SYNTHESIS AND ANTI-BREAST CANCER ACTIVITIES OF ALPHA MANGOSTIN Derivatives: A Review

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ABSTRACT

Alpha mangostin is the main part of xanton in mangosteen pericarp and is the main candidates for use in breast cancer drugs. Several studies were carried out in vitro, in vivo, and in silico study which showed that alpha mangostin and its derivatives have activity as a cure for breast cancer. This review article provides information alpha mangostin and its derivatives regarding their activities as anti-breast cancer which focuses on synthesis work, molecular targets, modes of action, and structure-activity relations (SAR). The development of beneficial alpha mangostin as complementary or alternative medicine can provide new opportunities for drug discovery against the disease.

Keywords: Alpha Mangostin, Synthesis, Anti-breast Cancer, Drugs Development.

INTRODUCTION

Cancer is a multifactorial disease with a long process by promotion and development. During the carcinogenic process, there will be stages that show a progressive change from a normal cell to become cancer cells. These cellular changes result in inhibition of growth and apoptosis, insensitivity to receiving growth signals, potential uncontrolled replication and continuous angiogenesis, tissue invasion, and metastasis of all parts of the body.1

Breast cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in women in 2020, with more than 200 thousand people diagnosed or as much as 29%.2 Data on cancer enrolled from hospitals indicated breast cancer as malignant cancer that is commonly found in Indonesia, surpassing cervical cancer. To date, more than 10,000 patients with breast lumps have been diagnosed with breast cancer. There were 178,480 predicted new breast cancer patients, and 40,460 people died in the USA from 2007 to 2017. In 2018 there has been an increase in the number of breast cancer cases which are in third place with around 18 million cases and in the top five with the most total deaths.3

Chemotherapy is still the primary choice in cancer therapy over the last decade. Nonetheless, the success rate of chemotherapy was still low due to their adverse side effects and resistance. This resistance is due to the nature of work when the drug is neither selective nor specific as an anticancer. Therefore, the development of a new anticancer focused on efforts to get the work selectively and specifically, directed against genomic and molecular abnormalities.4

The drugs discovery and development is a long and difficult process. The first study which is generally a time to discover, develop, and recognize a new drug in the US has increased sharply from 8.1 years in 1960 to 14.2 years in 1990. The actual time takes much longer ranging from chemical synthesis, time to drug target identification and selection process that generally takes two years or more.5

Drug discovery and development continues to attract great attention through the synthesis of chemicals that form compounds to target enzymes in the treatment of various cancers.6 This drug development is an effort that can be done to encourage the availability of drugs in Indonesia in increasing food and drug security.7 Therefore, it is expected that the chemical synthesis of new compounds will enhance the self-sufficiency in the production of medicines, especially for anticancer drugs. Thus, the synthesis of new compounds such as xanthone derivative could be a great work of Indonesia in strengthening food security and medicine.
Cancer drug discovery and development is pursued to obtain drugs with a specific work mechanism and safe for people with cancer, especially breast cancer. There is an alternative way i.e. medicinal plants to be developed as herbal remedies for cancer. Mangosteen (*Garcinia mangostana* L) is a plant that grows in Southeast Asia and is widespread in several countries. The mangosteen fruit production is increasing every year with a total production of 113,096 tons in 2014. The production process is found in the area of Tasikmalaya, Bogor, Sukabumi, South Tapanuli, Tabanan, and West Lombok. Mangosteen pericarp is widely used as an alternative treatment for various diseases because xanthone containing compounds and derivatives include alpha-, beta-, and gammamangostin, garsinon, 8-deoksigartanin, gartanin, and mangostanol.

Mangosteen pericarp is used as a raw material for medicinal agents for breast cancer therapy. Evaluation of mangosteen pericarp still needs to be done because it has not been used optimally and is still considered a difficult waste to rot if left in the air for more than 30 days and will not experience degradation so that it can pollute the environment. This is because the mangosteen pericarp is antioxidant and antibacterial. Alpha mangostin is the most important secondary metabolite found in mangosteen pericarp in oxygenated xanthone and xanthone prenylation. Some structural derivatives of alpha mangostin compounds have biological activities such as anti-inflammatory, antioxidants, antiallergy, antibacterial, antifungal, antiparasitic, antitumor gene, antimalarial, anticancer, antiproliferation, and immune system defense, based on the type of structure.

Alpha mangostin as the main xanthone derivative from the mangosteen is reported to be a potential compound candidate in the treatment of breast cancer. Alpha mangostin anticancer has a mechanism such as antiproliferative associated with suppression of tumor growth and metastasis in vivo in mouse models of breast cancer. Based on the MCF-7 breast cancer cell model, the alpha mangostin can inhibit the growth process by decreasing the function of hERα. Mangosteen peel extract shows activity as an anti-proliferating agent and apoptosis inducer on breast adenocarcinoma cell line MCF-7 with IC50 value of 45 µg/mL, while alpha mangostin had IC50 value of 20 µg/mL. The IC50 value including cytotoxic active moderate category (10-100 µg/mL). Therefore, synthesis and characterization methods can increase the activity and affinity of compounds as antagonists of the alpha estrogen receptors. The active compounds of a plant can be used as therapeutic agents, but most secondary metabolites do not show optimal activity. In this case, it is due to a lack of specificity and the absence of biologically active functional groups. Thus, by describing the structure of active compounds and pharmacophores, functional groups are considered important to increase the activity of a metabolite compound. To enhance the bioavailability of alpha mangostin, semi-synthetic modifications of these compounds lead to more active compounds, without excessive toxicity.

Women who suffer from obesity in the postmenopausal phase are at increased risk of developing breast cancer. Differences in lifestyle and eating habits also play a role in the development of cancer. Women are more at risk of developing breast cancer than men because women have more estrogen and progesterone which can encourage the growth of breast cancer cells. Breast cancer has morphological and molecular characteristics that are very complex. One important marker for the prognosis of breast cancer is estrogen receptor. Approximately 60% of breast cancer is indicated by estrogen receptor-α (ER-α) expression. The development of a new drug molecule term has developed rapidly to support cancer therapy. The receptor estrogen alpha is a molecular target in the inhibition of breast cancer.

**Alpha Mangostin**

Alpha mangostin is xanthone derived compounds that have a molecular formula C_{23}H_{26}O_6 with a molecular weight of 410.45964. Alpha mangostin has the IUPAC name of 1,3,6-Trihydroxy-7-methoxy-2,8-bis (3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-9H-xanthene-9-one. Alpha mangostin has various bioactivity and is used as a marker compound in mangostin pericarp, it is the most abundant component. Alpha mangostin also has anti-inflammatory activity as well as anti-cancer activity. The structure of alpha mangostin is illustrated in Fig.-1.
protein kinase (MAPK) has been shown to have an important role in the process of apoptosis. The results showed that the alpha mangostin induces cell proliferation process of DNA fragmentation, nuclear condensation, increased caspase-3 and caspase-9 split truncated but decreased the expression of Bcl-2 and Mcl-1. Mitochondria dysfunction and the release of cytochrome are also detected. Also, phosphorylation of ERα, HER2, PI3K, Akt and ERK1/2-derived regulation occurred while p-JNK1 /2 and p-p38 upregulated.52

![Alpha Mangostin (1) Structure](image)

Alpha mangostin antimetastatic was effective as an agent to inhibit MMP-2 and MMP-9 expression in MCF-7. Alpha mangostin can inhibit TPA induction of adhesion, invasion, and migration and cell-matrix adhesion test and test Boyden chamber. Alpha mangostin can inhibit kinase activation of extracellular signal-regulated 1 and 2 (ERK1/2) which is involved in the downregulation of the enzyme activity, protein, and messenger RNA levels of MMP-2 and MMP-9 induced by TPA. Specific inhibitor treatment on ERK (U0126) for MCF-7 cells can inhibit MMP-2 which is induced by TPA and expression of MMP-9 is inhibited during the cell migration. Based on these results alpha-mangostin is an effective new agent, effective, antimetastatic-functioning genes downregulated MMP-2 and MMP-9.53

The estrogen receptor is one of the main prognostic factors and predictive factors examined in breast cancer. The estrogen receptor consists of ERα and ERβ which have a different affinity to estrogen. A study by Muchtaridi reported that alpha mangostin is a potential candidate for breast cancer drugs through computational simulation using the *in silico* method. On the other hand, HERα protein is also targeted in cancer drug discovery using alpha mangostin, based on the interaction of hydrogen bond with amino acid residues such as glutamine419 with histidine54, and glutamine419 with lysine531. The hydrogen bonding can be represented by the potential ligand fluctuation for the HERα receptor antagonist. The Alpha mangostin and AMD10 ligand have hydrogen bonds with fluctuations interfered by amino acid residues of serine432, and serine521 so that alpha mangostin it can be explained that alpha mangostin and AMD10 have inhibitory activity against HERα. The AMD10 modified is the best of all alpha mangostin analog and identified using computer-assisted molecular simulation. Alpha mangostin, AMD10, and other analogs met all the bioavailability parameters according to the Lipinski Rule Five. The result of molecular docking obtained free energy alpha mangostin of -9.05 kcal/mol and AMD10 of -11.89 kcal/mol and based on the prediction result of pharmacophores also meet the requirements.54

**Synthetic Modifications**

Alpha mangostin has been targeted in various synthesis pathway through several chemical reactions. The basic structure of xanthone is maintained and the functional groups such as iso-prenyl, phenolic hydroxy, and ketones being modified in the drug design and synthesis. A study of the development of early analog by Ren et al55 has reported that3, 6-deacetylation (34) or 6-benzoylation (35) compounds have a cytotoxic enhancement of alpha mangostin (1). The addition of cyclic groups to at the C-2 and C-3(33, 36) maintains the previous cytotoxic potential whereas the addition of cyclic groups to the C-1 and C-2 chains (37) greatly reduces the activity of these compounds. Consistently, other studies have shown that a derivative of alpha mangostin di-O-alkylated reduces cytotoxicity, compared with 1.56 Based on the research, Fei et al57 have synthesized new analog alpha mangostin through sub-substitution of the hydroxyl group at the C1, C3 and C6 (34 and 38-49), cyclization at the C-2 and C-3 (50), modification The C-4 (51-53) and C-7 (54 and 55). Cytotoxicity activity screening studies were identified with a potential cytotoxic agent such as 40, 46, 51 and 52, but all of them showed reduced activity,
as compared to 1. Compounds 40, 49, 51, and 53 showed extraordinary results, compared with the current structure-activity relation (SAR) 1. Research has revealed that both hydroxyl groups at C-3 and C-6 are important for the activity and C-4 modifications can also increase the activity and anticancer properties of drugs. He et al. have reported that the microbial transformation of alpha mangostin (1) by Cunninghamella blakesleean resulted in two new glycosylation products, 56 and 57. Cytotoxicity 56 was comparable with alpha mangostin (1), whereas 57 had very low activity. The structure of alpha mangostin derivatives shown in Fig.-2.

A study on the development of the structural design of alpha mangostin by Narasimhan et al.44 reported that xanthones (anthraquinone) core structure did not undergo structural modification while the iso-prenyl and phenolic hydroxy functional groups were semi-synthetic. Twelve modified compounds used in synthetic obtained by a semi-synthetic modification of alpha mangostin through the Ritter reaction, reduction with palladium-carbon (Pd-C), alkylation, and acetylation. After obtaining the synthetic compound from alpha mangostin modification, bioassay was carried out to obtain better activity than the main compound to become a potential drug candidate. The structural design mechanism is shown in Fig.-3.
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Increasing the anticancer activity of the breast and the physicochemical properties of the alpha mangostin compound can be done by designing the compound synthesis. Bioactivity considerations and pharmacological properties of alpha mangostin make this compound developed to treat various diseases. And from the various results obtained indicate that the alpha mangostin compound has strong effectiveness against breast cancer, this makes alpha mangostin and its derivatives can be candidates for new breast cancer drugs.

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