

The effectiveness of proanthocyanidins cacao pods (theobroma cacao L) on increasing socket epithelial thickness post tooth extraction in wistar rats



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Abstract

Objective: The aim of this study was to examine the effectiveness of proanthocyanidins cacao pods (*Theobroma cacao* L) extract on increasing socket epithelial thickness post tooth extraction in Wistar Rats. Proanthocyanidins has benefits as anti-inflammation, antioxidant and antibacterial agent. Post-extraction wound can cause complication, which can make long the healing process. This is where anti-inflammatory is needed to prevent infection, so that it can avoid bacterial contamination and can shorten the inflammatory process.

Material and Methods: This study was an experimental laboratory research on thickness of socket epithelium of Wistar rats given proanthocyanidins cacao pod extract post extraction. A total of 24 male Wistar rats was divided into 3 groups; which was

treated with 100 mg/ml proanthocyanidins cacao pod extract as treatment group, distilled placebo gel as negative control group and alvogyl as positive control group. On day 7 and day 14 the sample was sacrificed and tissue processing was made. The gingival epithelial thickness was determined by software image raster on light microscopy.

Results: Analysis of One way Anova showed there was a significant difference 0.001 between groups. The epithelium of treatment group, was thicker than the control group significantly.

Conclusion: Proanthocyanidins cacao pods (*Theobroma cacao* L) extract effectively increasing the thickness of socket epithelium post extraction in Wistar rats.

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Keywords: Epithelial gingival thickness, Proanthocyanidins, Cocoa pod, Tooth extraction

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Introduction

Commercial cocoa is obtained from beans that originated as seeds from the ripe pods of the plant, *Theobroma cacao*, which is cultivated in plantations in tropical regions throughout the world. Indonesia is the third largest of cocoa producing countries.¹ A growing body of scientific evidence is becoming available to support that cocoa components with antioxidants and anti-inflammatory activities. Cocoa pods contain a mixture of condensed flavonoids or tannins (proanthocyanidins) or polymerized.² The condensed tannin or proanthocyanidins is the most polyphenol component in cocoa which is 58%.³ Based on previous research, proanthocyanidins extracted from black raspberry seeds has anti-inflammatory activity through its ability to inhibit lipopolysaccharide in inducing proinflammatory mediators in the inflammatory process.⁴ Aside from being anti-inflammatory, proanthocyanidins also has an antioxidant and antibacterial effect. The activity of proanthocyanidins as an antibacterial is through inhibition of bacterial cell walls in the form of disturbances in cell wall function and cell aggregation. While antioxidant activity is by preventing oxidative stress.⁵

In the field of dentistry many treatments can cause gingival injury. Tooth extraction is the most common procedure in oral and maxillofacial surgery.⁶ Post-extraction wounds can heal easily but can also cause complications caused by various things, which inhibit the healing process.⁷ Therefore a faster healing process is expected to minimize the post-extraction complications.

The healing process generally includes hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation (angiogenesis, epithelialization and fibroplasia) and maturation.⁸ The wound healing process can be seen from several parameters, one of which is epithelialization. Epithelialization occurs when epithelial cells begin to proliferate at the edges of the wound layer by layer and continue until epithelial cells have returned to their normal phenotype and have reconnected with the basement membrane. Keratinocytes are responsible for restoring the epidermis after injury through a process known as epithelialization.⁹ But if the inflammatory process that occurs after tooth extraction is excessive, it can inhibit the healing process. This is where anti-inflammatory is needed to prevent infection, so it can

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avoid bacterial contamination and can shorten the inflammatory process to go to the next phase. The anti-inflammatory drugs used after tooth extraction are very numerous, one of them is alvogyl. Alvogyl consists of eugenol (analgesic, anti-inflammatory, iodoform (antiseptic), butamen (anesthesia). Unfortunately, anti-inflammatory drugs have a variety of side effects, such as gastrointestinal bleeding, damaging kidney function. Therefore, an alternative drug should be developed that can accelerate the process of wound healing side as minimal as possible. Cocoa peel extract at concentrations of 5%, 10%, and 15% has an anti-inflammatory effect on the number of macrophage cells.¹⁰ Active macrophages produce cytokines that affect proliferation, migration of fibroblasts, endothelial cells, and epithelium.

Based on the previous research, many uses of anti-inflammatory drugs in gel dosage forms derived from natural ingredients. The gel preparations in this study used Na-CMC as a gel base. The Na-CMC base has advantages when it was given an extract, the results do not affect the spread. As well as in the application of wound tissue,¹¹ for example, such as in a tooth extraction, post extraction is easier to place. Based on this condition, the researchers' curiosity arose to determine the effect of cocoa peel proanthocyanidins extract gel (*Theobroma cacao* L) on increasing epithelial thickness of wistar rat tooth socket after extraction.

Material and Methods

The materials used were digital scale (ohaus), erlenmeyer, glass stirrer, small funnel, rotary evaporator, freeze dried, vial, desicator, spectrophotometer, masker (diapro), evergloves, excavator, syringe, object glass dan deck glass, microtome (Leica RM 2135), base mole (daikin), waterbath (memmert), micropipet, automatic processing tissue, pinset, slide warmer. The type of research used is laboratory experimental research with the post test only control group design. This research was conducted at the Phytochemical Laboratory of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Biomedical Laboratory of the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Jember. The sample consisted of 24 male wistar rats which were then adapted to the enclosure environment for 7 days and given standard rat food and drank every day ad libitum.

Procedure of Proanthocyanidins Extract

The cocoa pods used in the study were obtained from cocoa farmers in Jember, East Java. The stage of making extracts is cocoa fruit as much as 5 kg is cleaned, cut, then dried in the sun after it is carried out shredding to form fine shavings. Then the results of the shavings are blended to get a fine

powder and weighed. Next as much as 100 grams of powdered cacao fruit which has become powder is added with 70% acetone 700 ml and 300 ml of distilled water were put into erlenmeyer. Then the extract solution is stirred using stirring the glass in a counterclockwise direction. After that the solution is put into a waterbath shaker at 50°C for 20 minutes. After that the extract solution was centrifuged at a speed of 2000 rpm for 10 minutes to separate the extract liquid and the supernatant. After the extract solution is separated from the supernatant then the extract solution is inserted into the rotary evaporator. The extract solution is then placed into a petri dish, then put in the oven. After there is a thick portion at the base of the petri dish, then the petri dish is removed from the oven. Then the thick part at the bottom of the petri dish is taken and placed in a small glass.¹²

Analysis of Proanthocyanidins with HPLC Method

Proanthocyanidins extract chromatographic analysis was carried out by using HPLC method (pump 2695, diode array 2996 detector, Waters) combined with an octadecylsilane (ODS) C18 analytic column (4.6 × 250 mm). The column was operated at 25°C. The Compounds were detected between 200 and 400 nm. The mobile phase of HPLC consisted of 2% (v/v) acetic acid in water (eluent A) and 0.5% acetic acid in water and acetonitrile (50:50, v/v; eluent B). The gradient program was as follows: 0–10 minutes, 5–13% of B; 10–15 minutes, 13–16% B; 15–40 minutes, 16–40% B; 40–43 minutes, 40–43% of B; 43–48 minutes, 43–50% B; 48–58 min, 50–100% of B; 58–63 min, 100–5% of B.¹³

Mass spectrometry analysis of cocoa pod proanthocyanidin extract were performed by an Agilent 6460 triple quadrupole mass spectrometer equipped with ESI sources (Agilent Technologies) in negative ionization mode. The nebulizer pressure was set to 45 psi and the flow rate of drying gas was 5 l/min. The flow rate and the temperature of the sheath gas were 11 l/min and 350°C. The mass ranged from m/z 50 to 2000. Chromatographic separations were done on the ODS C18 analytic column (4.6 × 250 mm) using an Agilent 1290 Infinity HPLC system (Agilent Technologies). The eluent was split and approximately 0.3 ml/min was introduced into the mass detector. Selective ion monitoring was used to select molecular ions of the isomers from the procyanidins group in extracts of cocoa pod proanthocyanidin for their quantification. An Agilent Mass Hunter Workstation was used for data acquisition and processing. The results were obtained in the form of proanthocyanidins extract with its constituents which was proanthocyanidins A2 and B2.^{12,13}

Procedure of Proanthocyanidins Extract Gel

96 ml of aquadest was measured by measuring flask and poured into mortar. Then 4 grams of CMC-Na was measured by analytic scales and put into a mortar containing aquadest. It was let stand for about 10-15 minutes and then stirred until it formed a yellow gel. The weight of CMC-Na mixture and aquadest which had become 45-gram gel and 100% proanthocyanidin from the rind of (theobroma cacao L). 5 grams were added into the mortar and mixed until homogeneous to obtain the gel extract of proanthocyanidin cocoa pod (Theobroma cacao L.) with a concentration of 10%.¹⁴

Animal Experiment Treatment

This experimental laboratory study was approved by ethical committee of medical research Faculty of Dentistry Universitas Jember (No. 117/UN.25.8/KEPK/DL/2018). Experimental animals were divided into 3 groups: negative control group, positive control and treatment group. And each group was divided into 2 subgroups based on observation days, namely the 7th and 14th days, the number of each was 4 rats per subgroup. The whole group was extracted from the lower left first molar. Previously, experimental animals were anesthetized using general ketamine anesthesia with a dose of 20-40 mg/kg body weight in the rat thighs. Extraction is done using an excavator. In the negative control group given a placebo gel, positive control was given Alvolgyl and the treatment group was given the cocoa fruit skin proanthocyanidins extract gel once a day. The animal sacrifice was carried out on the 7th and 14th day by inhalation using ether doses. Then proceed with taking the left lower jaw of the mouse in the posterior region.

Measurement of Epithelial Thickness

The tissue was fixed using a 10% formalin buffer solution for at least 24 hours followed by decalcification using 10% formic acid for 7 days. Next is the network preparation process. This was followed by tissue processing (dehydration process), and embedding into paraffin wax block. The blocks were cut into 5 μ m using microtome. The tissue slides were stained using hematoxylin and eosin staining. Epithelial thickness is determined from the stratum corneum to the basal stratum at the gingival epithelium covering the tooth socket. Observations were made using a binocular microscope (olympus photo slide BX51 with DP71 cam 12 mpx and camera optilab) with 100x magnifications with the help of optilab and raster image software. Epithelial thickness was obtained from measurements in 3 fields of view, each field of view measured in areas that had thin, medium and thick epithelial thickness and were measured by three observers.

Statistical analysis

The data obtained from the study conducted was tested using SPSS software. The data were analyzed with ANOVA (one-way analysis of variance) followed by the post hoc Least Significant Difference test to determine differences among the groups. The results were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation. The significance of the differences between mean values of each data measured was determined based on p value, where P value < 0.05 is considered statistically significant.

Results

Based on the research that has been done, it was found that the average gingival epithelial thickness of male wistar rats after tooth extraction between the negative control group, positive control and treatment group on day 7 and day 14. Table 1 shows that the average epithelial thickness of dental sockets in day-7 (25.69 μ m) treatment group (P) compared to Alvolgyl, the positive control group (A) (24.56 μ m) and negative control group (C) (17,08 μ m), while the greatest epithelial thickness at day 14 was owned by the treatment group (P) and the one with the lowest epithelial thickness was the negative control group (C).

One-way ANOVA test results obtained a significance value of 0.001 ($p < 0.05$), which means that there is a significant difference in mean epithelial thickness between all groups. Furthermore, to find out which groups had significant differences table 2. The results of the study can be seen in figure 1A - figure 1F.

Table 1 The Average Epithelial thickness (μ m) of dental sockets in day 7 and day 14

Groups	Day-7	Day-14
C	17.08 \pm 3.65	16.89 \pm 0.79
A	24.56 \pm 4.93	23.81 \pm 1.65
P	25.69 \pm 1.82	23.84 \pm 3.07

Values were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation ($x \pm SD$)

C : control group (placebo gel)

A : (Alvolgyl gel)

P : Proanthocyanidins gel

Table 2 Results of the One-way Anova test

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Epithelial thickness (μm)					
Between Groups	308.701	5	61.740	6.898	.001
Within Groups	161.114	18	8.951		

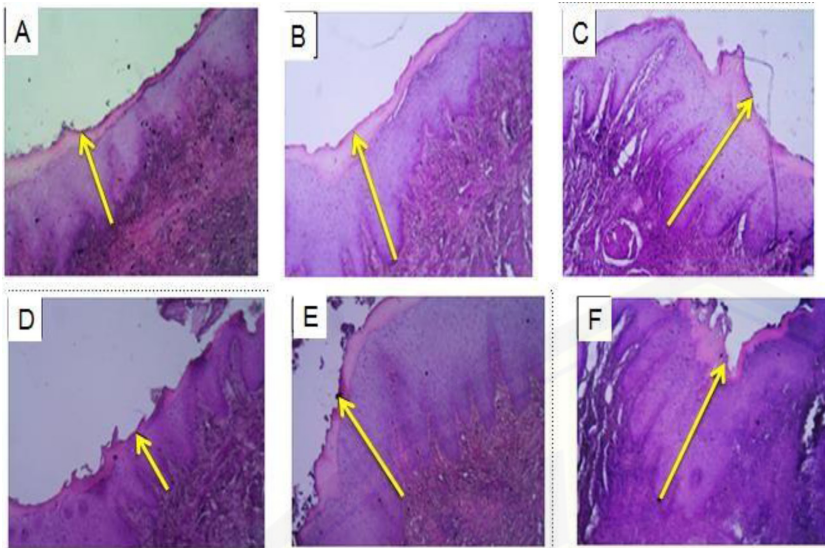


Figure 1 Histological picture of 7th day epithelial thickness after extraction (yellow arrow) with HE staining at 100x magnification: A. Negative control group, B. Positive control group (alvolgyl), C. Treatment group (proanthocyanidins). Histological description of epithelial thickness of the 14th day post extraction (yellow arrow) by HE staining at 100x magnification: D. Negative control group, E. Positive control group, F. Treatment group (proanthocyanidins)

Discussion

Cacao pod husk has potential as an anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial and antioxidant natural medicine.¹⁵ The role as anti-inflammatory is to reduce the expression of MCP-1 which is a pro-inflammatory cytokine. The expression of MCP-1 decreased when the concentration of grape seed and cacao extract was more than 50 mg / ml and 60 mg / ml. When the inflammatory process is shorter, the proliferative ability of TGF- β (transforming growth factor- β) will not be inhibited, so the epithelialization process can increase. Because TGF- β and KGF (keratinocyte growth factors) are growth factors that affect keratinocytes in the epithelialization process. KGF has a role in increasing epithelial repair by modulating expression, deposition and organization of fibronectin in epithelial cells. Whereas TGF- β is a factor that plays a role in stimulating the differentiation of epithelial cells.¹⁶ In general, the epithelialization process can be proven by measuring the thickness and width of the epithelial gap formed.¹⁷

The epithelialization process will last until the epithelium covers the entire wound surface and undergoes maturation and then its thickness will experience a constant phase due to the epithelial cell turnover process. Apart from acting as an anti-inflammatory agent, proanthocyanidins also has an antioxidant and antibacterial role. The mechanism of tannins antibacterial is through

reaction with the cell membrane, inactivation of the enzyme, and inactivation of the function of the genetic material. The mechanism of tannins as antibacterial agent are inhibiting the enzyme reverse transcriptase and DNA topoisomerase so bacterial cells cannot be formed.¹⁸ The antimicrobial activity possessed by proanthocyanidins can inhibit extracellular enzymes, so that microbial growth can also be inhibited. In addition, proanthocyanidins also inhibits bacterial cell walls through interference with cell wall function and cell aggregation. Proanthocyanidins has a higher activity as an antioxidant than ordinary polyphenols.⁵

In vitro and in vivo studies also show that proanthocyanidins can inhibit damage caused by oxidative stress through molecular scavenging. In addition, the antioxidant activity of proanthocyanidins is also related to the presence of catechol groups. Many processes can produce free radicals, such as ROS. If left unchecked it will cause oxidative damage to DNA, lipids, and proteins that produce degradative effects that contribute to causing disease.^{5,19}

In this study the extract of proanthocyanidins cocoa pods (*Theobroma cacao* L) was made in gel preparations. The gel preparations were made using CMC-Na material, because if it was given an extract, the results did not affect the spreadability. And in the application of wound tissue, for example, as in the tooth socket after extraction it is easier to place. The analysis statistical test results showed a significant difference between groups in the treatment group for the negative control group both on day 7 and day 14 which means that the administration of proanthocyanidins extract of cocoa pods (*Theobroma cacao* L) can improve the epithelialization process indicated by an increase in epithelial thickness.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the research that has been carried out, it can be concluded that the extract of proanthocyanidins 100 mg/ml of cacao pods (*Theobroma cacao* L.) can increase the epithelial thickness of wistar rat tooth socket after extraction. Thus, the proanthocyanidins extract gel 100 mg/ml can be developed as an herbal medicine after tooth extraction.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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