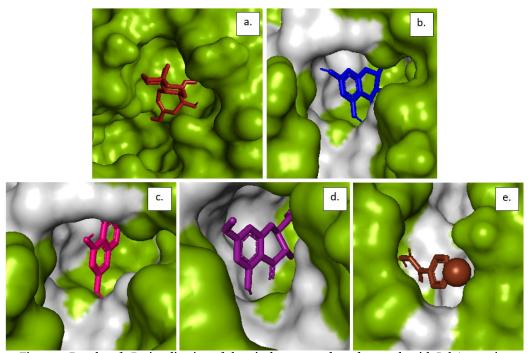


Figure 2. Results of 3D visualisation of chemical compounds and controls with InhA protein. a. galanal A b. pinobanksin c. galangin d. alpinone e. isoniazid (control drug)

acid residues of the three compounds except alpinone have inactivating InhA. The results of 2D visualisation of the four interactions on hydrogen bonds, namely Gly96 and Gly14. This is in line with previous research that hydrogen bonds are there are also other factors such as hydrophobic bonds. formed in the InhA-NADH structure, which occurs at the Hydrophobic bonds combine non-polar regions between amino acid residues Gly14, Asp64, Val65, and Gly96 (Kumar compound molecules and biological receptors to affect the & Sobhia, 2015). The similarity of interactions on amino acid conformational

Based on the visualisation of the docking results, the amino residues is predicted to inhibit the development of NADH by compounds not only interact through hydrogen bonds, but stability ligands between and macromolecules (Saleh, 2015). From these results, these four compounds showed better hydrophobic bonding than the control drug (isoniazid).

Compounds derived from Alpinia galanga show potential as natural products for tuberculosis prevention. One such compound, galanal A, is a diterpene found in Alpinia galanga (Morita et al., 1986). Labdane diterpenes, including galanal A, exhibit various biological activities, such as antifungal, antiviral, cytotoxic, radical-scavenging, anti-hypertensive,

hepatoprotective, anti-inflammatory, and antibacterial properties (Haraguchi et al., 1996; Abe et al., 2014; Alajmi et al., 2018). In a previous study, galanal A from Myoga (Zingiber mioga Roscoe) demonstrated antibacterial activity against gram-positive bacteria, including Bacillus cereus, Bacillus subtilis, Staphylococcus aureus, and Staphylococcus epidermidis, at concentrations of 25-125 µg/mL, while its activity against gram-negative bacteria was observed at concentrations exceeding 1000 $\mu g/mL$ (Abe et al., 2014).

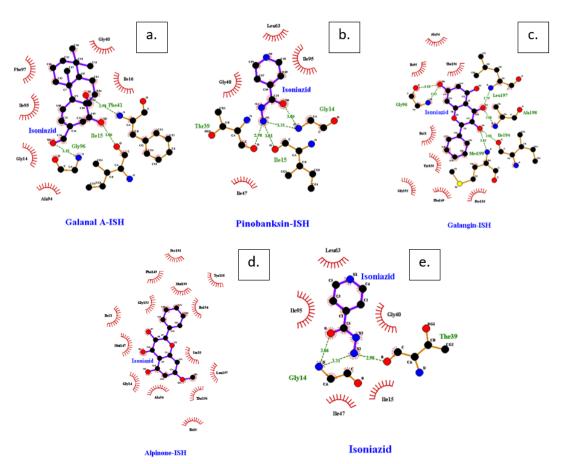


Figure 3. Results of 2D visualisation of chemical compounds and controls with InhA protein. a. galanal Ab. pinobanksin c. galangin d. alpinone e. isoniazid (control drug)

derivatives of flavonoid compounds from Alpinia galanga (Samart, 2007; Tungmunnithum et al., 2020). Flavonoid compounds in Alpinia galanga also have antimicrobial, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, anti-diabetic, antioxidant, antiulcer, and anti-tumour activities (Alajmi et al., 2018; Chouni & Paul, 2018). Flavonoid compounds such as pinobanksin have anti-proliferative properties and inhibit gram-positive bacteria (Catchpole et al., 2015; Biva et al., 2016). In a previous study, using bacterial culture and phytochemical screening methods, flavonoid compounds in Alpinia galanga

Pinobanksin, galangin and alpinone compounds are have antimicrobial activity against isoniazid resistance strains by observing oxygen concentrations through Axenic assay (Gupta et al., 2014). In an in vitro study by Cao and colleagues, flavonoid compounds showed direct antibacterial activity on M. tuberculosis bacteria by reducing M. tuberculosis survival, aggregation, increased cell density and granuloma formation (Cao et al., 2019). Based on this, it is predicted that this bioactive compound from Alpinia galanga can inhibit M. tuberculosis by disrupting mycolic acid synthesis through inhibition of NADH so that InhA which plays a role in mycolic acid synthesis is stopped.

IV. CONCLUSION

Galanal A (-8.8 kcal/mol) had the lowest binding affinity value and was followed by pinobanksin (-8.8 kcal/mol), galangin and alpine (-8.5 kcal/mol). The four compounds had better affinity values than the control (Isoniazid: -5.6 kcal/mol). The enoyl-acyl carrier protein reductase (InhA) inhibitor is a protein that plays a role in the mycolic acid biosynthesis process in Mycobacterium tuberculosis. One treatment targeting the InhA protein isoniazid, which can inhibit mycolic acid synthesis. The distance between the hydrogen bonds indicates that the donor and receptor bonds are pretty strong/moderate with a range of 2.79-3.15 Å.,

which indicates a value between 2.5 - 3.2 Å. The most common amino acid residues in hydrogen bonding are Gly96 and Gly 14. Based on this, it is predicted that this bioactive compound from Alpinia galanga can inhibit M. tuberculosis by interfering with mycolic acid synthesis through inhibition of NADH so that InhA plays a role in mycolic acid synthesis stopped.

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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