

The *Graptophyllum pictum* extract effect on acrylic resin complete denture plaque growth

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ABSTRACT

Graptophyllum pictum, in Indonesian is named 'daun ungu', is one of the traditional plants usually used as haemorrhoids medicament in Indonesia; it is composed from alkaloid, pectin, saponin, tannin, flavonoid and alcohol. *Graptophyllum pictum* is able to prevent the growth of *Streptococcus mutans*. The purpose of this investigation is to study the effect of *Graptophyllum pictum* extract toward the growth of plaque on acrylic resin complete denture. For this plaque growth research, 40 samples of acrylic resin complete denture were used, which divided into four groups. Those samples were first treated by cleansing each denture from saliva with running water. The existence of plaque on the complete denture was known by means of disclosing agent. The plaque was then scored by using modified Quigley Hein index, in this case until the plaque was scored zero. The second treatment was soaking the Group I to IV denture samples in *Graptophyllum pictum* extract with various concentration 5%, 10%, 20% and 40%, each for 15 minutes. Following this, the dentures were worn by the patients again for four hours, and then removed and washed with water. Then the disclosing agent were rubbed on the dentures and subsequently washed with water. The obtained data were analyzed by One-way variant analysis and t-test. The study result showed there were significant differences among the growth of plaque on acrylic resin complete denture which was soaked in different concentration of *Graptophyllum pictum* extract ($p < 0.05$). Regarding this result it can be concluded that *Graptophyllum pictum* extract could inhibit the plaque growth on acrylic resin complete denture. And it seems also that the highest plaque growth inhibition on acrylic resin complete denture is caused by the 40% concentration extract of *Graptophyllum pictum*.

Key words: *Graptophyllum pictum* extract, plaque, acrylic resin complete denture

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INTRODUCTION

Metacrilate polymethyl acrylic resin is a common material widely-used in the construction of complete denture bases. Acrylic resin has a good aesthetic property, could match the colour of the substituted mouth tissue naturally, stable form, besides would not cause irritation, non-toxic, and is easy to fabricate and manipulate, as well as to repair if broken.¹ Most of the acrylic resin's defect are caused by the remaining monomer, water absorbent as well as porosity.²

While wearing an acrylic resin complete denture, the mucosa underneath will be covered by the device for a long time, this matter will hinder the cleansing of the denture surface facing the mucosa, by tongue and saliva.³ The supporting mucosa tissue of the acrylic resin complete denture, will alter. And this matter related very much to the amount of plaque formation at the fitting surface.

Plaque is a soft non mineralized deposit, originated from bacteria attached to an adhesive matrix which is form-by saliva-glycoprotein and extra cellular bacteria on teeth as well as dentures surfaces. This plaque's matrix is comprised of 80% water and 20% solid substances.⁴

The denture's plaque is formed due the long wearing within a certain period of time. The plaque structure on a denture has the same basic composition as those found at an natural teeth.⁵ Denture plaque is the source of periodontal diseases, bad breath odour, changing the denture colour and cause denture stomatitis as well, an infection of the mucosa tissue especially underneath the denture.⁶ *Streptococcus mutans* is the greatest amount of bacteria found in the dental plaque, because this is their main habitat. They multiply and colonized on the teeth surfaces forming dental plaque.⁷ Because that matter acrylic resin complete denture wearers should attend the hygienic condition by keeping the oral and dentures clean.

The purpose of routine denture cleansing is to avoid plaque growth and prevent their accumulation as well as mucin and calculus deposits.⁵ Generally denture cleansing can be done by mechanical or chemical method. Mechanical cleansing is done by brushing the denture with a soft tooth brush and chemical cleansing is by soaking it into a denture cleansing or disinfectant solution especially for that purpose.^{8,9}

Graptophyllum pictum, Indonesian named 'daun ungu (violet leave)' is one of the traditional herbal plants

commonly grow in Indonesia as shrubs. *Graptophyllum pictum* has pharmacological specialty for various health problems, such as: to release anuria, constipation, haemorrhoids, maturing boil process, weak laxative for purgation, skin softener and to enhance menstrual blood flow.¹⁰ *Graptophyllum pictum* consist of chemical content: alkaloid, pectin, and formic acid. It contains also steroid, saponin, tannin, flavonoid and alcohol.¹¹

Tannin can be locally applied on wounds at the throat and oral cavity, the later especially in stomatitis. Tannin has a physiological action against bacteria growth.¹² As a detoxification agent, tannin can precipitate protein and form a specific compound interacting with protein and saliva pellicle¹³ to inhibit the attachment of *Streptococcus mutans* as well as reducing it.⁷ Alkaloid has a physiological action against bacteria's growth.^{12, 14} Flavonoid is a phenol compound, that can dissolve in water, and can be extracted by 70% ethanol. Flavonoid has an antiviral, antibacterial and anti-inflammation character as well. The general characteristic of phenolic compound is able to increase cell permeability to form a complex compound with protein by hydrogen bond.¹⁵ *Graptophyllum pictum* extract can inhibit the growth of *Streptococcus mutans* bacteria.¹⁶

Based on those backgrounds, arouse problem questions, whether *Graptophyllum pictum* influencing the plaque formation on acrylic resin complete denture or not. This is stated in the purpose of this study. Hopefully this study may give the information whether *Graptophyllum pictum* extract is suitable as a cleansing agent for acrylic resin complete denture.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

In this study, extract of *Graptophyllum pictum* was made by means of: 100 grams dried old leaves of *Graptophyllum pictum*, grounded to powder form, and then extracted in 70% ethanol with sohlet instrument for 2–3 hours until the process of extraction finished. The extract solution was concentrated with a Vacuum Rotary Evaporator to obtain a dry extract form. The *Graptophyllum pictum* extract tester solution was made of 5 grams main extract added with distillate aqua until 100 ml volume was reached, and then shook until homogenously mixed, and a 5% tester solution was obtained. To obtain 10%, 20% and 40% tester solution, the procedure was the same, except the quantity of *Graptophyllum pictum* extract was increased respectively 10, 20 and 40 grams.

The plaque accumulations on the surface of acrylic resin complete dentures were observed by clinical research

method. The subjects observed consisted of complete upper dentures (CUD) wore by patients at the Prosthodontic Clinic, Faculty of Dentistry, Gajah Mada University with the following criterion: minimally the CUD had to be worn for 1 month. The patient's age were about 40 years old or more, and did not suffer of any systemic diseases. In this case forty research subjects were examined.

The first treatment of the study was the plaque examination, which attached on the complete denture by rubbing disclosing agent. Each CUD was taken out from the patient's mouth and washed with running water until the saliva disappeared. The disclosing agent was rubbed to the CUD surface evenly by means of cotton buds which was soaked in before, and then washed under running water and subsequently scored by modified Quigley Hein index. The CUD should be cleansed from the disclosing agent solution, and the plaque was scored until reaching zero.

The 40 research subjects in the second treatment were divided into four groups, where each consisted of 10 study subjects. The complete dentures in the first group were soaked in 5% *Graptophyllum pictum* extract solution, the second group soaked in 10% solution, the third soaked in 20% and the last group soaked in 40% solution. Each complete denture was soaked for 15 minutes. Then the complete denture was removed out of the extract solution, brushed with a toothbrush using the soaking liquid. The patient wore back the denture for 4 hours. After 4 hours, the CUD was taken out, and washed with water until the saliva disappeared. The disclosing agent was rubbed on its surface, then washed off with water and scored by modified Quigley Hein index.

The plaque accumulation on the CUD surfaces were divided into 8 location parts, namely: 4 location on the buccal surface of CUD as follows: A= right posterior buccal surface; B= right anterior buccal surface; C= left anterior buccal surface and D= left posterior buccal surface. And the other 4 location parts were on the fitting surface of the CUD (fit-surface facing to the palatum mucosa) as follows: E= right posterior fitting surface; F = left posterior fitting surface; G= right anterior fitting surface, and H= left anterior fitting surface.

The counting of the plaque was scored according to modified Quigley Hein index: 0 score = no plaque; 1 score = light plaque, denoting that 1%-25% of the area was covered with plaque; 2 score = moderate plaque, 26%-50% of the area was covered with plaque; 3 score = heavy plaque: 51%-75% of the area was covered with plaque; 4 score = very heavy plaque: 76%-100% of the area was covered with plaque.

$$\text{CUD plaque score} = \frac{\text{The total plaque score at 8 scored areas (A-H)}}{8}$$

The obtained data was analyzed by One-way variant-analysis and t-test.



Figure 1. Graptophyllum pictum (daun ungu).plant

RESULTS

The average counting result of the plaque growth at the acrylic resin complete denture in each Graptophyllum pictum extract soaking group can be seen in table 1.

Table 1. The average and standard deviation result of plaque formation after soaking in different Graptophyllum pictum extract concentration

Concentration	N	Average	Standard deviation
5%	10	2.729	0.002
10%	10	1.925	0.008
20%	10	1.166	0.007
40%	10	0.425	0.005

It was showed in Table 1 that the highest plaque growth was in 5% Graptophyllum pictum extract, namely 2.729 ± 0.002 , while the lowest plaque growth average was in 40% concentration, namely 0.425 ± 0.005 .

To know the result differences between each study group, a One-way variant analysis was performed, which will show the significant difference of each Graptophyllum pictum extract concentration to the plaque growth on the acrylic resin complete denture ($p < 0.05$).

A t-test was conducted to know the inter group differences, as seen in table 2.

The t-test result in table 2 showed a significant difference among each different Graptophyllum pictum extract concentration soaking group, namely of 5% and 10% concentration, 5% and 20%, 5% and 40%, 10% and 20%, 10% and 40%, as well as 20% and 40% to the plaque growth existence on the acrylic resin complete denture ($p < 0.05$).

Table 2. The t-test result of each inter group which CUD were soaked in different concentration of Graptophyllum pictum extract

Concentration	5%	10%	20%	40%
5%	-	0.001*	0.001*	0.001*
10%	-	-	0.001*	0.001*
20%	-	-	-	0.001*
40%	-	-	-	-

DISCUSSION

The result of the study showed the highest plaque growth inhibition were found in those soaked in 40% Graptophyllum pictum extract solution, and the lowest inhibition were those soaked in 5% concentration solution. The active composition content of Graptophyllum pictum were tannin and flavonoid.¹¹ Tannin had the antibacterial power to inhibit glucose growth from Streptococcus mutans, so that it was able to get hold of the plaque growth.⁷ Based on those findings, presumably the low inhibiting effect result of the 5% Graptophyllum pictum extract solution, was caused by the low content of tannin and flavonoid, so that the solution was not effectively enough to inhibit. The 40% Graptophyllum pictum extract solution content higher tannin and flavonoid, so that it could function more effectively in the inhibition of the CUD's plaque growth. The outcome of this study was matched with Kozai et al finding,¹⁷ who explained that tannin could inhibit the formation of insoluble glucan from sucrose by glucotransferase which had an important role in the plaque growth.

The One-way ANOVA test result showed there was a significant difference in the Graptophyllum pictum extracts various concentrations to the plaque growth at acrylic resin complete denture ($p < 0.05$). The t-test result showed also a significant difference among acrylic resin complete dentures soaking in various Graptophyllum pictum extract solution groups to the existence of plaque growth ($p < 0.05$). Result of the study showed that Graptophyllum pictum which content tannin and flavonoid has the ability to disrupt protein forming plaque. These study results was cause by tannin and flavonoid which was able to destroy protein, so that it can inhibit the plaque growth. The higher concentration of Graptophyllum pictum extracts solution, the more will be the amount of tannin and flavonoid, and consequently the inhibiting power will be higher to the plaque growth. These findings matching to Pelczar and Chan¹³ opinion that tannin could interact with protein and saliva pellicle to cause protein precipitation. Following Wu Yuan et al.⁷ tannin as a detoxification agent could precipitate protein and form a certain compound, that interact with protein and saliva pellicle to avoid attachment of Streptococcus mutans and lessen the bacteria's as well.

The statement support the findings that *Graptophyllum pictum* extract could inhibit the growth of *Streptococcus mutans*.¹⁶ Harborne¹⁵ wrote that flavonoid was able to form a complex compound with protein by hydrogen bond, so that this protein precipitation could inhibit plaque growth.

Based on the study findings of *Graptophyllum pictum* extract solution on the plaque growth at the surface of CUD, a conclusion could be drawn as follows: the 40% concentration of *Graptophyllum pictum* extract had the highest plaque growth inhibition action on the denture. So *Graptophyllum pictum* extract solution can be suggested to be used as an alternative material for cleansing acrylic resin dentures.

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