

P1 GASTROPROTECTIVE EFFECT OF ROSELLE MUCILAGE

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ABSTRACT

In Thai traditional medicine roselle (*Hibiscus sabdariffa* L.) is used for the treatment of various diseases and disorders including hypertension, hyperlipidemia, bladder stone and gastric ulceration¹. It was demonstrated that roselle can be used as fragrant, antispasmodic drink and anti-hypertensive as well as anthelmintic in taeniasis and anti-bacterial agent². An aqueous extract of roselle was reported to be an effective diuretic in patients with urologic disorders³. The present study was undertaken to evaluate roselle for its anti-ulcer activity. Roselle mucilage fraction (RMF) was isolated and examined in experimentally ulcerated rats. Oral administration of the RMF from 125 - 500 mg/kg significantly inhibited gastric ulcer formation induced by indomethacin, ethanol and hypothermic restraint-stress. Anti-gastric secretory effect of the RMF in pylorus-ligated rats was not clearly demonstrated since the gastric volume, pH and acidity output were not affected by the RMF pretreatment in a dose-related manner. In ethanol-induced ulcerated rats, gastric wall mucus content was markedly preserved by the RMF pretreatment. The findings indicate that roselle mucilage possesses gastroprotective potential.

References

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