

# *The Effect of Jamblang (*Syzygium Cumini* (L) Skeels) Leaves Ethanolic Extract on the Adhesion of *Streptococcus Mutans* to Hydroxyapatite*

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**Abstract**—*Streptococcus mutans* plays an important role in the pathogenesis of caries. This bacterium has virulence properties involve in the formation of biofilm on tooth surface. Surface protein antigen peptide (SpaP) is one of the virulence properties of *S. mutans* that play role in adhesion of *S. mutans* to the tooth structure (hydroxyapatite). Due to its antibacterial effect, Jamblang leaves may be used as an agent to reduce the adhesion *S. mutans* to the tooth surface. This study proposed to examined effects of Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract on the adhesion of *S. mutans* to hydroxyapatite (HA). *Streptococcus mutans* was obtained by isolating the bacteria from carious lesion of pediatric patient. Identification of *S. mutans* was done by observe the characteristic of colony, carbohydrate fermentation test and biochemical test. Adhesion test was done by soaking blocks of HA in the mucine. The HA was immersed in bacterial culture that has been mixed with extract concentration of 15%, 20%, and 22.5%. Bacterial adhesion to the HA was vortexed for 60 seconds, spread on Muller Hinton Agar, and incubated for 48 hours. Colonies of *S. mutans* were counted. Aquadest was used as a negative control. Kruskal-Wallis test showed significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) among the groups, indicating that Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract decreased the adhesion of *S. mutans* to HA. The higher concentrations of the extract, the less number of *S. mutans* colonies adhered to HA. In conclusion, Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract reduces adhesion of *S. mutans* to HA.

**Keywords**—*extract Jamblang's leaves, streptococcus mutans, adhesion*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Caries was still being a dental problem in children. Data showed prevalence of caries in children was high [1]. Risk of suffering caries for preschool children (4-6 old) are relative high [2]. One of microorganisms cause of caries is *Streptococcus mutans* (*S. mutans*) [3]. *Streptococcus mutans* has virulence factors that play

important roles in causing caries. Glucosyltransferase (gtf) synthesis is one of virulence factors, which facilitates the formation of water-insoluble glucan. The water-insoluble glucan allows *S. mutans* attaches and accumulates on the tooth surface [1]. An increase of water-insoluble glucan will increase the number of colonies and attachment of *S. mutans* which results in an increase in plaque formation, thus increasing the likelihood of caries [4].

*Streptococcus mutans* also has the ability to produce acid (acidogenic), and can live in acidic condition (aciduric) [1]. In addition, *S. mutans* has the ability to produce polysaccharides that function as intracellular store of carbohydrate, and can be converted into acid when no carbohydrate intake available [5]. Other virulence factors of *S. mutans* are surface protein antigen peptide (SpaP), consisting of the antigen B (AgB), AgI/II, protein I (PI) plays a role in attachment of *S. mutans* to tooth surface. Glucan-binding protein (gbp) plays a role in unite glucan and facilitating the attachment of *S. mutans* to tooth surface and biofilm accumulation [6].

Jamblang (*Syzygium cumini*) is a plant that is widely used for health [7]. Powder of Jamblang leaves in a traditional medicine in India was used as a cleaning agent that effectively strengthens teeth and gingiva [8]. Jamblang leaves contain many flavonoids, mainly flavonoid glycosides. Jamblang leaves also contain tannins, alkaloids, saponins, and terpenoids [9].

Flavonoids, tannins and terpenoids from Jamblang leaves can disrupt the bacterial cell membrane permeability, so the bacterial growth is interrupted. Alkaloids disrupt the bacterial cell wall and intercalation into the cell wall and / or DNA, which can cause bacterial cell death [10]. Flavonoids namely quercetin, kaempferol, ellagic acid and myricetin have effect of inhibiting the enzyme activity of gtf, as well as

tannin [6]. Therefore the content of Jamblang leaves might be used as an anticaries agent. The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of concentrations of extract Jamblang leaves to the ability of *S. mutans* to attach to the teeth surface. The artificial of teeth surface in this research was hydroxyapatite.

**II. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The samples were *S. mutans* isolated from deciduous molar teeth caries taken from students Kindergarten As-Surrur, Prujakan, Sleman, Yogyakarta. *Streptococcus mutans* isolation was done by taking specimens from deciduous molar teeth caries lesions using a sterile excavator, then placed in a tube containing thioglycolate medium. The bacteria were then grown on selective media Trypticase soy-yeast extract with 20% sucrose bacitracin (TYS20B). *Streptococcus mutans* identification was done by examining morphology of the colony and cell, catalase test, biochemically differentiation.

Determination of Jamblang plant was carried out in the Laboratory of Plant Taxonomy, Faculty of Biology, Universitas Gadjah Mada. The extract obtained by maceration technique using 70% ethanol. The active compounds of Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract was analyzed using Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) and Liquid Chromatograph-Mass Spectrography (LC-MS).

The effect of ethanolic extract's concentrations of Jamblang leaves against bacterial adhesion on hydroxyapatite was examined by soaking 12 blocks of hydroxyapatite (HA) sterile size 0.5x0.5mm and 0.3mm thick, in sterile mucine for 1 hour at room temperature. After HA coated mucine washed three times with sterile Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), the blocks were immersed in solution of bacterial suspension ( $1 \times 10^6$  CFU/ml) and 22.5%, 20%, and 15% extract concentrations, subsequently incubated for 90 min at 37°C. After washing with PBS, *S. mutans* attached to HA were dispersed using a vortex, spread on Muller-Hinton agar (MHA) media and incubated for 48 hours at 37°C. The number of *S. mutans* colonies on the plate was counted.



Figure 1. Blocks of hydroxyapatite soaking in sterile mucine.

**III. RESULTS**

Analysis of the active compound content of ethanolic extract of Jamblang leaves using TLC and LC-MS showed that it contains active compounds namely flavonoid (quercetin, myricetin, 3-O-a-L-rhamnocol myricetin, taxifolin), tanin, and terpenoid (eugenyl acetate and tricosanoyl lupeol). The results of the isolation and identification of *S. mutans* showed that

there were three samples out of fifteen samples that have criteria as *S. mutans*. The *Streptococcus mutans* colony size was 1-2mm, not clear, mucoid, transparent or shiny.

The results of testing the effect of concentration of ethanolic extract of Jamblang leaves against adherence of *S. mutans* to the hydroxyapatite blocks showed that the extract has the ability to decrease the number of colonies of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite (Table I).

TABLE I. MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION NUMBER OF STREPTOCOCCUS MUTANS (CFU/ml) ATTACHED TO HYDROXYAPATITE IN VARIOUS CONCENTRATIONS OF ETANOLIK EXTRACT OF JAMBLANG LEAVES

Group	$\bar{X} \pm SD$
Concentration extract 22,5%	0.00 ± 0.00
Concentration extract 20 %	49.33 ± 13.35
Concentration extract 15%	125.33 ± 16.42
Negative Control	293.33 ± 16.76

Normality test using Kolmogorof-Smirnov showed that the data normally distributed tested,  $p > 0.05$  (Table II).

TABLE II. THE RESULTS OF NORMALITY TEST THE NUMBER OF *S. MUTANS* ATTACHED TO HIDROXYAPATITE IN VARIOUS CONCENTRATION EXTRACT ETANOLIK LEAVES JAMBLANG

Group of treatment	Kolmogorof- Smirnov		
	Statistic	df	Sig.
Concentration extract 20%	0.188	15	0.162
Concentration extract 15%	0.161	15	0.200
Negative Control	0.187	15	0.169

Test of homogeneity shows the significance 0.000 ( $p < 0.05$ ). This means the data was tested not homogeneous, and Parametric test could not be used. Test used is Kruskal-Wallis. Summary of Kruskal-Wallis test can be seen in Table III.

Results of Kruskal-Wallis test shows Chi Square value of 56.323 with  $p = 0.000$  ( $p < 0.05$ ), which means that Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract influential on the number of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite (Table III). Mann-Whitney test shows the difference in the number *S. mutans* between each group.

TABLE III. A SUMMARY OF TEST KRUSKAL-WALL IS THE NUMBER OF *S. MUTANS* ATTACHED TO HIDROXYAPATITE IN VARIOUS CONCENTRATION EXTRACT ETANOLIK LEAVES JAMBLANG

Group	Rank the Average	Chi-Square	Significance (p)
Concentration extract 22.5%	53	56.323	0.000
Concentration extract 20%	38		
Concentration extract 15%	23		
Negative Control	8		

Test results Mann-Whitney shows a differences significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) of the number of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite between all groups being tested. This indicates that extracts ethanolic leaves Jamblang concentration 15 %, 20 %, 22.5 %, and control negative have a different on the number of colonies *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite. The higher the concentration of the extract in this study, the lesser number of colonies of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite. No colonies of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite blocks after exposed to 22.5% Jamblang leaves extract (Table IV).

TABLE IV. SUMMARY OF MANN-WHITNEY TEST RESULTS OF THE NUMBER OF *S. MUTANS* ATTACHED TO HYDROXYAPATITE IN VARIOUS CONCENTRATION EXTRACT ETANOLIK LEAVES JAMBLANG

No.	Groups		Z	Significance (p)
1.	Extract 22,5%	Extract 20%	-5,006	0,000*
		Extract 15%	-4,999	0,000*
		Negative control	-5,005	0,000*
2.	Extract 20%	Extract 15%	-4,691	0,000*
		Negative control	-4,697	0,000*
3.	Extract 15%	Negative control	-4,690	0,000*

The result of this study showed a decrease in the number of *S. mutans* inherent to hydroxyapatite in line with the increase in ethanolic concentration extract of Jamblang leaves (Table 1). As known that adhesion is important to colonization of microorganisms pathologic. Adhesion of *S. mutans* to the surface of the tooth is the stage important in the formation of biofilm and led to the development of caries [11,12,13].

Some compound derived from plant material inhibit adhesion of bacteria on the surface of hard (glass or hydroxyapatite) and/ or bacteria aggregation. A compound polifenol in extract ethanolic leaves Jamblang can have an effect to inhibit the number of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite, including a compound polifenol with heavy molecules high, namely tannin [14]. Tannin can modify major surface protein of *S. mutans* namely antigens I/ II, that bridging an adhesions of *S. mutans* to HA surface [15]. Disorder on the surface proteins of *S. mutans* can be lowered cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans* and disturbing adhesion of *S. mutans* to the HA surface [5,15].

Cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans* is one important factor in mechanism adhesion *S. mutans* to the surface of the tooth. Loss of cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans* causes *S. mutans* can not be attached to the hydroxyapatite. Cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans* related to surface protein of *S. mutans*. Polyphenol polymers from plant material can react with surface proteins of *S. mutans*, causing changes the cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans*, decline in cellular aggregation and the number of *S. mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite [11]. The content of eugenyl acetate and polyphenol, namely quercetin, mirisetin, taxifolin, and tannin in Jamblang leaves extract, may play a role in decreasing the number of *S. mutans* attached to HA [13,15,18]. The higher

concentration extract ethanolic leaves Jamblang, the higher the content of polifenol and eugenyl acetate, so the effect to a decrease in the number of *S. mutans* attached to HA block was bigger [13,15].

The adhesion of *S. mutans* to the tooth surface is an important step in the formation of dental plaque [11,15]. The first stage of *S. mutans* adhesion to the tooth surface involves the interaction between the saliva, the bacterial surface, and the tooth surface. This initial adhesion is a physicochemical interaction of attraction and rejection that includes the power of Van der Waals, electrostatic and hydrophobic interactions. The bonds formed at these early attachments have a low affinity. Furthermore *S. mutans* form a higher bond of affinity, by utilizing specific surface molecules [5,16,17].

Bacteria have components that function in adhesions called adhesin, while the component that work in the attachment that is on the host is called a receptor. The surface of bacteria can express some adhesin, while the host surface can contain some receptors [16]. Adhesin on the surface of bacterial cells is a protein present on the cell surface. Bacteria also express receptors for adhesion to other types of microbial cells used for the adhesion of cells (coaggregation). Therefore, the molecular interactions of a certain bacterium attached to different surface receptors (enamel, buccal mucosa, etc.) were different also. As a result, in a matrix biofilm can be found a lot of bacteria. Some of the bacteria that play a role in adhesion and are present in the dental biofilm include *Streptococcus* sp. Especially the *Streptococcus mitis* (*S. sanguine*, *S. oralis*, *S. mitis*), *Actinomyces* spp, *S. mutans*, *Neisseria* spp, and *Haemophilus* spp. Studies have shown that some types of Jamblang leaves extracts have bacteriostatic activity against *Streptococcus* sp., *S. oralis*, *S. mutans*, *S. viridans*, and *Neisseria*. These bacteria can form microcolony in dental biofilm, and play a role in the development of caries, so the bacteriostatic effect of the Jamblang leaves extract on these bacteria also affects to the decrease in the amount of *S. mutans* attached to the hydroxyapatite.

The decrease in the number of *S. mutans* colonies attached to the hydroxyapatite block in this study may also be due to the antibacterial effect of the extract. The content of polyphenols (quercetin, mirisetin, taxifolin, tannin) and terpenoids (eugenyl acetate and tricosanoyl lupeol) in ethanolic extract of Jamblang leaves can decrease the number of *S. mutans* colonies that grow, thus affecting the number of *S. mutans* colonies attached to hydroxyapatite [18,19]. The higher the concentration of the extract, the higher the active ingredient and the greater the effect on the decrease in the number of *S. mutans* attached to the hydroxyapatite block.

This study used block hydroxyapatite as a model of the tooth, while mucine was used to replace saliva in the oral cavity. Hydroxyapatite is the largest component of tooth enamel. Hydroxyapatite was used as model teeth to describe an adhesion of bacteria and the formation of biofilm that requires glycoproteins saliva

[18,19]. The glycoproteins saliva allow for interaction with the surface of bacteria, so bacteria can cling stronger to hydroxyapatite [20]. Mucine used in this study to replace glycoproteins salivary.

Polyphenolic compounds namely tannins, quercetin, mirisetin, taxifolin in the ethanolic extract of Jamblang leaves can inhibit *S. mutans* colonies attached to hydroxyapatite [18,21]. These compounds modify the surface proteins of *S. mutans* antigen I / II, which mediates the attachment of *S. mutans* to HA surface. Disorders of surface proteins of *S. mutans* can reduce cell surface hydrophobicity of *S. mutans* and therefore interfere adhesion of *S. mutans* to the surface of HA [14].

Decrease in the number of *S. mutans* colonies attached to the hydroxyapatite blocks in this study, may also be caused by antibacterial effects of extracts. The content of quercetin, myricetin, taxifolin, tannin, and eugenyl acetate and tricosanoyl lupeol in ethanolic extract of Jamblang leaves can kill *S. mutans*, thus affecting the number of *S. mutans* colonies attached to hydroxyapatite [18,23].

As a conclusion, Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract have affect to one of virulence factors of *Streptococcus mutans* isolated from caries of preschool children. Jamblang leaves ethanolic extract 22.5% reduce the number of *Streptococcus mutans* attached to hydroxyapatite better than Jamblang leaves extract 20% and 15%.

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