

Identification of Anti-SARS-CoV-2 of *Phyllanthus Niruri*, *Curcuma Xanthorrhiza*, and *Orthosiphon Aristatus* Secondary Metabolites through *In Silico* Studies

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Abstract: SARS-CoV-2 caused a global pandemic in 2019 with mild flu-like clinical symptoms to severe symptoms that can cause death. Research to find the SARS-CoV-2 drug has been carried out through literature and *in silico* studies against SARS-CoV-2. Previous studies have reported the antiviral properties of some Indonesian herbs including *Phyllanthus niruri*, *Curcuma xanthorrhiza* and *Orthosiphon aristatus*. However, secondary metabolites from these plants have not been tested for anti-SARS-CoV-2. Therefore, the aim of this study is to reveal the anti-SARS-CoV-2 activity of secondary metabolites of these plants through *in silico* study. Molecular docking and molecular dynamic simulation of compounds were tested using Autodock Vina and GROMACSS 2021.2 against spike (S) glycoprotein and 3-chymotrypsin-like protease (3CL^{pro}) as drug target. Further, the potential SARS-CoV-2 drugs were analyzed for drug similarity and Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion and Toxicity (ADMET) properties. The results exhibited that rutin (-7.3 kcal/mol), ellagic acid (-7.2 kcal/mol) and ursolic acid (-6.8 kcal/mol) has better docking score for S-glycoprotein than nelfinavir (-6.7 kcal/mol) and remdesivir (-6.6 kcal/mol). In addition, rutin (-8.8 kcal/mol) had a better docking score for 3CL^{pro} than nelfinavir (-8.2 kcal/mol) and remdesivir (-7.8 kcal/mol). It could bind to S-glycoprotein and 3CL^{pro} binding receptor domain. Molecular dynamics simulations showed stable 3CL^{pro}-rutin complex. The ADMET properties of rutin showed it is non-toxic. Therefore, rutin is a good 3CL^{pro} inhibitor and has the potential to be a SARS-CoV-2 drug.

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2, *in silico*, *Phyllanthus niruri*, *Curcuma xanthorrhiza*, *Orthosiphon aristatus*.

通过计算机模拟研究鉴定叶下珠、姜黄和正虹吸虫次级代谢物的抗 SARS-CoV-2

摘要: SARS-CoV-2 在 2019 年引起了全球大流行, 其临床症状类似于轻微的流感样临床症状, 严重的症状可能导致死亡。寻找 SARS-CoV-2 药物的研究是通过文献和针对 SARS-CoV-2 的计算机模拟研究进行的。先前的研究报道了一些印度尼西亚草药的抗病毒特性, 包括叶下珠、姜黄和直虹吸虫。然而, 这些植物的次生代谢物尚未经过抗 SARS-CoV-2 测试。因此, 本研究的目的是通过计算机模拟研究揭示这些植物次生代谢产物的抗 SARS-CoV-2 活性。使用维纳奥托克和格罗玛斯 2021.2 针对刺突(S)糖蛋白和 3-胰凝乳蛋白酶样蛋

白酶(3CLpro)作为药物靶标,测试了化合物的分子对接和分子动力学模拟。此外,还分析了潜在的 SARS-CoV-2 药物的药物相似性以及吸收、分布、代谢、排泄和毒性(阿德梅特)特性。结果表明,芦丁(-7.3 千卡/摩尔)、鞣花酸(-7.2 千卡/摩尔)和熊果酸(-6.8 千卡/摩尔)对 S-糖蛋白的对接分数优于奈非那韦(-6.7 千卡/摩尔)和瑞德西韦(-6.6 千卡/摩尔)。此外,芦丁(-8.8 千卡/摩尔)与 3CLpro 的对接得分优于奈非那韦(-8.2 千卡/摩尔)和瑞德西韦(-7.8 千卡/摩尔)。它可以结合 S-糖蛋白和 3CLpro 结合受体结构域。分子动力学模拟显示稳定的 3CLpro-芦丁复合物。芦丁的阿德梅特特性表明它是无毒的。因此,芦丁是一种良好的 3CLpro 抑制剂,有潜力成为 SARS-CoV-2 药物。

关键词: SARS-CoV-2, 计算机模拟, 叶下珠、姜黄、直虹吸虫。

1. Introduction

A new variant of the coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, which causes Corona Virus Disease-19 (COVID-19), was first discovered in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, China [1]-[4]. SARS-CoV-2 has become a global pandemic of concern. Data on February 27, 2021, shows that the ratio of COVID-19 sufferers in Indonesia compared to 7.1 million people tested for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) is 18.53%. This is the highest ratio in Southeast Asia [5].

WHO has determined that viruses within the lineage B.1.617, which are B.1.617.1, B.1.617.2 and B.1.617.3, as variant of concern in the weekly epidemiological update on May, 11th 2021 [6]. Over time, B.1.617.1 (known as Kappa variant) was demoted as variant of interest as well as Epsilon (B.1.427/B.1.429), Zeta (P.2), Eta (B.1.525), Theta (P.3), Iota (B.1.526) and Lambda (C.37) variants on June 22, 2021. The variants of concern were Alpha (B.1.17), Beta (B.1.351), Gamma (P.1) and Delta (B.1.617.2). The alpha variant has been reported to retain neutralizing activity, while the others have been reported to reduce the neutralizing activity. Beta and gamma increased transmissibility, while alpha and delta variants increased transmissibility and secondary attack [7].

Patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 mild clinical symptoms such as dry cough, sore throat, and fever. Some cases recover spontaneously, but in other cases SARS-CoV-2 results in various fatal complications such as organ failure, septic shock, pulmonary edema, acute pneumonia, and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). Elderly patients with multiple comorbid factors including cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, endocrine, digestive, and respiratory diseases require intensive care support. These patients are often reported to experience dizziness, abdominal pain, and anorexia [8]. Severe symptoms suffered by patients can lead to death [2].

Based on homology analysis, the SARS-CoV-2 genome is composed of single-stranded RNA. SARS-

CoV-2 is included in beta coronavirus along with Bat SARS, SARS-CoV, and MERS-CoV. However, SARS-CoV-2 is similar to SARS-CoV and Bat SARS based on the structure of its genome. Corona viruses have a similar receptor-binding domain. Spike (S) glycoprotein as the binding domain of SARS-CoV-2 is homologous to SARS-CoV by about 75% [1-4, 9].

Coronavirus infects its host in three stages. First, the virus attaches the transmembrane Spike glycoprotein (S-glycoprotein) to the host ACE2. The attachment forms a complex with the help of transmembrane protease serine 2 (TMPRSS2) produced by the host cell. The second stage is viral replication using RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) to replicate in host cells. The last stage is the maturation of viral replication using proteases such as 3CL^{pro} and PL^{pro}. These three stages are important for developing drug targets against the coronavirus [10]. S-glycoprotein and protein 3CL^{pro} were targets of anti-SARS-CoV-2 in this study.

The World Health Organization (WHO) in 2001 estimated that 80% of the population in some Asian and African countries currently use medicinal plants in some aspects of primary health care. This encourages experts in the fields of pharmacology, microbiology, botany and natural products chemistry to search for phytochemical compounds that can be developed for the treatment of diseases. Facts obtained by the WHO indicate that about 25% of modern medicine used in the United States comes from plants. 80% of isolated compounds used in modern medical therapy show a positive correlation between modern medical therapy and the traditional use of compounds [11].

Chemical compounds in plants affect the human body through the same process as conventional medicine. The way herbal medicine works is not much different from conventional medicine. This allows the effectiveness of herbal medicines to be the same as conventional medicines, but the potential to cause harmful side effects to be the same [11]. Based on this, further research is needed regarding the prediction of

drug similarity based on Lipinski's rules (Lipinski, et al, 2012) [12]; properties of Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion and Toxicity (ADMET) as well as the right dosage. In addition, it is necessary to perform a quantitative structure activity relationship (QSAR) test in the early stages of the drug discovery process to find compounds that have antiviral activity [13]-[14] that can be used as SARS-CoV-2 inhibitors.

The molecular docking studies of the anti-SARS-CoV-2 ability of several active compounds from Indonesian medicinal plants exhibited that some compounds were known to have lower binding energies to S-glycoprotein and 3CL^{pro} than antiviral drugs. The low binding energy indicates the high affinity of phytochemical compounds for S-glycoprotein and 3CL^{pro}, so the lower the binding energy, the higher the anti-SARS-CoV-2 ability of phytochemical compounds [15]. After the docking score is obtained, the research can be continued with molecular dynamics simulations to determine the resistance of the ligands [16].

During the rapid development of molecular docking studies, many compounds have not been tested for their anti-SARS-CoV-2, including phytochemical compounds contained in meniran (*P. niruri*), temulawak (*C. xanthorrhiza*), and kumis kucing (*O. aristatus*). The ethanol extract, phyllanthine and hypophyllanthine compounds of *P. niruri* showed antiviral activities against Hepatitis C virus [17]. *P. niruri* has been tested for its antiviral activity against Influenza, Hepatitis B and Human Immunodeficiency (HIV) viruses [18], Herpes Simplex Virus Type 1 (HSV-1) and Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2 (HSV-2) [19]. *C. xanthorrhiza* extract exhibited antiviral properties against Simian Retrovirus type-2 (SRV-2) [20], while curcuminoids (curcumin, demethoxy curcumin, bisdemethoxy curcumin) as active substances in *C. xanthorrhiza* had antiviral properties [21]. *O. aristatus* extract was potential to be an anti-HSV-1 and anti-vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) agent [22,23].

Based on the explanation above, a molecular docking study of the active compounds that have antiviral activity contained in *P. niruri*, *C. xanthorrhiza* and *O. aristatus* would be conducted. The result of molecular docking for high binding affinity with SARS-CoV-2 molecules will be followed by molecular dynamics simulations to determine the resistance of the complex of protein-compound, drug similarity tests based on Lipinski rules and the properties of ADMET to determine the ability and safety of compounds used as drugs.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Determination of Ligand

Several secondary metabolites exhibited antiviral activity based on literature studies, were used as

ligands in the docking process. These compounds were: rutin (1) and quercetin (2) (flavonoid compounds), phyllantin (3), hypophyllanthin (4) and niruriside (5) (lignan compounds), repandusinic acid (6) and geraniin (7) (tannin compounds), ellagic acid (8) (coumarin group), camphor (9) (an oxygenated monoterpene), germacrone (10) (an oxygenated sesquiterpene compound), curcumin (11) and demethoxycurcumin (12) (curcuminoid compounds), rosmarinic acid (13) (polyphenolic compounds), stigmasta-5,22-dien-3-ol (14), ursolic acid (15) and oleanolic acid (16) (triterpenoids compounds). Compounds 1-8 are found in *P. niruri* leaves, compounds 9-12 are found in *C. xanthorrhiza* roots, and compounds 13-16 are found in *O. aristatus* leaves. The reference standards drugs were Remdesivir and Nelfinavir.

2.2. Protein Preparation

The two selected SARS-CoV-2 drug discovery targets were S-glycoprotein (PDB code: 6LZG) and 3CL^{pro} (PDB code: 6LU7). Proteins were prepared using Biovia Discovery Studio. Water molecules were removed and the active sites were determined. Once the active site was known, the protein chain other than the active site was deleted. Polar hydrogen was added and the prepared protein was saved in PDB (Protein Data Bank) format.

2.3. Quantitative Structure Activity (QSAR) Prediction

The first step to predict the suitability of compounds used as anti-SARS-CoV-2 was to determine the antiviral activity through QSAR prediction. QSAR predictions could be accessed on the PASS server (<http://www.pharmaexpert.ru/passonline/>) [14]. Compounds with Pa > 0.3 are declared active [24].

2.4. Molecular Docking

Molecular docking was carried out to predict the affinity of plant-derived antiviral compounds against the SARS-CoV-2 S-glycoprotein and 3CL^{pro} using Autodock Vina program. Proteins that had been stored in PDB form were opened using Autodock Vina and given the Kollman charges. The Gasteiger charges were calculated. The protein was saved using the pdbt format. Input the ligand to be tested and saved in pdbt format. The grid was arranged with protein selected as macromolecules and ligand as set map types. The x, y and z grid maps were filled according to the Biovia Discovery Studio active site data and exhaustiveness is set at 8 according to the Autodock Vina default. The Command Prompt program is used to run Autodock Vina. This procedure based on literature with modifications [25].

2.5. Molecular Dynamic Simulation

Molecular dynamics simulations were run based on literature with modifications [25]. The GROMACS-

2021.2 software was used in the atomic molecular dynamics simulation process with all CHARMM36 atomic force fields (February 2021) for the top protein-ligand complexes sorted based on docking score. The ligand topology was generated through the CHARMM General Force Field (CGenFF) program using cgenff_charmm2gmx_py2.py. The protein-ligand complex system was dissolved in a cubic box (size determined by keeping the closest protein atom to the box boundary at 1 nm) of TIP3P (transferable intermolecular potential with 3 points).

The charge of the system was neutralized by adding counter ions. Charge interactions (electrostatic) were calculated by the particle mesh Ewald (PME) method. The 6LU7 protein was neutralized with 4 Na⁺, and the 6LZG protein was neutralized with 24 Na⁺. After the purification of the complex with energy minimization, an isothermic-isovolumetric (NVT) simulation and an isobaric-isothermic NpT 100 ps simulation were performed to balance the water box.

Next, another MD simulation was run for 10 ns NpT for simulated production at a constant temperature of 300 K at 1 atm pressure. Anisotropic diagonal position scaling at 0.002 ps time step intervals was used to maintain constant pressure during the MD simulation. The Lennard-Jones and Coulomb short-range interactions energy was calculated on radius 1.2 nm, while the electrostatic calculation for long-range PME with a Grid Fourier distance of 0.16 nm. The Berendsen temperature coupling method (V-rescale) was used to maintain the temperature in the box. The

NpT equilibrium was achieved by the Parrinello-Rahman pressure coupling method. The results obtained from this simulation were root mean square deviation (RMSD) and Coulomb and Lennard-Jones short-range energies.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. QSAR Prediction

The QSAR predictive result of secondary metabolites showed a lot of information about the bioactivity of secondary metabolites tested in this study. The various information was filtered to obtain predictive results regarding the antiviral properties of the tested compounds, both general antiviral properties and antiviral properties against viruses similar to SARS-CoV-2, including picornavirus, rhinovirus and influenza virus. The QSAR result is showed in Table I.

Picornaviruses are small nonenveloped RNA viruses. The genomic RNA consists of 7500–8000 nucleotides. The members of PV are rhinoviruses, enteroviruses, coxsackieviruses, polioviruses, echoviruses, encephalomyocarditis viruses, meningitis virus, foot and mouth viruses, hepatitis A virus, and so on. The picornavirus 3CL^{pro} protein is analogous to the SARS-CoV 3CL^{pro} [26, 27]. 3CL^{pro} protein plays a role in the process of two overlapping polyproteins pp1a (486 kDa) and pp1b (790 kDa), therefore 3CL^{pro} plays a role in viral protein maturation [26].

Table 1 QSAR prediction result

Compound	Antivirus		Anti-Influenza		Anti-Rhinovirus		Anti-Picornavirus	
	Pa	Pi	Pa	Pi	Pa	Pi	Pa	Pi
(1)			0.743	0.004				
(2)			0.403	0.046				
(3)			0.293	0.094	0.367	0.133	0.339	0.171
(4)								
(5)	0.221	0.080			0.348	0.163		
(6)	0.248	0.061						
(7)	0.027	0.075	0.438	0.035	0.447	0.051		
(8)	0.322	0.029	0.254	0.138			0.364	0.162
(9)					0.333	0.189	0.393	0.116
(10)							0.417	0.097
(11)	0.418	0.013	0.471	0.028				
(12)	0.412	0.013	0.462	0.030				
(13)	0.305	0.035	0.412	0.043	0.399	0.092	0.327	0.187
(14)			0.506	0.022	0.487	0.029		
(15)			0.761	0.004	0.492	0.027		
(16)	0.242	0.065	0.836	0.002	0.481	0.032		

Notes: Pa - probability active, Pi - probability inactive, Pa > 0,3 is active

Unlike the Coronavirus which is a positive single RNA virus, the influenza virus is a negative single RNA virus with the main antigenic factors being the transmembrane glycoprotein hemagglutinin (HA) and neuraminidase (NA). Despite their differences, these two viral infections have similar clinical symptoms and can cause a cytokine storm in the lung [28].

Compounds (1) and (2), members of flavonoid

compounds, are active as anti-influenza virus based on the prediction. Compound (3) is active as anti-rhinovirus and picornavirus. However, the result exhibits no information about (4), a phyllantin derivative, antiviral activity against these viruses. (6) is active as anti-rhinovirus. Compounds (14), (15), (16) are active as anti-influenza and anti-rhinovirus. Compound (8) is predicted to be active as antiviral and

anti-picornavirus. Compound (9) is predicted to be active as anti-rhinovirus and picornavirus, while (10) is predicted to be anti-picornavirus active. Compounds (11) and (12), members of curcuminoid, are active as antiviral and anti-influenza. Compound (13) is predicted to be active in all category. The active compounds were evaluated further for its antiviral activity against SARS-CoV-2.

3.2. Molecular Docking

The molecular docking between compounds with 6LZG protein (receptor binding domain for S-glycoprotein that binds to human ACE2) and 6LU7 (3CL^{pro} structure that binds to natural inhibitors (N3)) was carried out using the Biovia Discovery Studio program for the initial step of protein preparation. Proteins were obtained from the RCSB page in PDB format. Water molecules contained in protein molecules were removed because the water molecules contained in protein-ligand complexes can cause deviations due to the ideal hydrogen bond geometry involving water molecules [29]. The next step is to determine the scope of the Structure-Based Design (SBD) site selected based on the location of the natural ligand at 6LU7 and the location of the viral S-glycoprotein attachment to human ACE2 at 6LZG. After that, chains that were not within the specified site scope were deleted. The addition of polar hydrogen was carried out because ambiguous X-ray crystallographic structures and the loss of polar hydrogen atoms were often encountered [30]. Protein files are saved in PDB form.

The molecular docking was carried out using Autodock Vina program, because this program is equipped with many CPU cores so that the running time required is shorter than Autodock 4.2. In addition, the results of this program are more accurate than the results of Autodock 4.2 [31]. Protein that had been stored in PDB format were opened using Autodock Vina and given a Kollman charge and because the ligand was not a peptide chain it needed Gasteiger charge. In addition, it was important to pre-calculate the grid map [32]. The grid map parameter used was AD4 type. Proteins and ligands were stored in pdbqt format for docking process. Further, grid arrangement was done by selecting proteins as macromolecules and selecting ligands in the set map types setting. The configuration file was set by choosing protein.pdbqt as macromolecules and ligand.pdbqt as ligand. Furthermore, the grid in the configuration file was set according to the scope of the SBD site from Biovia Discovery Studio for accurate results. Molecular docking was done by running the Autodock Vina program via Command Prompt. The docking result is shown in Table II.

	6LZG	6LU7
(1)	-7.3	-8.8
(2)	-6.5	-7.4
(3)	-4.5	-6.1
(5)	-6.6	-6.8
(7)	-6.5	-7.2
(8)	-7.2	-7.3
(9)	-4.2	-4.5
(10)	-6.1	-5.5
(11)	-5.8	-7.1
(12)	-6.0	-7.2
(13)	-6.6	-7.1
(14)	-6.5	-7.1
(15)	-6.8	-7.6
(16)	-6.2	-7.7
Remdesivir	-6.7	-7.8
Nelfinavir	-6.6	-8.2

The molecular docking score showed three compounds with the lowest free energy (the best binding score) to 6LZG protein, namely: compounds (1), (8) and (15) with free energy values of -7.3 -7.2 and -6.8 kcal/mol. The free energy obtained by protein 6LZG-this compound was lower than 6LZG-remdesivir and 6LZG-nelfinavir. Visualization of docking results on the best score was done through the Biovia Discovery Studio program. The results of this visualization showed that oxygens of (1) were conventional hydrogen bond acceptor from ARG403, TYR449, GLN493, GLN498 and a hydrogen bond donor to ASN501. In addition, carbon of (1) was a carbon-hydrogen bond donor to SER494. The pi-cation type electrostatic interaction occurred between the positively charged NH group of ARG403 and the pi-orbital of (1). Hydrophobic interactions with aromatic-aromatic interactions (pi-pi stacked) occurred between TYR453 and two pi-orbitals of (1) and pi-pi interactions of the T form occurred between TYR505 and pi-orbitals of (1) (Figure 1A).

The visualization of the docking of (8) showed hydrogen bonds and hydrophobic interactions between the S-glycoprotein SARS-CoV-2 and this compound. Conventional hydrogen bonding occurred between the hydrogen ARG403 and the oxygen of (8). In addition, (8) became a hydrogen bond donor to ASN501 and TYR505. Pi-donor type hydrogen bonding occurred between nitrogen GLY496 and the two pi-orbitals of this compound. Hydrophobic interactions of the pi-pi T-shaped occurred between the pi-orbital TYR505 and (8) (Figure 1B). Different results were obtained by (15) which at its best docking score only had conventional hydrogen bonds between the hydrogen of GLY496 and the oxygen of this compound (Figure 1C).

Visualization of S-glycoprotein binding results with reference drugs remdesivir and nelfinavir is shown for comparison. Several oxygen atoms of nelfinavir became hydrogen bond acceptors with ARG403, TYR453, GLN493, and GLY496. The drug's hydrogen atom also acted as a hydrogen bond donor to the oxygen of GLU406. The pi-alkyl hydrophobic interactions occurred between the pi-orbital TYR505

Table 2 Molecular docking score of secondary metabolites to S-glycoprotein (6LZG) and 3CL^{pro} (6LU7)

Compounds	Score (ΔG kcal/mol)
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and the alkyl nelfinavir and between the pi-orbital nelfinavir and LYS417 (Figure 1D). Different results were shown by visualization of the 6LZG-remdesivir, in which the interaction between the 6LZG-remdesivir protein complex was only hydrophobic interactions. The pi-sigma hydrophobic interaction occurred between the C-H remdesivir and the pi-orbital TYR489, while the alkyl hydrophobic interaction occurred between the remdesivir alkyl and LEU455. The pi-alkyl hydrophobic interactions occurred between the pi-orbital PHE456 and the two alkyl remdesivir and between the pi-orbital of this drug and the alkyl LYS417 (Figure 1E).

Based on a literature study on the molecular dynamics of the SARS-CoV-2 S-glycoprotein complex

with human ACE2, a stable salt bridge was formed between LYS417 of the SARS-CoV-2 protein and ASP30 ACE2 and a stable hydrogen between TYR449, GLN493, and GLN498 of SARS-COV-2 with ASP38, GLU35, and LYS353 of ACE2 [33]. Therefore, it is essential to interfere with the bonding formation between S-glycoprotein and ACE2. Compound (1) might intervene in the formation of the hydrogen compound ACE2-S-glycoprotein in TYR449, GLN493, GLN498, while nelfinavir interfered in GLN493 and the salt bridge LYS417 and remdesivir only interfered in the salt bridge in LYS417. The result showed that (1) is a strong anti-SARS-CoV-2 candidate that can fight against this entry virus by forming a complex with human ACE2.

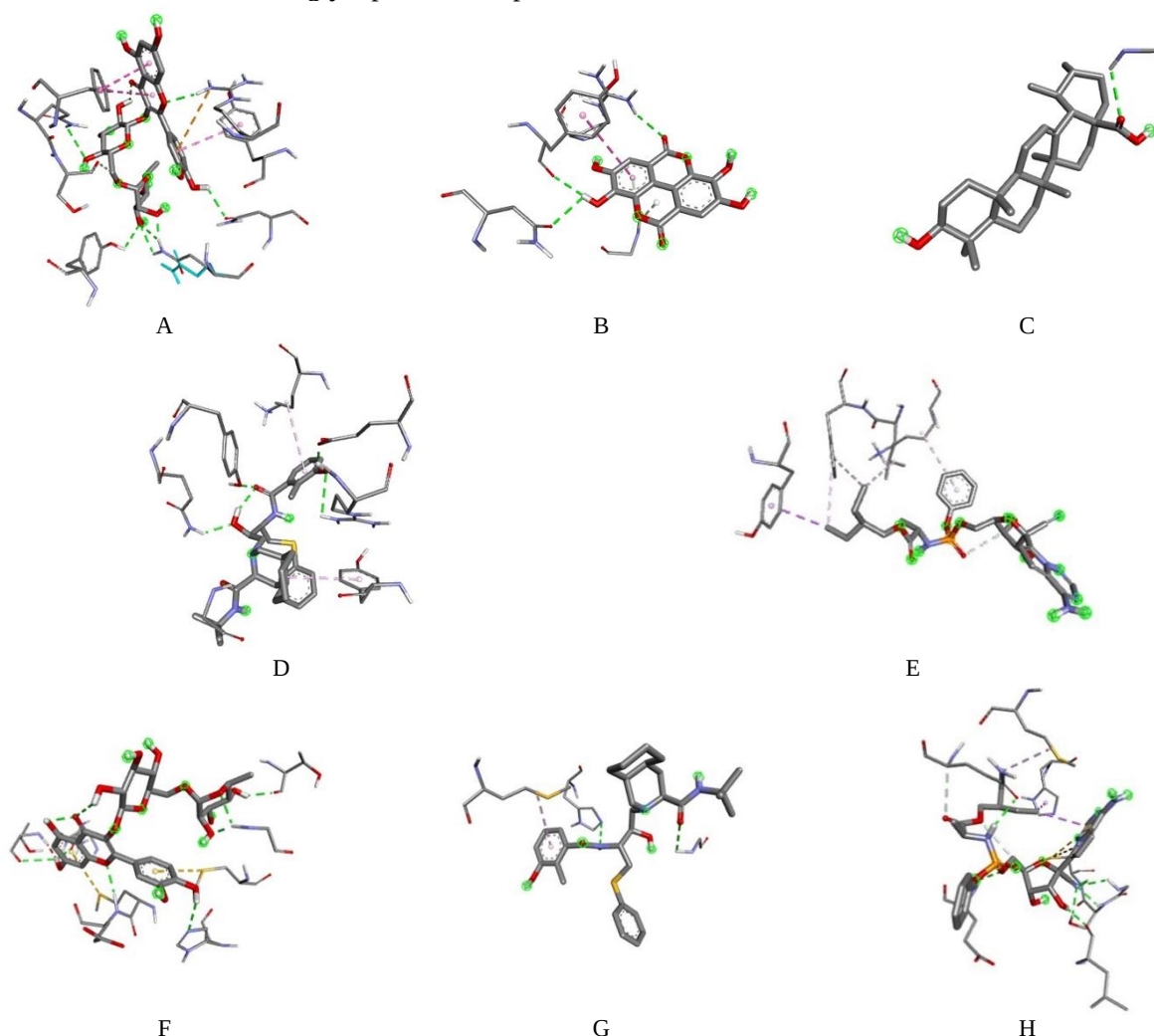


Fig. 1 Molecular docking visualization of *P. niruri*, *C. xanthorrhiza* and *O. aristatus* secondary metabolites and reference drugs: A. 6LZG-(1), B. 6LZG-(8), C. 6LZG-(15), D. 6LZG-nelfinavir, E. 6LZG-remdesivir, F. 6LU7-(1), G. 6LU7-nelfinavir, H. 6LU7-remdesivir

The molecular docking of secondary metabolite compounds with 6LU7 binding score exhibited that the 6LU7-(1) complex had the lowest free energy compared to the 6LU7-remdesivir complex and the 6LU7-nelfinavir complex. Visualization of the docking results on the best score of (1) showed that two oxygen of this compound were hydrogen bond acceptors from GLY143 and one oxygen of (1) was hydrogen bond acceptor from GLU166. (1) also acted as hydrogen

bond donor to oxygen THR26, ARG188, THR190 and nitrogen HIS163. In addition, there were pi-sulfur interaction between sulfur CYS145 and MET165 with pi-orbital of (1) (Figure 1F).

Visualization of nelfinavir binding results showed the pi-orbital of this drug interacted hydrophobically with pi-sigma type with ALA292. Pi-alkyl hydrophobic interactions occurred between the pi-orbital PHE318 and the alkyl drug (Figure 1G). Different results were

shown by Remdesivir. Remdesivir interacted electrostatically between its positive and negative charges to GLU298. Hydrogen bonding occurred between remdesivir hydrogen to oxygen ARG319, SER316 and ARG319. Hydrogen bonding with a carbon-hydrogen occurred between remdesivir carbon and CYS291. The pi-sigma type hydrophobic interaction occurred between VAL595 C-H and the pi-orbital of remdesivir. The hydrophobic alkyl-alkyl interaction occurred between the alkyl of CYS291 and the alkyl of remdesivir (Figure 1H).

Literature studies suggest that proteolysis occurs through catalytic dyads, namely CYS145 and HIS41 [34]-[35]. The two catalytic points become binding receptors important for inhibiting viral replication. There were pi-sulfur interactions with CYS145 and interactions with other active binding receptor residues, namely GLY143, GLU166, THR26, ARG188, THR190 and HIS163. Based on this explanation, (1) could be an inhibitor of 3CL^{pro} SARS-CoV-2 candidate.

3.3. Molecular Dynamic Simulation

The RMSD results of molecular dynamics simulation for 10 ns showed that the RMSD value of 6LU7-(1) complex fluctuated in a narrow range of 0.95-1.22 nm while the RMSD fluctuation range for bare protein was 0.0005-0.282. These results indicate that the 6LU7-(1) complex was stable during the molecular dynamics simulation. The average RMSD value of 6LU7-(1) complex was 1.037 nm while the average RMSD value of 6LU7 protein without ligand was 0.205. The average RMSD value of the 6LU7-(1) complex was slightly higher than the average RMSD value of the 6LU7 bare protein.

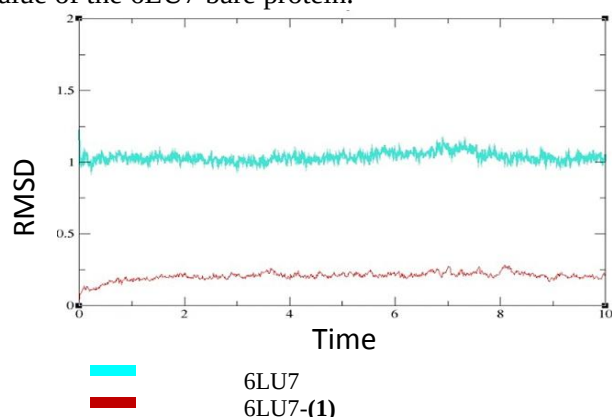


Fig. 2 RMSD of 6LU7 and 6LU7-(1)

The average short-range Coloumb interaction energy of 6LU7-(1) complex was -212.861 ± 5.4 kJ/mol. The average short-range Lennard-Jones interaction energy was -222.114 ± 6.8 kJ/mol. The total interaction energy of 6LU7-(1) complex with error propagation was -434.975 ± 8.68 kJ/mol.

3.4. ADMET Properties

Predictions of drug similarity, ADMET properties, and synthetic accessibility were obtained through Swissadme filters. The pharmacokinetic properties of (1) indicates that this compound is poorly absorbed in the digestive system and can bind to P-glycoprotein (P-gp) which can inhibit drug absorption. P-gp is a transporter that facilitates the secretion of molecules back into the intestinal lumen thereby limiting the absorption [36]. (1) is not an inhibitor of CYP1A2, CYP2C19, CYP2C9, CYP2D6 and CYP3A4 and could not penetrate the blood brain barrier so it is good for use as a drug [37]. The synthetic accessibility score of (1) which is based on fragmental analysis of the structure is 6.31, indicating that (1) is quite easy to synthesize.

However, (1) violates 3 Lipinski's rule of five, including molecular mass more than 500, hydrogen bond acceptor more than 10, and hydrogen bond donor more than 5. This violation is normal. Some very popular drugs, for example dabigatran etexilate, bromocriptine mesylate, olmesartan medoxomil, fosinopril, and reserpine, violate two of Lipinski's rules. Some very popular tyrosine kinase inhibitors (lapatinib and nilotinib) and HIV protease inhibitors (lopinavir, atazanavir, nelfinavir) violates 3 Lipinski's criteria. Atazanavir demonstrated three violations of Lipinski's rule [25]. Even remdesivir violates 2 Lipinski's rules because the molecular mass is more than 500 and the hydrogen bond acceptor is more than 10. Therefore, three violations of (1) against Lipinski's rule are tolerated.

The method for delivering of (1) as a drug to overcome the rule of five violations can be in the form of lipid and polymer nanoparticles. Lipid nanoparticles are suitable carriers for loading hydrophilic and lipophilic drugs, which can be used via various routes, including topical, oral, parenteral, ocular, pulmonary, and brain drug delivery. On the other hand, the most important features of polymer-based nanocarriers are the increased stability of the enveloped drug, he ability to deliver higher amounts of the active substance to the target tissue as well as guard the active substance against hydrolysis and enzymatic degradation. Cytotoxicity of nanopolymers as carriers shows that these carriers are not toxic to HeLa cells [38].

The results of the toxicity test using Toxtree program showed that based on the revised Cramer decision tree parameter, (1) is classified as Class II (intermediate). Compounds classified as Class II are less innocuous than Class I (very harmless), but do not contain structures that exhibit the same toxicity as substances in class III (might be toxic or contain reactive functional group). The results of the skin corrosion parameter test showed that (1) does not cause skin irritation or corrosion. The results obtained through the test of genotoxic and nongenotoxic, and mutagenicity parameters showed that (1) is negative for genotoxic and nongenotoxic carcinogenicity. Based on

the results of the toxicity test using three parameters, showed that (1) is non-toxic. Therefore, (1) has the potential to be a SARS-CoV-2 drug candidate.

4. Conclusion

Molecular docking and molecular dynamics simulations of *P. niruri*, *C. xanthorrhiza*, and *O. aristatus* secondary metabolites showed that rutin (1) contained in *P. niruri* leaves has the lowest binding score with S-glycoprotein (6LZG) and 3CL^{pro} (6LU7) SARS-CoV-2 than remdesivir and nelfinavir. In its best docking score, (1) formed hydrogen bonds with S-glycoprotein residues that were important for the binding of S-glycoprotein to human ACE2, including TYR449, GLN493, GLN498 and pi-sulfur interaction with 3CL^{pro} catalytic point, CYS145. The results of the molecular dynamics simulation showed that the 3CL^{pro}-(1) complex was stable during the 10 ns simulation. The pharmacokinetic properties and toxicity of (1) indicate this compound is non-toxic and could be used as a drug even though it violates three Lipinski's rules. The synthetic accessibility score of (1) indicates this compound is quite easy to synthesize. Therefore, (1) has the potential to become a SARS-CoV-2 drug.

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