



# ***In vivo* Effectivity of Collagen Extract from *Clarias gariepinus* (Burchell, 1822) ‘Sangkuriang’ on Formation of Malondialdehyde and Macrophages in Burn Healing**

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**Abstract:** Topical collagen on skin wound gift moist state that could stimulate reepithelization, proliferation, and epithelial cell migration to conduct growth factor activity on the wound area. One of the sources of collagen is Sangkuriang catfish [*Clarias gariepinus* (Burchell, 1822) ‘Sangkuriang’] skin that had low immunoreactivity in the human body. This study aimed to determine the influence of topical treatment with Sangkuriang catfish skin extract on malondialdehyde serum and macrophage total on burn injury. Collagen of Sangkuriang catfish skin was extracted by HCl 2 % for 48 h and neutralized by NaOH 1 M. Sangkuriang catfish skin extract contained amino acid of collagen that could repair and stimulate skin cell. This study was an experimental study that used 24 male *Rattus norvegicus* strain Wistar were divided into K3, P3, K10, and P10 groups. K group was treated with aquadest topical as a burn healing treatment for 3 d (K3) and 10 d (K10). The P group was treated with topical collagen extract as a burn healing treatment for 3 d (P3) and 10 d (P10). The results showed that treatment by collagen from Sangkuriang catfish skin could not decrease MDA serum on 3<sup>rd</sup> d and 10 d because of  $P > 0.05$  ( $P = 0.713$ ). Furthermore, it could not decrease macrophage total on 3<sup>rd</sup> d ( $P = 0.427$ ) but significantly decrease to 10 d for K10 and P10. Collagen topical from Sangkuriang catfish could accelerate burn to heal by decreasing macrophages total on 10<sup>th</sup> d due to  $P < 0.05$  ( $P = 0.000$ ).

**Keywords:** Burn injury, Catfish, Collagen extract, Skin, Wound healing

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Wound burn is a trauma condition on tissue skin due to any contact with fire, heat steam, hazardous chemicals, electrical goods, and electromagnetic radiation [1]. The burn is one of quite serious in a healthy problem. In 2012 recorded 25 % or 23.8 % cases of full-thickness degree burn injury from 105 burn injury cases total that needed burn treatment at a burn unit in Dr. Soetomo Hospital, Surabaya,

Indonesia. Prevalence of full-thickness degree burn injury needed longer time for healing due to skin damage reached almost entire dermis with hypertrophic scar formation [2]. Therefore, burns require special treatment for accelerating burn healing, such as topical collagen.

Collagen has a main role in the wound healing process [3, 4] due to collagen contained high amino acid such as glycine that gift moist state on wound

area to promote reepithelialization, stimulate proliferation and epithelial cell migration, induce growth factors activity and maintain nutrition transport [2, 4]. Besides, collagen is the main component of the extracellular matrix. Collagen extract from fish has advantages while compared with collagen from poultry and livestock because free from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE), and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), halal for used and had low immunoreactivity in the human body [4]. Sangkuriang catfish [*Clarias gariepinus* (Burchell, 1822) 'Sangkuriang'] is one type of catfish widely cultivated in Indonesia. This catfish is included in superior varieties that have been developed by researchers in Indonesia. The use of catfish skin as a source of collagen can reduce fish waste from the frozen fish food home industry that is developing in the city of Sidoarjo, East Java Province, Indonesia.

Wound healing consists of four phases that are homeostasis phase, inflammation phase, proliferation phase, and remodeling phase [5]. Stress oxidative affects any degenerative process and acute or chronic inflammation on wound area [6, 7]. Along with stress oxidative, macrophages exceed oxygen-dependent haem oxygenase and system transport as protection from ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species). Malondialdehyde (MDA) is a catabolism product of sulfolipid membrane that indicated oxidative stress presence [7]. This study aimed to determine the effect of topical collagen from Sangkuriang catfish [*Clarias gariepinus* (Burchell, 1822) 'Sangkuriang'] skin on malondialdehyde levels and macrophages total of skin burn healing.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sangkuriang catfish skin was obtained from waste of nugget home industry in Tanggulangin district, Sidoarjo city, East Java Province Indonesia. Extraction of catfish skin used HCl 2 % for 48 h and neutralized by NaOH 1 M until collagen fiber appears [4, 8]. Furthermore, 24 male *Rattus norvegicus* (Berkenhout, 1769) strain *Wistar* aged 3 mo and weighing about 200 g to 250 g with full-thickness degree burns on its back. There was the control group for 3 d (K3) and 10 d (K10), and a treatment group for 3 d (P3) and 10 d (P10). K3 and K10 groups were treated by using aquadest topical 0.05 mL on burns, whereas P3 and P10 groups

were treated by using topical collagen Sangkuriang catfish skin extract 0.05 mL on burns for each twice a day.

Malondialdehyde (MDA) serum levels of K3, K10, P3, and P10 groups were conducted by using 500  $\mu$ L serum for each *R. norvegicus* in a predefined group. Furthermore, 4.5 mL of cold PBS solution was added. The supernatant was taken 4 mL, then added 1 mL of 15 % TCA and given 1 mL of 0.37% TBA in 0.25 N HCl then heated in a water bath at temperature 80 °C for 15 min. Then cooled at room temperature for 60 min and centrifuged at 3 000 rpm for 15 min. Measurement of the absorbance of the MDA levels was analyzed using Boeco Germany at  $\lambda = 532$  nm based on the standard curve (standard) of MDA solution.

The number of macrophages carried by histopathological tests that were taken from burn specimens, at the back edge of the burn to the depth of the muscles. Specimens were taken and put into fixative solution 10 % formalin. Furthermore, the specimen was conducted histopathological processing with Hematoxylin Eosin (HE) staining. The macrophages are identified by an irregular shape with a nucleus of more than 1 large. Histopathological observations were carried out with a binocular microscope CX-21 graticule lens, 400x magnification, and taking images with a CX-31 trinocular microscope.

The research has been approved by Animal Care and Use Committee of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Airlangga University, Indonesia, through a certificate of ethical eligibility No. 447-KE.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### 3.1 Malondialdehyde (MDA)

Malondialdehyde levels were analyzed with Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). The results showed that malondialdehyde serum levels on the P3 group were lower than K3, also MDA serum levels on the P10 group were lower than K10 but statistically had no significant differences in each group because of  $P > 0.05$  ( $P = 0.713$ ). Therefore data could not be analyzed with Post Hoc LSD test Malondialdehyde serum levels on *R. norvegicus* burns were shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** MDA serum levels of *R. norvegicus* burns

Treatment group	N	Mean $\pm$ SD (nmol mL <sup>-1</sup> )	F	P
K3	6	5.247 $\pm$ 3.633 <sup>a</sup>	0.460	0.713
P3	6	4.005 $\pm$ 1.633 <sup>a</sup>		
K10	6	5.189 $\pm$ 0.945 <sup>a</sup>		
P10	6	4.693 $\pm$ 0.709 <sup>a</sup>		

\*superscript showed difference number statistically significant (p-value < 0.05)

### 3.2 Macrophages

Conformational macrophages total were stained by hematoxylin-eosin of histopathology test. Afterward, observed by microscope with 400x magnification. Macrophages were shown by irregular cells with nucleus more than one. Macrophages of each group showed in Figure 1. Macrophages total data were analyzed statistically with ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) then analyzed with Post Hoc LSD test because of  $P = 0.000$ . Data were shown in Table 2 and Table 3.

Based on Table 2 and Table 3 showed that macrophages total on P3 was lower than K3, but had no significant differences statistically due to  $P > 0.05$  ( $P = 0.427$ ). Meanwhile, macrophages total on P10 was lower than K10 and had significant differences statistically due to  $P < 0.05$  ( $P = 0.000$ ).

### 3.3 Sangkuriang Catfish Collagen Extract on Burn Healing Process

Wound healing is a complex biological process and dynamic process to repair injured cellular structures and tissue layers [9, 10]. There are four steps of wound healing process namely, (i) homeostasis phase that activates platelets to initiate coagulation cascade, (ii) inflammation phase that neutrophils, macrophages, and lymphocytes activation occur, (iii) proliferation phase that extracellular matrix formation begins, and (iv) remodeling that maturation of new matrix happens [2, 5, 11].

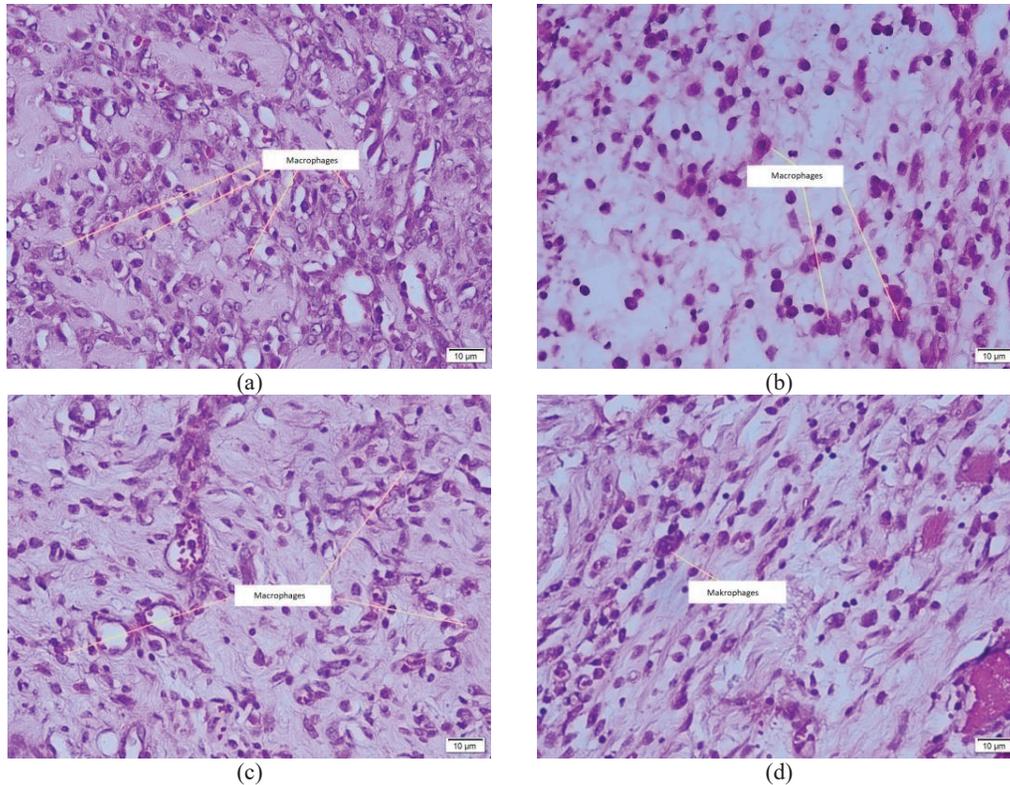
The optimal wound healing process requires adequate nutrition and protein that stimulates capillary formation, fibroblast proliferation, proteoglycan synthesis, collagen synthesis, and extracellular matrix remodeling [2, 9]. One of adequate protein intake from fish, such as collagen from skin or scales, bones, and meat fish that can be essential for optimizing wound healing because of its quality [12–14].

Sangkuriang catfish extract contained amino acid such as glycerin and hydroxyproline that compose of collagen as used for topical treatment on the wound area. Impairment of burn healing due to the enhancement of free-radicals-mediated damage reduced angiogenesis and decreased collagen reorganization that could be leading to a chronic wound. Unhealed wounds constantly stimulate inflammatory mediators that caused pain and swelling at the wound site [2, 5].

Enhancement of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) has indicated inflammation phase happened. It could induce MDA levels in the wound area, therefore, stimulate MDA levels in serum [7]. Topical collagen Sangkuriang catfish could reduce MDA levels in serum on 3<sup>rd</sup> d and 10<sup>th</sup> d descriptively, but statistically not significant those were shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1. Topical Sangkuriang catfish extract reducing ROS activity on wound skin but had not related directly with blood plasm. Therefore, topical collagen treatment on burns had not been affected significantly in animal models serum.

Burns could stimulate lipid peroxidase to produce MDA after 48 h post-injury that was starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> d, 5<sup>th</sup> d, 7<sup>th</sup> d, and 10<sup>th</sup> d that appropriate to kind of burns and body injury location [7]. Macrophages could eliminate bacteria by producing Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) [2]. However, free radicals with high quantity could generate impaired wound healing that caused damage to cellular membranes, nucleotides, protein, and lipids [7]. Furthermore, enhancement of macrophages total was going to increase MDA levels. Otherwise, the reduction of macrophages total was going to decrease the MDA level [2, 15].

Collagen extract from Sangkuriang catfish could decrease macrophages total on the wound area. Based on histopathology result test showed that descriptively total macrophages on 3<sup>rd</sup> d of



**Fig. 1.** Macrophages of *R. norvegicus* skin burn, (a) macrophages on K3 group, (b) macrophages on P3 group, (c) macrophages on K10 group and macrophages on P10 group.

**Table 2.** Macrophages total of *R. norvegicus* burns

Treatment group	N	Mean $\pm$ SD	F	p
K3	6	13.778 $\pm$ 2.509 <sup>a</sup>	36.842	0.000
P3	6	11.612 $\pm$ 1.306 <sup>a</sup>		
K10	6	29.611 $\pm$ 3.623 <sup>b</sup>		
P10	6	21.111 $\pm$ 4.520 <sup>c</sup>		

\*superscript showed difference number statistically significant (p-value < 0.05)

**Table 3.** p-value of post hoc test on macrophages total of *R. norvegicus* burns

Treatment group	K3	P3	K10	P10
K3		0.427	0.000	0.001
P3			0.000	0.000
K10				0.000
P10				

\* Post Hoc LSD test (p-value < 0.05)

P3 group was lower than K3 group, also on 10<sup>th</sup> d showed that descriptively macrophages total of P10 group was lower than K10 group and had significant statistically that were shown in Table 2 and Table 3. Topical collagen extract could decrease macrophages total that wound healing was going to quickly ends until the proliferation phase came and stimulate matrix extracellular (ECM) formation.

Macrophages total reached on 3<sup>rd</sup> d until 5<sup>th</sup> d post-injury. As healing time progresses, macrophages total was going to decrease when proliferation phase occurs, then remodeling phase came. Therefore macrophages total on 3<sup>rd</sup> d on K3 and P3 groups had no significant differences.

Differentiation of monocytes that had migrated from the vascular to the side of the wound area could

stimulate macrophages releasing. Macrophages could promote cell repair by influencing their recruitment, positioning, differentiation, and function within a damaged tissue [10]. Inflammatory monocytes and macrophages were key regulators of tissue repair, regeneration, and fibrosis [10]. Topical collagen as a biomedical application in wound healing has hypoallergenic and safe properties that very attractive for experimental and future clinical applications [16].

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Collagen topical from Sangkuriang catfish [*Clarias gariepinus* (Burchell, 1822) 'Sangkuriang'] could not decrease malondialdehyde levels significantly on 3<sup>rd</sup> d and 10<sup>th</sup> d, also macrophage total on 3<sup>rd</sup> d. But could decrease macrophage total significantly on 10<sup>th</sup> d. Therefore, Collagen topical from Sangkuriang catfish could accelerate burn healing by decreasing macrophages total on 10<sup>th</sup> d. Collagen extract from Sangkuriang catfish is expected to be developed in further research as an effective treatment for the burns healing process.

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