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## Molecular Docking Extract Ginger Clove acts as an Antinacterial in Expression of TLR 2 and TLR 4 Proteins in Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis (RAS)

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### Abstract

This study aims to explore the chemical compounds of ginger and clove as antibacterial. The water molecules and ligands were removed using PyMOL v1.7.4.5 Software (Schrödinger). Molecular docking experiments were performed using the PyRx0.8 software. The expression of TLR2 and TLR4 proteins in Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis has different ligands and binding affinities. Expression of TLR2 protein with peptidoglycan ligand for microbial sources of gram-positive bacteria, while TLR4 has lipopolysaccharide (LPS) ligand for gram negative bacteria. Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) is a major component of the outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria. Peptidoglycan (PGN) recognition proteins (PGRPs) are pattern-recognition receptors of the innate immune system that bind and, in some cases, hydrolyze bacterial PGNs. The result showed that quercetin has greater potential as an antibacterial based on its binding affinity and intermolecular interactions. The binding affinity of quercetin with TLR2 with ginger clove is -5.70, TLR4 protein with ginger clove is -4.60, while binding affinity chlorhexidine (as control) with TLR2 and TLR4 was -7.20. AMES Tests showed that gingerol and eugenol is not potential mutagen and not carcinogens. Druglikeness prediction showed that quercetin fulfil the rules of Lipinski, Ghose, Veber, Egan, and Nuegge.

Keywords: Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis, Ginger, clove, TLR2, TLR4, lipopolysaccharide, Peptidoglycan

## **Introduction**

Toll-Like Receptors (TLRs) are vital components playing important role in pathogen recognition and natural immunity. TLRs recognize microbial structure and transmit this information into the cell, culminating in an inflammatory cytokine response and in co-stimulatory molecule expression involve in induction of adaptive immunity. Failure of the receptor to recognize pathogen may result in recurrent infection in hosts<sup>1</sup>. Oral mucosal cells such as epithelial cells are thought to act as physical barrier against the invasion of pathogenic organism, but they have an ability to produce inflammatory cytokines and express adhesion molecules. Oral epithelial cells are refractory to many bacterial components although they express TLR/MyD88<sup>2</sup>. Epithelium of oral mucosal is the first line of defense against invading pathogens<sup>2,3</sup>. TLR4, along with CD14 and other adaptor molecules, recognize pathogen-associated molecular patterns such as lipopolysaccharides (LPS) from gram negative enteric bacteria. TLR2 along with TLR1/TLR6, recognize gram positive peptidoglycans (eg. From oral commensal).

Minute amounts of LPS released from infecting pathogens can initiate potent innate immune responses that prime the immune system against further infection. However, when the LPS response is not properly controlled it can lead to fatal septic shock syndrome. The common structural pattern of LPS in diverse bacterial species is recognized by a cascade of LPS receptors and accessory proteins, LPS binding protein (LBP) and the Toll-like receptor4 (TLR4) complex.<sup>4</sup> One recent study indicates that both TLR2 and TLR4 positive cells infiltrate the oral mucosa in mucosal health and disease., but very little is understood about the overall expression pattern of PRRs in the human oral mucosal health and in Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis and how they regulate local immune responsiveness<sup>5</sup>.

Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis (RAS) or Recurrent Aphthous Ulcerative (RAU) are the most common oral disease characterized by repeated development of painful ulcers. The etiology of RAS is still unknown. Many local and systemic factors such as viral or bacterial infection, food hypersensitivity, genetic factors, and systemic disease could be involved in the pathogenesis of RAS. Previous study have also suggested that this inflammatory disease is a result of abnormal immune response directed towards the oral mucosal. The Innate immune system also plays a role in several human diseases. The primary function of Toll Like receptors (TLRs) is to recognized pathogens<sup>6</sup>.

Ginger and cloves are herbal plants that are used to treat diseases such as muscle pain, rheumatism, sinusitis, cough, sore throat, diarrhea, cramps, indigestion, loss of appetite, fever, flu, and infectious and non-communicable diseases such as mouth disease (SAR). Clove ginger has stimulant, anesthetic, carminative, antiemetic, antiseptic and antispasmodic properties so that it is feasible to be used as an extract that is useful for human health in general and dental and oral health in particular.<sup>7</sup>

Based on this background, researchers are interested in conducting "molecular docking" of the active compound in clove ginger as an antibacterial in the expression of TLR2 and TLR4 proteins in RAS patients.

## **Materials and Methods**

### **Tools and Materials**

Laptop with Intel® Core™ specifications, 4 GB RAM and graphics card. The software used is the Windows 10 operating system, the Autodock Tools package (The Scripps Research Institute), Open Babel 2.3.3, Autodock Vina, and PyMOL. The hardware device used is an Acer Aspire E Laptop with OS specifications: Windows 8.1, Processor AMD A-Series Quad Core Processor A10-7300 (4 MB L2 cache, RAM 16 GB DDR3L SDRAM. The software uses applications, namely PyMOL, PyRX. The materials used are protein data bank website (<https://www.rsb.org>), PubChem (<https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>), Toxicity Test (<http://lmm.d.ecust.edu.cn>) and Druglikeness Test (<http://www.swissadme.ch>)

### **Preparation**

Preparation of compounds in Dayak onion plants to be used as ligands was obtained through the PubChem website and then downloaded in 3D SDF format. Preparations of TLR2 and TLR4 receptor proteins were obtained through the PDB website (Protein Data Bank), then downloaded in



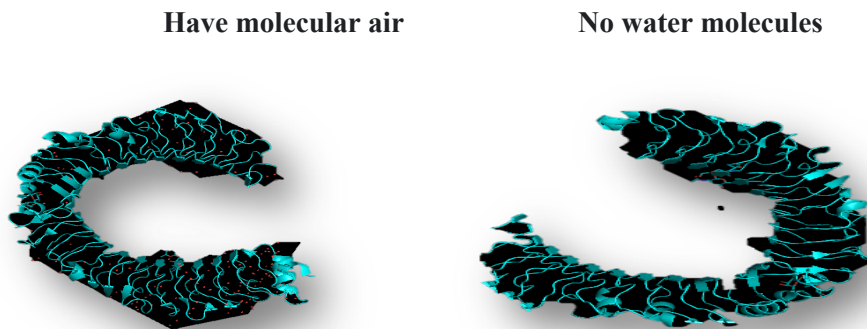
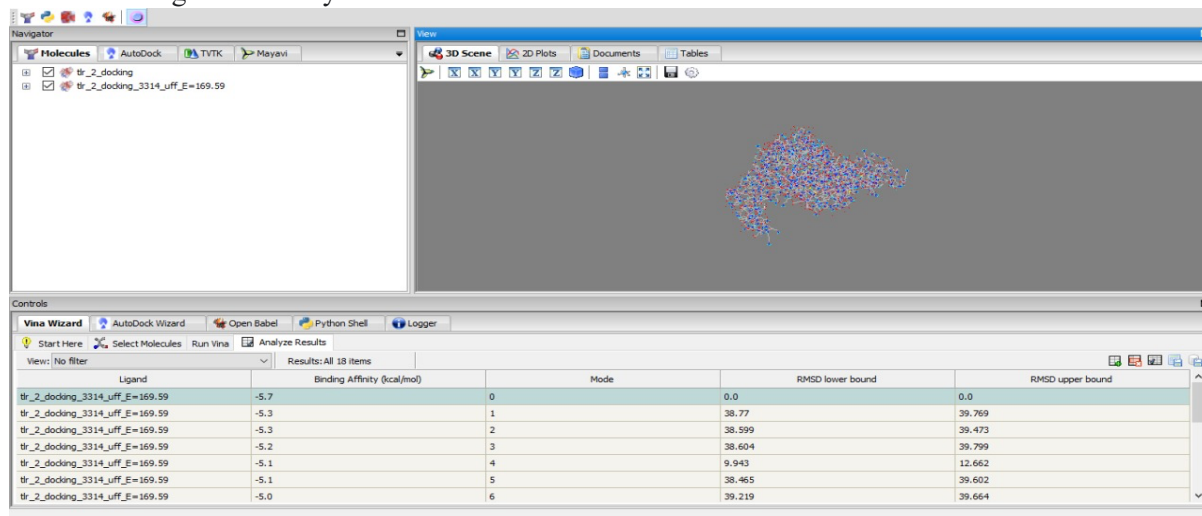


Figure 3. Target Proteins TLR2 (Ligand LPS)

The results of visualization of molecular docking gingerol and eugenol have vander Waals bonds and conventional hydrogen bonds for eugenol, gingerols have conventional hydrogen bonds found in the molecular docking results. Visualization of molecular docking results for eugenol compounds, gingerols with main protein receptors TLR2 and TLR4 in 3D and 2D forms, on residual gingerol and eugenol compounds that act on the active site, namely the van der Waals bond.

Based on the results obtained, gingerol and eugenol showed activity as an antibacterial agent for SAR with the mechanism of inhibition of the SAR protease through the formation of hydrogen bonds with negative affinity.



Ligand	Binding Affinity (kcal/mol)	Mode	RMSD lower bound	RMSD upper bound
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.7	0	0.0	0.0
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.3	1	38.77	39.769
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.3	2	38.599	39.473
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.2	3	38.604	39.799
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.1	4	9.943	12.662
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.1	5	38.465	39.602
thr_2_docking_3314_uuff_E=169.59	-5.0	6	39.219	39.664

Figure 4. Vina Autodocking Process Gingerol compound with TLR2 protein

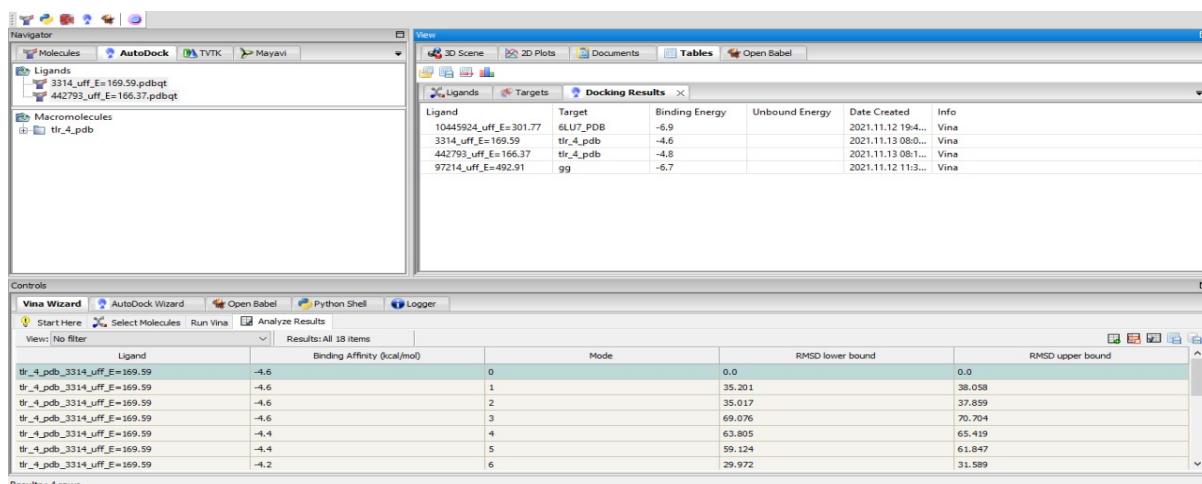


Figure 5. Vina Autodocking Process Eugenol compound with TLR4 protein

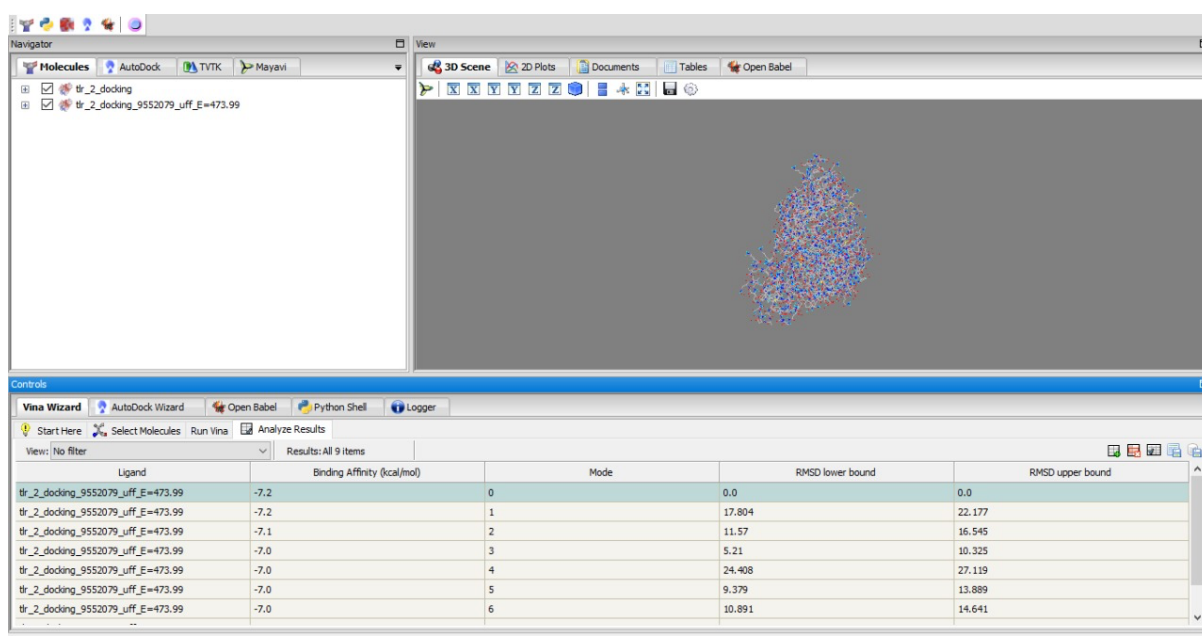


Figure 6. Vina Autodocking Process of Chlorhexidine Compound with TLR2 protein

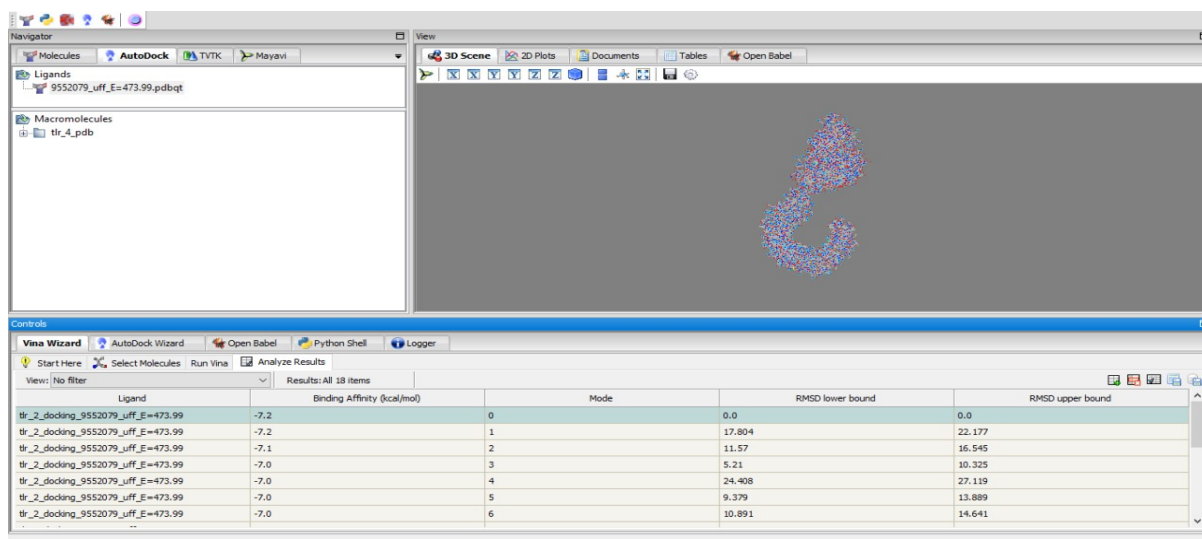


Figure 7. Vina Autodocking Process of Chlorhexidine Compound with TLR4 protein



(a)

(b)

Figure 8. Results of Autodock Vina TLR2 and Test Compound (a) and Results of Autodock TLR4 With Test Compound (b)

### Toxicity Test

In the toxicity test, the results were obtained for Peptidoglycan, LPS and Chlorhexidine compounds with nonAMES Toxic and Non Carcinogens results.

Table 1. Toxicity Test Results of Gingerol and Eugenol Compounds

Toxicity		
Human Ether-a-go-go-Related Gene Inhibition	Weak inhibitor	0.6699
AMES Toxicity	Non-AMES toxic	0.6467
Carcinogens	Non-carcinogens	0.6199
Fish Toxicity	High FHMT	0.8605
Tetrahymena Pyriformis Toxicity	High TPT	0.9677
Honey Bee Toxicity	Low HBT	0.9983
Biodegradation	Not ready biodegradable	0.8089
Acute Oral Toxicity	III	0.9963
Carcinogenicity (Three-class)	Non-required	0.3911
ADMET Predicted Profile --- Regression		

### Druglikeness Test

Lipinski's rule states that a molecule can be continued with docking simulations if (1) the molecular weight is less than 500 Da, (2) the logP value is less than 5, (3) the number of hydrogen bond donors is less than 5, and (4) the number of hydrogen bond acceptors is less than 10. (5). In the druglikeness test (lipinski) it was found that the compound eugenol, gingerol and chlorhexidine, the result of lipinski was Yes, which means that molecular docking can be continued.

Table 2. Results of Druglikeness (Lipinski) Compounds Gingerol and Eugenol

Druglikeness	
Lipinski	Yes; 0 violation
Ghose	Yes
Veber	Yes
Egan	Yes
Muegge	Yes
Bioavailability Score	0.55

Table 3. The result of Reverse Docking with ligand and control activator

Ligand	Binding Affinity
TLR2	
Peptidoglycan	-5.70
TLR4	
LPS	-4.60



Most of the extracts from herbs such as ginger (gingerol) dan cloves (eugenol), are intended to treat some chronic diseases that exist in the oral cavity such as RAS. Thus, drug concentrations must be consistent if used as antibacterial therapy. Side effects of gingerol and eugenol compounds for the body have been observed, evaluated and associated with cell permeability and good metabolic processes, as the results of this study indicate that gingerol and eugenol are not potential mutagens and are not carcinogens. Ligands are considered to have the potential to enter cell membranes and be absorbed by the body if they meet Lipinski's rules.

Eugenol (4-allyl-2-methoxyphenol) is a major phenolic constituent of essential oils extracted from clove, nutmeg, and cinnamon. It exhibits antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidative properties.<sup>8</sup> It has also been widely used in flavoring, as well as in the cosmetic, pharmaceutical, and dentistry industries.<sup>9</sup> Nowadays, the application of eugenol in the agricultural industry, such as in animal feeds, is increasing. Previous studies have reported that the administration of eugenol improved the health status and growth performance.<sup>10</sup> Additionally, eugenol showed antimicrobial activity against pig gut flora.<sup>11</sup> Moreover, eugenol has been found to possess anti-inflammatory properties by decreasing the production of proinflammatory cytokines through regulating inflammation and redox status in lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced inflammation in acute lung injury.<sup>12</sup> Eugenol suppressed cyclooxygenase-2 expression in LPS-stimulated mouse macrophage RAW264 cells. Therefore, eugenol has the potential to be an alternative to AGP, by preventing and alleviating the inflammatory gut diseases caused by weaning stress. Additionally, the flavor of eugenol in feeds positively affects postweaning performance and feeding behavior of piglets, which helped piglets adapt to a novel solid food from liquid.<sup>13,14</sup>

Berdasarkan hasil *molecular docking* senyawa gingerol dan eugenol terhadap TLR2 dan TLR4 didapatkan ikatan van der Waals dan ikatan hidrogen yang terdapat dikedua hasil docking. Kedua ikatan tersebut merupakan peran penting dalam hasil docking.

## Conclusion

This research proves that gingerol and eugenol have the potential as antibacterial based on their binding affinity with -5.70 TLR2 protein and -4.60 TLR4 protein so that intermolecular interactions occur. This can also be seen from the control used, namely Chlorhexidine with a binding affinity of -7.20.

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