

ISSN-0975-7058

Vol 16, Special Issue 3, 2024

Original Article

HAIR TONIC OF BROCCOLI (*BRASSICA OLERACEA* VAR. ITALICA) EXTRACT: FORMULATION, PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTIC, STABILITY AND HAIR GROWTH ACTIVITY TEST

BENNI ISKANDAR^{1,2,3,4}, PRICELLA AQWILLA GINTING^{5,6}, ENDANG S. SITORUS⁶, AKHMAD FAJRI WIDODO⁷, CHING-PENG WEI^{1,2,3}, LENY^{6*}

¹School of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy, Taipei Medical University, Taipei-11031, Taiwan. ²MD Research Itd, 25 Indescon Square London, London-110301, United Kingdom. ³BioMed Laboratories Itd, Cardif, Wales MTWRA-2109, United Kingdom. ⁴Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Farmasi Riau (STIFAR), Pekanbaru-28289, Indonesia. ⁵Department Pharmacology-Clinic, School of Pharmacy, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Bandung-40135, Indonesia. ⁶Faculty of Pharmacy and Health, Institut Kesehatan Helvetia, Medan-20124, Indonesia. ⁷Institute of Injury Prevention and Control, College of Public Health, Taipei Medical University, Taipei-11031, Taiwan ^{*}Corresponding author: Leny; *Email: leny@helvetia.ac.id

Received: 18 Oct 2023, Revised and Accepted: 10 Jun 2024

ABSTRACT

Objective: Hair loss is a common scalp concern for both men and women. Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) is a vegetable plant in the cabbage family or brassicaceae that has antioxidant activity and levels of flavonoids that can encourage hair growth. Hair tonic is one of cosmetic products that contain ingredients to nourish hair. The purpose of this study was to investigate the physical stability and activity of hair development in hair tonic preparations using broccoli stalks extracted at different concentrations of 30%, 35%, and 40%, followed by an examination of the hair growth activity test in an animal model.

Methods: This study hair tonic was prepared with Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica), the sample used the broccoli stalks, which was taken by purposive sampling. Evaluation of the preparation includes physical characteristic observation, pH examination, homogeneity of the preparation, irritation test, and stability test of the preparation using a cycling test, and check the activity test of hair growth in rats' skin.

Results: The results showed that the hair tonic preparation containing broccoli stalks extracts was stable at a temperature ($4 °C \pm 40 °C$) where the odor, color, shape, homogeneity, and pH remained constant. In statistical testing using ANOVA analysis, each group of the hair tonic formula of broccoli stalks extract showed hair growth activity in male white rats. The hair tonic formulation containing 40% broccoli stalks extract had better hair growth activity compared to the 30% and 35% formula groups. The hair tonic prepared from broccoli extract is confirmed safe for use after successfully passing the skin irritation test.

Conclusion: The hair tonic of broccoli extracts had met the standard of physical characteristics during storage time and it has a good activity test on hair growth in male white rats. This study provides a novel formulation in hair growth.

Keywords: Hair Tonic, Broccoli (Brassica oleracea var. Italica), Hair loss

© 2024 The Authors. Published by Innovare Academic Sciences Pvt Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.22159/ijap.2024.v16s3.01 Journal homepage: https://innovareacademics.in/journals/index.php/ijap

INTRODUCTION

Hair has a crucial role for living creatures, evident from its function as protection from adverse surroundings, including cold or hot temperatures and ultraviolet light. Human hair serves a dual purpose, functioning as both a protective barrier and a prominent aesthetic feature. Improving one's physical appearance, especially by having attractive hair, frequently results in a significant increase in an individual's self-confidence [1-3]. Adults encounter hairrelated issues, one of which is alopecia. Alopecia is the reduction in the quantity of hair follicles on the scalp. This condition can be attributed to hormonal imbalances, adverse reactions to medicines, dietary factors, and psychological stress [4-6]. Hair loss is a common occurrence that can diminish one's aesthetic appeal. Shielding the body and head from external elements [7, 8]. Decreasing the amount of hair on the head can lead to psychological distress, particularly among women. If the number of strands of hair lost every day surpasses 100, hair loss is considered to be serious [9-12]. The causes of hair loss are diverse, classified as endogenous due to systemic diseases, hormonal imbalances, nutritional state. intoxication, or genetic abnormalities, and exogenous due to environmental stimuli or hair cosmetics [10, 13, 14].

Currently, there is a wide range of hair tonic solutions available in the market, derived from both natural and synthetic chemical compounds as well as herbal substances [15-17]. The primary purpose of hair tonic is to enhance blood circulation in the scalp, hence preventing hair loss, promoting hair growth, preventing dandruff and itching, and imparting a revitalizing sensation to the scalp [18-20]. According to regulations set forth by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), hair tonic is a cosmetic product that is utilized for the purpose of

promoting hair development. The hair tonic formulation consists of solvents, helpful ingredients, vasodilators that widen blood vessels to promote hair growth, hormones (both cosmetic and pharmaceutical preparations), anti-peptic agents, and fragrances [3, 14, 21]. Broccoli, scientifically known as Brassica oleracea var. Italica, is an annual plant classified under the Brassicaceae family. It is closely related to other vegetables such as Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, and kale. The term "broccoli" is derived from the Italian word "broccolo," which refers to the flowering head of a cabbage [22-24]. Broccoli originated in the eastern Mediterranean region and was then imported to America and England during the 17th century, and to China in the late 1900s [25]. Broccoli (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) is a plant that is often chosen to be combined with other fiber-rich plants due to its high content of vitamins and minerals [26, 27]. The content of vitamins includes vitamin A, C, E, K, B1, and B6, which are sufficiently high to be combined with functional fibers that can cause unavailability of nutrients such as fat-soluble vitamins [28, 29]. The broccoli stalk (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) contains chemical compounds such as flavonoids, sesquiterpenes, monoterpenes, and steroids [30]. The flavonoid present in the stalks of Broccoli (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) can stimulate hair growth by inducing muscle relaxation in the blood vessels and surrounding hair follicles [31, 32]. The residual produce of Broccoli (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) is eliminated after processing [33], Broccoli stalks, scientifically known as Brassica oleracea var. Italica retains their fiber, vitamin C, and phenolic components. The author is intrigued by the potential advantages of the extract derived from the Broccoli stalks (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) and aims to create hair tonic formulations using this extract. The objective is to evaluate the hair growth activity in male white rat through experimentation [20, 23, 29, 30]. The broccoli stalks (Brassica *oleracea* var. Italica) were used to create a solution-based hair tonic in this investigation. The hair tonic solution was selected for its ease of application and non-sticky nature, which prevents the production of crusts that may contribute to dandruff formation [34-36].

This study aimed to formulate a hair tonic containing Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) in various concentrations, observing its physical stability and testing its activity of hair growth on rats' skin.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Broccoli stalk (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) obtained from North Sumatra, Indonesia with a determination certificate number: 6076/MEDA/2021 by Herbarium Medanese (MEDA) University of North Sumatera, Indonesia. Stearic acid (Sigma Aldrich, St. Iouis, MO, USA), cetyl alcohol (Honeywell, UK), sorbitol (Sigma Aldrich, St. Iouis, MO, USA), propylene glycol, triethanolamine (J. T Baker), methyl paraben (Sigma Aldrich, St. Iouis, MO, USA), distilled water, perfume, ethanol 96% (Honeywell, UK).

Tools

The tools used in this research include a pH meter (Jenco, San Diego, USA), a rotary evaporator (Heidolph instrument), a stirrer, rat rearing equipment (rat cages, food containers and drinking containers), calipers to measure length rat hair, dropper pipette, spatula, glassware and extraction equipment (blender, filter paper, funnel).

Extraction of Brassica oleracea var. Italica

Macerate the refined heads of 3000 g of Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) with 75 parts of 70% ethanol solvent for 5 d, during the process place them in a cool place while stirring occasionally, filter the maserate using a funnel and paper to produce a filtrate and residue. 70% ethanol until 100 parts are obtained (25 parts remaining solvent), leave for 2 d in a cool place while stirring occasionally, filter the results of the remaceration using a funnel and filter paper to produce a filtrate and residue, collect the filtrate from the results of the first maceration and remaceration, Concentrate with a rotary evaporator until a thick extract is obtained [37, 38].

Phytochemical screening

Alkaloid test

Few mg of extract was taken in 5 ml of 1.5% v/v hydrochloric acid and filtered. These filtrates were then used for testing alkaloids.

Dragendorff's test: Dragendorff's reagent was added in 2 ml of filtrate. Formation of orange-brown precipitate indicated the presence of alkaloids.

Mayer's test: To a 1 ml of test filtrate in a watch glass, a few drops of Mayers reagent were added. If the formation of cream colored precipitate it shows the presence of alkaloids.

Flavonoid test

Add a few drops of 37% HCl and add Mg powder. The test results showed that extract was positive for flavonoids if indicated by the red color produced after the HCl reagent and Mg were added.

Terpenoid test

In a test tube containing 2 ml of chloroform, 0.5 ml of extract was added. This is then followed by the addition of 3 ml conc. $\rm H_2SO_4$ which forms a layer. Reddish brown coloration of the interface indicates terpenoids.

Steroid test

Salkowski test

10 mg of extract was dissolved in 2 ml of chloroform and 2 ml of concentrated sulphuric acid was added from the side of the test tube. Test tube was shaken for a few minutes. The development of red color in the chloroform layer indicated the presence of steroids.

Liebermann-Burchard test

1 ml of concentrated sulphuric acid was added to 10 mg of extract in 1 ml of chloroform. A reddish-blue color exhibited by the chloroform layer and green fluorescence by the acid layer suggests the presence of steroids.

Saponin test

1 ml solution of extract was diluted with distilled water to 20 ml and shaken in a graduated cylinder for 15 min. Development of stable foam suggests the presence of saponins.

Tannin test

The test extract was taken in water, warmed and filtered. 5 ml of filtrate was allowed to react with 1 ml of 5% FeCl₃ solution. If dark green or deep blue color is obtained, it indicates the presence of tannins.

Formulation and characterization of hair tonic

The formula used in making this hair tonic preparation uses a modified hair tonic formula of 30, 35, and 40% of extract. Then as a comparison, a negative (blank) and a positive control (minoxidil 2%) were tested against the rats. The hair tonic preparation formula is in the form of a solution. The process of making hair tonic begins with weighing tween 80, dissolving it with distilled water, stirring until dissolved (mixture 1), weighing the thick extract of Broccoli stalks (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) then dissolving it with mixture 1 until completely dissolved (mixture 2). Weighed the sodium metabisulfite, dissolved it in distilled water until it dissolves, then mix it into mixture no. 2 and stir until homogeneous (mixture 3). Weighed methyl paraben and menthol, dissolved each in ethanol until dissolved, then mixed the two, stirred homogeneously (mixture 4). Weighed propylene glycol, added propylene glycol little by little into mixture no. 4, stirred until homogeneous. Incorporate mixture no. 3 into mixture no. 4 gradually, stirring until a uniform consistency is achieved. Next, scent was added and adjusted the volume by adding distilled water [15, 35, 39, 40].

Table 1: Formula modification of hair tonic preparation for broccoli stalks (Brassica oleracea var. Italica

No	Ingredients	F0 (0%)	F1 (%)	F2 (%)	F3 (%)	Function
1.	Broccoli stalks extracts (%)	-	30	35	40	Active Ingredient
2.	Ethanol 70% (ml)	30	30	30	30	Solvent
3.	Na. Metabisulfite (g)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	Preservative
4.	Methyl paraben (g)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	Preservative
5.	Menthol (g)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Vasodilator
6.	Tween 80 (ml)	2	2	2	2	Emulsifier
7.	Propylene glycol (g)	15	15	15	15	Humectant
8.	Parfume (ml)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	Fragrance
9.	Aquadest (ml)	52.59	22.59	17.59	12.59	Solvent

Physical characteristics of Brassica oleracea var. Italica hair tonic

Conducting tests on the physical qualities and characteristics of hair tonic formulations is a crucial step to perform once the formulation is prepared. The physical properties include the pH tests, homogeneity assessment, organoleptic evaluations and stability measurements [35, 41, 42].

Irritation test

A skin irritation test is conducted to observe the occurrence of erythema and edema by applying 2 drops of hair tonic into the skin area and then observed for 24 h. The observation of the irritation test includes the redness of skin, erythema and edema [43, 44]. The animal has received approval from ethical clearance with number: 0697/KEPH-FMIPA/2021 Animal Research Ethics Committees (AREC) by University of North Sumatra, Indonesia.

Stability test

Physical stability tests were conducted by subjecting hair tonic preparations to storage temperatures of 4 °C and 40 °C using a cycle test. The samples were initially stored at a temperature of 4 °C for a duration of 24 h. Preparations were then transferred to a drying cabinet set at a temperature of 40 °C for another 24 h. This process, known as one cycle, lasted a total of 48 h. A total of 6 cycles were conducted over a span of 12 d. Each cycle involved evaluating the preparation through organoleptic observation, pH test, and the homogeneity of the preparations [45].

Preparation of animal testing

The study utilized 15 male white rats as tested animals. Rats were separated into 5 groups with a total 3 rats assigned to each group. Rats used in this study were *Rattus norvegicus* domestica aged above 2 months old, weighed about 450 g each. The rats were acclimatized for 3 d (72 h) prior for use in experiment. A 1×1 cm patch in the middle of the rat's back is shaved to measure the weight and length of its hair. A treatment box was constructed utilizing a marker. Depilatory lotion was applied to permanently remove hair from each rat. The cream was left on for 24 h. Afterward, hair tonic preparation was applied once daily to the rear of the male white rats for 21 d [20].

For the complete group of animal testing please see table 2.



Fig. 1: (A) the rat's hair is shaved to a length of 1×1 cm. (B) Rat is treated with hair tonic

Table 2: Treatment group for rat hair growth activity test

Formulation	Animal	Treatment
	tested	
F0 (Negative control)	3	A blank was dropped that did not contain Broccoli stalks (Brassica oleracea var. Italica) extract.
F1	3	A hair tonic preparation containing 30% Broccoli stalks (<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. Italica) extract was applied.
F2	3	A hair tonic preparation containing 35% Broccoli stalks (<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. Italica) extract was applied.
F3 Positive control	3	A hair tonic preparation containing 40% Broccoli stalks (<i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. Italica) extract was applied.
	3	2% of minoxidil

Hair growth activity test of male white rat

The animal has received approval from ethical clearance with number: 0697/KEPH-FMIPA/2021 Animal Research Ethics Committees (AREC) by University of North Sumatera. The test formulation was administered topically on the rat's dorsal region, with a dosage of up to 1 ml each day for a duration of 21 d. For the negative control, hair tonic without Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) extract was applied to the backs of rats labelled 1, 2, and 3. Formula 1 consisted of a hair tonic comprising 30% extract of Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica), which was applied to the backs of rats numbered 4, 5, and 6. A hair tonic mixture containing 35% extract of Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) was applied to the backs of rats numbered 7, 8, and 9. A hair tonic formulation, known as Formula 3 containing 40% extract of Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica). Was applied to the backs of rats numbered 10, 11, and 12. Minoxidil, a

hair tonic, was applied as a positive control on the backs of rats numbered 13, 14, and 15 [20, 46].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Phytochemical screening results

The ultimate yield obtained from 20 kg of fresh Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) raw material was 3000 gram of dry weight, resulting in a yield of 15%. The maceration method was employed to extract compounds from 3 kg of Broccoli heads (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) using 30 liters of 70% ethanol solvent. The resulting extract was concentrated using a rotary evaporator and the thick extract obtained was 350 g with a yield of 11.6%. Fresh Broccoli, dried Broccoli stalks and extract of Broccoli stalks can be seen in fig. 2. Table 3 displays the data from the phytochemical screening test conducted on the extract of Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica). The phytochemical screening test for Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) extract indicates the presence of flavonoids, alkaloids, terpenoids, steroids and saponins.



Fig. 2: (A) Fresh brocolli, (B) Fresh brocolli stalks. (C) Dried broccoli stalks, (D) Extract

Screening test	Reagent test	Result	
Alkaloid	Dragendorff	+	
	Maeyer	+	
Flavonoid	Mg. HCL	-	
Terpenoid	H ₂ SO ₄	+	
Steroid	Liberman-Burchard	-	
	Salkowaski	+	
Saponin	Aquadest	+	
Tanin	FeCl ₃	-	

Table 3: Phytochemical screening results of Brassica oleracea var. italica

NB:+: Positive.-: Negative

Organoleptic inspection

Organoleptic observations of the three hair tonic formulas showed that the resulting preparations were not transparent. This is due to the use of *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica, which is a thick extract so that the resulting color is thick. Organoleptic examination serves to determine the appearance of hair tonic, color and aroma, which is carried out visually during 6 storage cycles, namely for 12 d. Organoleptic testing was carried out in each cycle, where 1 cycle consisted of storage at a temperature of 4 °C for 24 h and a temperature of 40 °C for 24 h. The results of the hair tonic organoleptic test can be seen in table 4 and fig. 3.

Formulation	Test	_ Cycle						
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Shape	Liquid						
F0	Smell	Distinctive						
	Color	Clear						
F1	Shape	Liquid						
	Smell	Distinctive						
	Color	Light brown						
F2	Shape	Liquid						
	Smell	Distinctive						
	Color	Dark brown						
F3	Shape	Liquid						
	Smell	Distinctive						
	Color	Dark brown						



Fig. 3: Hair tonic of 30%, 35%, 40% and 0% of *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica extract

The organoleptic examination results indicate that the hair tonic preparation in F0 (0% extract) is in a liquid form with a transparent color and a noticeable menthol fragrance. F1 hair tonic is created by incorporating a 30% concentration of *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica stalks extract, this tonic is in liquid form, has a light brown hue and possesses a unique aroma. By incorporating 35% extract of the *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica stalks (F2) showed tonic is in liquid form, has a dark brown color, and possesses a unique aroma. F3 is made by using 40% extract from the Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) resulting in a liquid hair tonic with dark brown color and is characterized by a unique aroma. From 0 to 6 cycles of

stability tests (12 d), there were no discernible alterations in terms of viscosity, color and fragrance [20, 47, 48].

The organoleptic test is a visual examination that encompasses the assessment of form, odor, and color. The experiment was conducted utilizing the cycling test methodology. Specifically involving 6 cycles. Organoleptic observations were conducted from the initial cycle to the sixth cycle. Organoleptic analysis was conducted on hair tonic formulations to assess the stability of the product in terms of its physical appearance, color, and fragrance. The organoleptic test indicated that the preparation remained unchanged in terms of form, aroma, and color. While being subjected to different temperatures. Specifically 4 °C and 40 °C. The hair tonic preparation. Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica). Passes the hair tonic quality test based on the organoleptic evaluation [48].

The organoleptic test is a visual examination that encompasses the characteristics of shape. Fragrance and color. The test was conducted utilizing the cycling test method, namely with 6 cycles. Organoleptic observations were conducted from the initial cycle to the sixth cycle. The hair tonic formulation without extract (F0) appears transparent upon observation. The 30% concentration exhibits a light brown color, while the 35% and 40% concentrations showed a dark brown hue. Among the four formulations. There is no indication of a change in color from cycle 0 to cycle 6. The color in the hair tonic mixture at concentrations of 30%, 35%, and 40% is derived from the addition of stalks extracted from the Brassica oleracea var. Italica. The form observed at concentrations of 30%, 35%, and 40% exhibits a liquid form. The formulation of hair tonic remains stable from cycle 0 to cycle 6 during the stability tests. The odor of the hair tonic derived from the fragrance added in formula and did not change in cycles 0 to 6 during the stability test.

pH test

The pH test results for the hair tonic preparation of Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) are displayed in fig. 4. The test findings indicated that F0, F1, F2, and F3 exhibited pH values within the range of 5-6.5. The test results indicate that hair tonic in F0, F1, F2, and F3 meet the quality criteria for skin preparation. Namely within the pH range of 4-7 [20, 47].



Fig. 4: pH test result of *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica hair tonic (n=3). Error bars indicate the SD values.

Conducting a pH test on the hair tonic formulation, the extract of the broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) was produced at a pH level ranging from 5 to 6.5. The purpose of the pH test is to determine the level of acidity in the hair tonic preparation, ensuring its safety and non-irritating properties for the skin. The hair tonic preparation was subjected to a cycle test method for 12 d, with temperatures maintained at 4 °C and 40 °C. The pH of the

preparation remained constant during the test period. The pH test findings indicate that all formulations meet the hair tonic quality standards. As they have a pH within the range of 4-7. Extreme pH levels, whether very high or very low, can enhance the skin's ability to absorb substances, thereby leading to skin irritation. The hair tonic preparation. Formulated with Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica), stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) has a pH value ranging from 5 to 6.5. This pH range ensures that the hair tonic preparation meets the necessary parameters (fig. 4).

Homogeneity test

The homogeneity test is conducted by applying the preparation onto a glass plate and observing for any presence of non-uniformly dispersed particles. The homogeneity observations yielded data which are presented in table 5. This examination was conducted by observing the formulation of the hair tonic. The hair tonic is considered to meet the homogeneity criteria when it does not contain any particles. Uncombined components or clumps in its formulation or stable after 6 cycles [49].

The homogeneity test findings of hair tonic preparations obtained at F0, F1, F2, and F3 indicate that the preparations are homogeneous [45]. This is evidenced by the absence of lumpy sections, equal color distribution, and the absence of lumpy particles. Based on the results of the homogeneity test, it was determined that the hair tonic preparation fulfilled the criteria.

Irritation test

Data on the results of the irritation test for the Hair Tonic preparation Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) can be seen in table 6. Based on the results of the irritation test carried out, it shows that F0, F1, F2, F3 do not cause skin irritation such as redness, erythema and edema.

Table 5: Homogeneity test results for hair tonic preparation of broccoli stalk extracts

Formula	Test	Cycles							
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	
F0	Homogeneity	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
F1	Homogeneity	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
F2	Homogeneity	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
F3	Homogeneity	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	

Note: S: Stable; NS: Not Stable

Table 6: Irritation test

Formula	Observation	Animals				
		Ι	II	III		
F0	А	-	-	-		
	В	-	-	-		
	С	•	-	-		
F1	А	-	-	-		
	В	-	-	-		
	С	-	-	-		
F2	А	-	-	-		
	В	-	-	-		
	С	-	-	-		
F3	А	-	-	-		
	В	-	-	-		
	С	-	-	-		

A: Redness. B: Erythema C: Edema

Hair tonic is a recurring preparation that is applied daily; hence its safety, efficacy, and the usage of hair tonic are compromised when it induces adverse skin reactions such as redness, erythema, and edema. Irritation test is needed to ascertain the presence or absence of a skin reaction in the form of irritation. Observation of irritation entails the examination of alterations in the skin such as redness, erythema, and edema subsequent to the application of hair tonic. According to the results of the irritation test (table 6), it was determined that the application of preparations F0, F1, F2, and F3 did not cause any adverse effects such as redness, erythema, and edema on the skin. The safety of Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) hair tonic preparation has been confirmed by the irritation test.

Test the activity of hair tonic preparations on hair growth

Data on the average growth of rat hair length per treatment per week can be seen in fig. 5 below. The hair growth activity test is

assessed using the mean hair growth test outcomes [50]. This experiment aimed to assess the impact of different concentrations of Broccoli stalks (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) extract on the rate of hair growth in rats. Measurements of hair length in rat were conducted on the 7th, 14th, and 21st d. The rat's hair was measured using a digital caliper [20, 32]. The hair growth measurements were subsequently subjected to statistical analysis using the ANOVA test to determine if there were any significant variations between the test region and the positive control. The One-Way ANOVA test results indicate a P value of<0.05 (P-0.000). Indicating a significant difference between the treatment groups. In various previous studies, it has been established that the utilization of alkaloid compounds present in the broccoli plant has demonstrated a positive impact and response in the process of hair growth. Therefore, as the percentage of broccoli extract in the hair tonic increases, there is an improvement in the hair growth rate observed from the 7th w, 14th w, up to the 21st w [21, 34, 51].



Fig. 5: Result of hair tonic formulation on rats hair growth in day 0, day 7, day 14, and day 21

ANOVA test results on day 21

The results of data processing show that the control (+) has a significant difference in hair growth compared to the control (-), F1, F2 where the significance value is<0.05, but does not show a significant difference to F3. F1 shows a significant difference to the other four formulas where the significance value is<0.05. F2 has a significant difference to positive control (+). Negative control (-) and F1, but does not show a significant difference to F1 and control (-) but there is no significant difference to F1 and control (-) but there is no significant difference to F2 and control (+) with a significance value of>0.05. This shows that Broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) has activity on growth hair was not much different from the positive control and it could be concluded that Formula 3 (40%) was the most effective in rat hair growth (fig. 6).



Fig. 6: Result of hair tonic formulation on representation of statistical fig. after day 7, day 14, and day 21(n=3)

CONCLUSION

The utilization of broccoli stalks extract (*Brassica oleracea* var. Italica) enables the production of a hair tonic formulation that

maintains its stability over time and successfully meets the physical criteria for hair tonic preparations. The extract obtained from the *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica. commonly referred to as broccoli stalks, has the capacity to promote hair development. The most effective formula for stimulating rat hair growth is the extract obtained from 40% of the stalks from *Brassica oleracea* var. Italica.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are grateful to the instrumentation in Institute Kesehatan Helvetia Medan laboratory and Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Farmasi Riau (STIFAR). Respectively, the Core Facility Center of MD Research ltd london and BioMed laboratories ltd Cardif (United Kingdom).

FUNDING

Nil

AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS

Benni Iskandar: Conceptualization, methodology, Investigation, data curation, writing. Pricella Aqwilla Ginting: Writing-review and editing, funding. Endang S. Sitorus: Methodology, investigation, data curation. Writing review and editing. Akhmad Fajri Widodo: Writing-review and editing, data curation. Wei-Ching Peng: writing-review and editing, data curation. leny: Conceptualization, supervision, writing-review and editing, acquisition.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors have no conflict of interest associated with the material presented in this paper.

REFERENCES

- Kwon Y, Park J, Seol H, Lee S, Ryeom GG, Heo C, Kang S. lB1680 effects of *Ganoderma lucidum* extract and its active component, ganoderic acid a on hair loss prevention. J Invest Dermatol. 2023;143(9):B11.
- Meeker TJ, Schmid AC, Keaser ML, Khan SA, Gullapalli RP, Dorsey SG. Tonic pain alters functional connectivity of the

descending pain modulatory network involving amygdala, periaqueductal gray, parabrachial nucleus and anterior cingulate cortex. Neuroimage. 2022;256:119278. doi: 10.1016/j.neuroimage.2022.119278, PMID 35523367.

- Okole B, Pillai SK, Ndzotoyi P, Phasha V. Use of herbal extractbased nanoemulsions for hair care application. In: Nanotechnology for the preparation of cosmetics using plantbased extracts. Elsevier; 2022 Jan 1. p. 203-33.
- Han S, Jang HS, Shim JH, Kang M, lee Y, Park JS, Kim M, Abudureyimu G, lee D, Koo H. Development of minoxidil-loaded double emulsion PLGA nanoparticles for the treatment of hair loss. Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. 2022;113:161-9.
- Martins Ferreira L, Binz T, Yegles M. The influence of ethanolcontaining cosmetics on ethyl glucuronide concentration in hair. Forensic Sci Int. 2012;218(1-3):123-5. doi: 10.1016/j.forsciint.2011.10.015, PMID 22051770.
- Sayyad S, Midhunchakkaravarthy D, Sayyad F. Deep review on alopecia areata diagnosis for hair loss related autoimmune disorder problem. Int J App Pharm. 2022;14:8-12. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2022.v14ti.19.
- Rajput M, Kumar N. Medicinal plants: a potential source of novel bioactive compounds showing antimicrobial efficacy against pathogens infecting hair and scalp. Gene Rep. 2020;21:100879. doi: 10.1016/j.genrep.2020.100879.
- Norooznezhad AH, Yarani R, Payandeh M, Hoseinkhani Z, Mahmoudi H, Kiani S. Treatment of persistent chemotherapyinduced hair loss (alopecia) with human mesenchymal stromal cells exosome enriched extracellular vesicles: a case report. Heliyon. 2023;9(4):e15165. doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e15165, PMID 37095978.
- Kumar V, Charde V, Prasad SB, Gandhi Y, Mishra SK, Rawat H. Therapeutic potential of evergreen maiden hair fern Adiantum venustum D. don: a comprehensive review. Food Chem Adv. 2023 Dec 1;3:100439. doi: 10.1016/j.focha.2023.100439.
- Makhlouf A, Elnawawy T. Hair regrowth boosting via minoxidil cubosomes: formulation development, *in vivo* hair regrowth evaluation, histopathological examination and confocal laser microscopy imaging. Int J Pharm. 2023;634:122665. doi: 10.1016/j.ijpharm.2023.122665, PMID 36736676.
- 11. Sharannavar B, Amonkar MB, Inamdar P, Kulkarni M. Formulation and evaluation of a topical gel containing minoxidil and tofacitinib citrate for *alopecia areata*. Int J App Pharm. 2023;15(5):75-83. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2023v15i5.45798.
- 12. Korassa YB, Saptarini NM, Mustarichie R, Hendriani R, Ola AR, Novicadlitha Y. Kapitan IAV. Anti-alopecia activity of moringa (*Moringa oleifera* lamk.) seed oil against dihydrotestosteroneinduced rabbits. Int J Appl Pharm. 2023;15(2):19-24.
- Hussein RS, Dayel SB, Abahussein O. Botulinum toxin a for hair loss treatment: a systematic review of efficacy, safety, and future directions. JPRAS Open. 2023;38:296-304. doi: 10.1016/j.jpra.2023.09.006, PMID 38021319.
- Wu Y, Zhang J, liu Q, Miao Z, Chai R, Chen W. Development of Chinese herbal medicine for sensorineural hearing loss. Acta Pharm Sin B. 2024;14(2):455-67. doi: 10.1016/j.apsb.2023.11.001, PMID 38322328.
- Arndt T, Schrofel S, Stemmerich K. Ethyl glucuronide identified in commercial hair tonics. Forensic Sci Int. 2013;231(1-3):195-8. doi: 10.1016/j.forsciint.2013.05.010, PMID 23890636.
- 16. Iraqui P, Das MK. Herbal cosmeceuticals for beauty and skin therapy. In: Nanocosmeceuticals. Academic Press; 2022 Jan 1. p. 453-80.
- Chakraborty A, bhattacharjee A, chakraborty M, Mukhopadhyay G. Process validation of beta-sitosterol hair gel formulation and evaluation of 5 alpha reductase inhibition *in vitro* for the treatment of androgenetic alopecia. Int J App Pharm. 2023;15(2):146-52. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2023v15i2.46757.
- Tinoco A, Martins M, Cavaco Paulo A, Ribeiro A. Biotechnology of functional proteins and peptides for hair cosmetic formulations. Trends Biotechnol. 2022;40(5):591-605. doi: 10.1016/j.tibtech.2021.09.010, PMID 34666897.
- Pereira Silva M, Martins AM, Sousa Oliveira I, Ribeiro HM, Veiga F, Marto J. Nanomaterials in hair care and treatment. Acta

Biomater. 2022;142:14-35. doi: 10.1016/j.actbio.2022.02.025, PMID 35202853.

- Rosalina AI, Iskandarsyah E, Sagita E. Placenta extract-loaded novasome significantly improved hair growth in a rat *in vivo* model. Int J App Pharm. 2023;15(3):138-45. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2023v15i3.47459.
- Ali E, Owais R, Sheikh A, Shaikh A. Olumniant (Baricitinib) oral tablets: an insight into FDA-approved systemic treatment for *alopecia areata*. Ann Med Surg (Lond). 2022;80:104157. doi: 10.1016/j.amsu.2022.104157, PMID 36045780.
- 22. Li H, Xia Y, Liu HY, Guo H, He XQ, Liu Y. Nutritional values, beneficial effects, and food applications of broccoli (Brassica oleracea var. italica Plenck). Trends Food Sci Technol. 2022;119:288-308. doi: 10.1016/j.tifs.2021.12.015.
- Pacheco Cano RD, Salcedo Hernandez R, Lopez Meza JE, Bideshi DK, Barboza-Corona JE. Antimicrobial activity of broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. italica) cultivar Avenger against pathogenic bacteria, phytopathogenic filamentous fungi and yeast. J Appl Microbiol. 2018;124(1):126-35. doi: 10.1111/jam.13629, PMID 29112318.
- Makky AM, El-Leithy ES, Hussein DG, Khattab A. Skin targeting of an optimized caffeine nanostructured lipid carrier with improved efficiency against chemotherapy-induced alopecia. Int J App Pharm. 2022;14(4):235-50. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2022v14i4.44681.
- Li Z, Mei Y, liu Y, Fang Z, Yang L, Zhuang M. The evolution of genetic diversity of broccoli cultivars in China since 1980. Sci Hortic. 2019 May 10;250:69-80. doi: 10.1016/j.scienta.2019.02.034.
- 26. Villano D, Lopez Chillon MT, Zafrilla P, Moreno DA. Bioavailability of broccoli sprouts in different human overweight populations. J Funct Foods. 2019;59:337-44. doi: 10.1016/j.jff.2019.05.052.
- 27. Szymandera Buszka K, Piechocka J, Zaremba A, Przeor M, Jędrusek Golinska A. Pumpkin, cauliflower and broccoli as new carriers of thiamine compounds for food fortification. Foods. 2021;10(3):578. doi: 10.3390/foods10030578, PMID 33801931.
- Petkowicz CL, Williams PA. Pectins from food waste: characterization and functional properties of a pectin extracted from broccoli stalk. Food Hydrocoll. 2020;107:105930. doi: 10.1016/j.foodhyd.2020.105930.
- Radosevic K, Srcek VG, Bubalo MC, Rimac Brncic SR, Takacs K, Redovnikovic IR. Assessment of glucosinolates, antioxidative and antiproliferative activity of broccoli and collard extracts. J Food Compos Anal. 2017;61:59-66. doi: 10.1016/j.jfca.2017.02.001.
- 30. Traka MH, Melchini A, Coode Bate J, Al Kadhi O, Saha S, Defernez M. Transcriptional changes in prostate of men on active surveillance after a 12-mo glucoraphanin-rich broccoli intervention-results from the effect of sulforaphane on prostate cancer prevention (ESCAPE) randomized controlled trial. Am J Clin Nutr. 2019;109(4):1133-44. doi: 10.1093/ajcn/nqz012, PMID 30982861.
- Gonzalez Hidalgo I, Moreno DA, Garcia Viguera C, Ros Garcia JM. Effect of industrial freezing on the physical and nutritional quality traits in broccoli. Food Sci Technol Int. 2019;25(1):56-65. doi: 10.1177/1082013218795807, PMID 30153746.
- Rahmi IA, Mun'im A, Jufri M. Formulation and evaluation of phytosome lotion from *Nothopanax scutellarium* leaf extract for hair growth. Int J App Pharm. 2021;13(6):178-85. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2021v13i6.42169.
- 33. Aranaz P, Navarro Herrera D, Romo Hualde A, Zabala M, Lopez Yoldi M, Gonzalez Ferrero C. Broccoli extract improves high fat diet-induced obesity, hepatic steatosis and glucose intolerance in wistar rats. Journal of Functional Foods. 2019;59:319-28. doi: 10.1016/j.jff.2019.05.054.
- 34. De Sousa Vaz AF, dos Santos Ferreira T, Dos Santos DM, Correia ME. Millicomposting: sustainable technique for obtaining organic compost for the cultivation of broccoli seedlings. Cleaner Engineering and Technology. 2022;7:100442.
- 35. Uronnachi E, Atuegwu C, Umeyor C, Nwakile C, Obasi J, Ikeotuonye C. Formulation and evaluation of hair growth enhancing effects of oleogels made from rosemary and cedar

wood oils. Sci Afr. 2022;16:e01223. doi: 10.1016/j.sciaf.2022.e01223.

- 36. Gupta A, Malviya R, Singh TP, Sharma PK. Indian medicinal plants used in hair care cosmetics: a short review. Pharmacogn J. 2010;2(10):361-4. doi: 10.1016/S0975-3575(10)80110-5.
- 37. Raeeszadeh M, Shokrollahi B, Khademi N, Akbari A. Superior effect of broccoli methanolic extract on control of oxidative damage of sperm cryopreservation and reproductive performance in rats: a comparison with vitamin C and E antioxidant. Theriogenology. 2022;181:50-8. doi: 10.1016/j.theriogenology.2022.01.010, PMID 35063921.
- Guo K, Wang L, Mahe J, Li L, Jiao S, Wang H. Effect of aqueous extract of seed of broccoli on inflammatory cytokines and Helicobacter pylori infection: a randomized, double-blind, controlled trial in patients without atrophic gastritis. Inflammopharmacology. 2022;30(5):1659-68. doi: 10.1007/s10787-022-01030-x, PMID 35831736.
- 39. Fang T, Xu R, Sun S, He Y, Yan Y, Fu H. Caizhixuan hair tonic regulates both apoptosis and the PI3K/Akt pathway to treat androgenetic alopecia. Plos One. 2023;18(2):e0282427. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0282427, PMID 36827412.
- Rachitha P, Krishnaswamy K, lazar RA, Gupta VK, Inbaraj BS, Raghavendra VB. Attenuation of hyperlipidemia by medicinal formulations of Emblica officinalis synergized with nanotechnological approaches. Bioengineering (Basel). 2023;10(1):64. doi: 10.3390/bioengineering10010064, PMID 36671636.
- 41. Iskandar B, Karsono SJ. Preparation of spray nanoemulsion and cream containing vitamin E as antiaging product tested *in vitro* and *in vivo* method. Int J Pharmtech Res. 2016;9(6):307-8.
- 42. Iskandar B, Novita G, Annisa FF, Hafiz I, Surboyo MD, Lee CK. Evaluation of physical quality and antioxidant activity of ethanol extract of moringa leaves (*Moringa oleifera* IAM) formulated in emulgel preparation. Res J Pharm Technol. 2022;15(6):2703-8.
- Kongkon P, Pichayakorn W, Sanohkan S. Evaluation of *in vivo* bond strength and skin irritation test for new skin adhesive. J Oral Biol Craniofac Res. 2023;13(6):731-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jobcr.2023.10.001, PMID 37915313.

- 44. Hashim N, Abdullah S, Hassan LS, Mohamed RM, Mohamed A. Antimicrobial ability and free-irritation effect of neem-based lotion cosmeceutical for skin care. Mater Today Proc. 2023 Feb 6.
- 45. Iskandar B, Putri RS, Novita G, Surboyo MD, Lee CK. Formulation and activity test of sunflower oil (*Helianthus annuus* l.) liquid soap as anti acne. Int J Appl Pharm. 2022;14Special Issue 3:55-9.
- 46. Tsujimoto H, Hara K, Tsukada Y, Huang CC, Kawashima Y, Arakaki M. Evaluation of the permeability of hair growing ingredient encapsulated PLGA nanospheres to hair follicles and their hair growing effects. Bioorg Med Chem Lett. 2007;17(17):4771-7. doi: 10.1016/j.bmcl.2007.06.057, PMID 17658251.
- Iskandar B, lukman A, Syaputra S, Al-Abrori UN, Surboyo MD, Lee CK. Formulation, characteristics and antibacterial effects of *Euphorbia hirta* l. mouthwash. J Taibah Univ Med Sci. 2022;17(2):271-82. doi: 10.1016/j.jtumed.2021.08.009, PMID 35592805.
- 48. Shruthi PA, Pushpadass HA, Magdaline Eljeeva Emerald F, Surendra Nath B, Laxmana Naik N. Formulation and characterization of catechin-loaded proniosomes for food fortification. J Sci Food Agric. 2021;101(6):2439-48. doi: 10.1002/jsfa.10868, PMID 33027542.
- Iskandar B, Mei HC, Liu TW, Lin HM, Lee CK. Evaluating the effects of surfactant types on the properties and stability of oilin-water *Rhodiola rosea* nanoemulsion. Colloids Surf B Biointerfaces. 2024;234:113692. doi: 10.1016/j.colsurfb.2023.113692, PMID 38104466.
- 50. Utami SM, Djajadisastra J, Saputri FC. Using hair growth activity, physical stability, and safety tests to study hair tonics containing ethanol extract of licorice (*Glycyrrhiza glabra* linn.). Int J App Pharm. 2017;9:44-8. doi: 10.22159/ijap.2017.v9s1.20_25.
- 51. Calabrese EJ. Stimulating hair growth via hormesis: experimental foundations and clinical implications. Pharmacol Res. 2020;152:104599. doi: 10.1016/j.phrs.2019.104599, PMID 31857242.