



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**POSSIBLE ANTINOCICEPTIVE MECHANISM AND SITE OF ACTIVITY
OF HARUAN (*Channa striatus*) CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT IN MICE**

ZAINUL AMIRUDDIN B. ZAKAFUA

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By

ZAINUL AMIRUDDIN B. ZAKARIA

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

October 2005



DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to all of the following people who have inspired me in a very special way that only I can understand:

MYSELF ~ For what I am!!!

MAK and ABAH ~ For bringing me here!!!

SHARIAH LOH LONG ~ For her eternal love and patience!!!

MUHAMMAD AFIQ AHLAMI ~ For reminding me not to give up!!!

MY FAMILY ~ For being there!!!

MY SUPERVISOR and CO-SUPERVISORS ~ For trusting me!!!

“It is better to burn out than to fade away...”

Peace. Love. Empathy.”



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

POSSIBLE ANTINOCICEPTIVE MECHANISM AND SITE OF ACTIVITY OF HARUAN (*Channa striatus*) CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT IN MICE

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October 2005

Chairman: Associate Professor Mohd. Roslan Sulaiman, PhD

Faculty : Medicine and Health Science

The present study was carried out to determine the possible mechanism of antinociception and site of activity of the crude aqueous extract of Haruan (*Channa striatus*) (ASH) in mice using the abdominal constriction test. The ASH, obtained after chloroform:methanol (CM) (2:1; v/v) extraction (24 hrs) of the fresh Haruan fillet, was evaporated to remove the methanol residue and used throughout the study. The first study was carried out to ascertain the dry weight and antinociceptive profile of ASH. The second study was carried out to determine the amino acids and fatty acids compositions, as well as the polypeptide profile of ASH. The third study was carried out to determine the actual onset and offset of ASH activity after its subcutaneous (SC) or intraperitoneal (IP) administration at four different sets of time (0, 5, 30 and 60 min). The fourth and fifth studies were carried out to determine the involvement of opioid and non-opioid receptors, respectively, in the ASH antinociceptive activity. All of the antagonists of opioidergic, muscarinic, nicotinic, α - and β -adrenergic, dopaminergic, serotonergic and γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) receptors were administered (SC) 10 min prior to ASH (SC) administration. The sixth study was carried out to determine the role of L-



arginine/nitric oxide/cyclic 3':5'-guanosine monophosphate (L-arginine/NO/cGMP) pathway in the ASH antinociceptive activity. The precursor (L-arginine) and inhibitor (N^G-nitro-L-arginine methyl esters (L-NAME)) for NO, as well as the inhibitor for cGMP (methylene blue (MB)), were administered (SC) 5 min before ASH administration (SC). In all of the above-mentioned studies that involved the use of antinociceptive test, the 0.6% acetic acid-induced abdominal constriction test in mice was used as an assay to evaluate the ASH antinociceptive activity. All data obtained were analysed using the One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) followed by the Tukey test with $P < 0.05$ as the limit of significance.

From the data obtained, the ASH, which exhibited significant ($P < 0.05$) and concentration/dosage-dependent antinociceptive activity, yielded 1.89g/10.0ml of white coloured powder after subjection to the freeze-drying process. The ASH was also found to contain all the important amino acids with major amino acids found are glycine (35.77% \pm 0.58), alanine (10.19% \pm 1.27), lysine (9.44 \pm 0.56), aspartic acid (8.53 \pm 1.15) and proline (6.86% \pm 0.78). Furthermore, the ASH was also found to contain high composition of palmitic acid (C16:0) (35.93% \pm 0.63), oleic acid (C18:1) (22.96% \pm 0.40), stearic acid (C18:0) (15.31% \pm 0.33), linoleic acid (C18:2) (11.45% \pm 0.31) and arachidonic acid (C20:4) (7.44% \pm 0.83). The ASH was also found to produce at least four major fractions (at the retention times of 8.919, 9.841, 10.263 and 10.744), when subjected to the high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) process, that are believed to be polypeptides. The onset time and the offset time of the ASH antinociceptive activity, which are concentration-dependent and concentration-

independent, occurred between 0 to 5 min, and 60 min after its SC administration. Interestingly, changing the route of administration from SC to IP caused significant ($P<0.05$) increase in the ASH antinociceptive activity with the concentration-independent onset time of activity observed immediately after the ASH administration with no apparent offset time. The activity was found to reach the maximum effect 30 min after the ASH administration regardless of the route of administration used. Pretreatment with naloxone at all dosages did not cause any significant changes in the ASH antinociceptive activity indicating that the activity did not involve an opioid receptor mechanism, and thus confirmed the report made by Dambisya *et al.* (1999). Pre-treatment with various types of non-opioid receptor antagonists demonstrated the involvement of at least four types of receptors (muscarinic, GABA_A, α -adrenergic and serotonergic) in the mechanism of ASH antinociceptive activity. Pre-treatment with atropine and bicuculine almost completely blocked ($P<0.05$), while pre-treatment with phenoxybenzamine and methysergide significantly ($P<0.05$) reduced half of the ASH activity. The role of L-arginine/NO/cGMP pathway in ASH antinociceptive activity was also observed after pretreatment of the ASH with L-arginine, L-NAME or MB, but not with D-arginine. Pretreatment with L-arginine was found to significantly ($P<0.05$) reduce the ASH antinociceptive activity, whereas pretreatment with L-NAME or MB were found to enhance ($P<0.05$) the activity. Based on the finding, low concentration of NO, limited by the presence of higher concentration of ASH, and inhibition of cGMP system play important role in ASH antinociceptive activity. However, the actual mechanism underlying this phenomenon is yet to be fully understood.

As a conclusion, we suggest that the ASH-produced antinociceptive activity could be due to the presence of various types of amino acids and fatty acids, as well as four major fractions, and involved activation of at least four types of the non-opioid receptors (namely the muscarinic, GABA_A, α -adrenergic and serotonergic) and the L-arginine/NO/cGMP pathway.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia
sebagai memenuhi keperluan ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**MEKANISMA DAN TAPAK TINDAKAN ANTINOSISEPTIF YANG MUNGKIN
BAGI EKSTRAK AKUES KASAR HARUAN (*Channa striatus*) DALAM MENCIT**

Oleh

ZAINUL AMIRUDDIN B. ZAKARIA

Oktober 2005

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Kajian terkini ini dijalankan untuk menentukan mekanisme dan tapak tindakan antinosiseptif yang mungkin terlibat bagi ekstrak akues kasar Haruan (*Channa striatus*) (ASH) dengan menggunakan ujian pencerutan abdominal keatas mencit. ASH, diperolehi selepas pengestrakan (24 jam) filet segar Haruan menggunakan kloroform:metanol (CM) (2:1; v/v), dievaporasikan untuk menyingkirkan residu metanol dan digunakan sepanjang kajian dijalankan. Kajian pertama dijalankan bagi menentukan berat kering dan profil antinosiseptif bagi ASH. Kajian kedua dijalankan untuk menentukan komposisi asid-asid amino dan asid-asid lemak, serta profil polipeptida bagi ASH. Kajian ketiga dijalankan untuk menentukan masa sebenar bermula dan berakhirnya aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH selepas pemberian secara subkutaneus (SC) atau intraperitoneal (IP) pada empat set masa yang berbeza (0, 5, 30 dan 60 min). Kajian keempat dan kelima dijalankan untuk menentukan penglibatan reseptor-reseptor opioid dan bukan-opioid, masing-masing, dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH. Kesemua antagonis-antagonis bagi reseptor-reseptor opioidergik, muskarinik, nikotinic, α - dan β -adrenergik, dopaminergik, serotonergik dan asid γ -aminobutirik (GABA), diberikan (SC) 10 min sebelum

pemberian ASH (SC). Kajian keenam dijalankan untuk menentukan peranan laluan L-arginina/nitrik oksida/ 3':5'- guanosina monofosfat siklik (L-arginine/NO/cGMP) dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH. Prekursor (L-arginina) dan perencat (N^G -nitro-L-arginina metil ester (L-NAME)) bagi NO, serta perencat (metilena biru (MB)) bagi cGMP, diberikan (SC) 5 min sebelum pemberian ASH (SC). Dalam kesemua kajian yang dinyatakan di atas yang melibatkan penggunaan ujian antinosiseptif, ujian pencerutan abdominal keatas mencit yang dicitus oleh 0.6% asid asetik telah digunakan sebagai assai untuk menilai aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH. Kesemua data yang telah diperolehi dianalisa menggunakan *One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)* diikuti oleh ujian *Tukey* dengan $P < 0.05$ sebagai had bererti.

Dari data yang telah diperolehi, ASH, yang menunjukkan aktiviti antinosiseptif yang bererti ($P < 0.05$) dan bergantung kepada kepekatan/dos, telah menghasilkan 1.89g/10.0ml serbuk berwarna putih selepas menjalani proses beku-kering. ASH juga didapati mengandungi kesemua asid-asid amino penting dengan asid-asid amino utama yang didapati adalah glisina ($35.77\% \pm 0.58$), alanina ($10.19\% \pm 1.27$), lisina (9.44 ± 0.56), asid aspartik (8.53 ± 1.15) dan prolina ($6.86\% \pm 0.78$). Tambahan pula, ASH juga didapati mengandungi komposisi tinggi asid palmitik (C16:0) ($35.93\% \pm 0.63$), asid oleik (C18:1) ($22.96\% \pm 0.40$), asid stearik (C18:0) ($15.31\% \pm 0.33$), asid linoleik (C18:2) ($11.45\% \pm 0.31$) dan asid arakidonik (C20:4) (7.44 ± 0.83). ASH juga didapati menghasilkan empat fraksi utama (pada masa penahanan iaitu 8.919, 9.841, 10.263 dan 10.744) apabila didedahkan kepada kromatografi cecair berprestasi tinggi (HPLC), yang dipercayai adalah polipeptida-polipeptida. Masa bermula dan berakhirnya aktiviti

antinosiseptif ASH, yang bergantung dan tidak bergantung kepada kepekatan, masing-masing terhasil diantara 0 dan 5 min, dan 60 min selepas pemberiannya secara SC. Yang menariknya, penukaran kaedah pemberian dari SC kepada IP menyebabkan peningkatan yang bererti ($P < 0.05$) dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH dengan masa bermulanya aktiviti, yang tidak bergantung kepada kepekatan, dilihat serta-merta selepas pemberian ASH tanpa masa berakhir yang nyata. Aktiviti tersebut juga didapati mencapai kesan maksimum 30 min selepas pemberian ASH tanpa mengambilkira kaedah pemberian yang digunakan. Pra-rawatan dengan nalokson pada semua dos tidak menyebabkan sebarang perubahan bererti dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH menunjukkan bahawa aktiviti tersebut tidak melibatkan mekanisme reseptor opioid dan, dengan itu mengesahkan laporan yang dibuat oleh Dambisya *et al.* (1999). Pra-rawatan dengan pelbagai jenis antagonis-antagonis reseptor menunjukkan penglibatan sekurang-kurangnya empat jenis reseptor (muskarinik, GABA_A, α -adrenergik and serotonergik) dalam mekanisme aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH. Pra-rawatan dengan atropina dan bikukulina menghalang hampir keseluruhan ($P < 0.05$), manakala pra-rawatan dengan fenoksibenzamina dan methysergide menurunkan secara bererti ($P < 0.05$) separuh dari aktiviti ASH. Peranan laluan L-arginine/NO/cGMP dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH juga dapat dilihat selepas pra-rawatan keatas ASH dengan L-arginina, L-NAME atau MB, tetapi tidak D-arginina. Pra-rawatan dengan L-arginine telah didapati menurunkan aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH secara bererti ($P < 0.05$), manakala pra-rawatan dengan L-NAME atau MB telah didapati meningkatkan ($P < 0.05$) aktiviti itu. Berdasarkan penemuan ini, kepekatan rendah NO, yang mana dipengaruhi oleh kehadiran ASH dalam kepekatan tinggi, dan perencatan sistem cGMP memainkan peranan penting dalam aktiviti antinosiseptif ASH.

Walaupun bagaimanapun, mekanisme sebenar yang mendasari fenomena ini masih belum dapat difahami sepenuhnya.

Sebagai kesimpulannya, kami mencadangkan bahawa aktiviti antinosisseptif yang dihasilkan oleh ASH adalah disebabkan oleh kehadiran pelbagai jenis asid-asid amino dan asid-asid lemak, serta kehadiran sekurang-kurangnya empat jenis fraksi-fraksi utama, dan melibatkan pengaktifan, sekurang-kurangnya, empat jenis reseptor-reseptor bukan opioid (iaitu muskarinik, GABA, α -adrenergik dan serotonergik) dan laluan L-arginine/NO/cGMP.

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All gratifications are referred to ALLAH S.W.T.”

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I certify that an Examination Committee met on October 3rd 2005 to conduct the final examination of Zainul Amiruddin B. Zakaria on his Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled "Possible Antinociceptive Mechanism and Site of Activity of Haruan (*Channa striatus*) Crude Aqueous Extract in Mice" in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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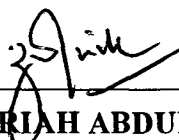
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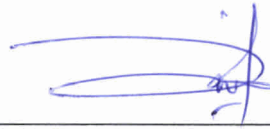


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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.



ZAINUL AMIRUDDIN B. ZAKARIA

Date: 23/12/2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	II
ABSTRACT	III
ABSTRAK	VII
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	XI
APPROVAL	XIV
DECLARATION	XVI
LIST OF TABLES	XXII
LIST OF FIGURES	XXIV
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	XXVI
CHAPTER	
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Natural Products	2
1.2 Marine Natural Products	3
1.3 Haruan (<i>Channa striatus</i>)	4
1.4 The Objectives of the Study	6
2 LITERATURE REVIEW	7
2.1 Natural Products	7
2.2 Marine Natural Products: Significance and Overview	7
2.3 Analgesic Compounds	11
2.3.1 Opioid Analgesic Compounds	12
2.3.2 Non-opioid Analgesic Compounds	13
2.3.3 Natural Analgesic Compounds	13
2.3.4 Plant-derived Natural Analgesic Compounds	14
2.3.5 Animal-derived Natural Analgesic Compounds	15
2.3.6 Other Analgesic Compounds	22
2.4 Aspirin – A NSAID's with Analgesic Properties	23
2.5 Haruan	24
2.6 Pain	27
2.6.1 Mechanism of Pain	28
2.7 Nociceptors	30
2.7.1 Nociception Neurons	37
2.8 Drug Receptors	38
2.8.1 Types of Drug Receptors	40
2.8.1.1 Opioid Receptors	40
2.8.1.2 Serotonergic Receptors	41
2.8.1.3 Cholinergic Receptors	43
2.8.1.4 Adrenergic Receptors	46



	Page	
2.9	Reports on Involvement of Receptors in Pain Modulation	49
2.9.1	Peripheral Receptor Systems Mediating Antinociceptive Activity	52
2.10	Nitric Oxide	56
2.10.1	NO System Involvement in Pain Modulation	58
2.11	Countering Pain	59
2.11.1	The Role of Capsaicin Receptors	59
2.11.2	The Role of Sodium (Na ⁺) Channels	61
2.11.3	The Role of Protein Kinase C (PKC)	62
2.11.4	The Next Steps	63
2.12	Antinociceptive Assay	63
2.13	Justification and Basis for Conducting the Present Study	64
3	GENERAL MATERIALS AND METHODS	68
3.1	Materials and Methods	68
3.1.1	Preparation of Fresh Haruan Fillet	68
3.1.2	Preparation of Crude Aqueous Supernatant of Haruan (ASH)	68
3.1.3	Determination of Actual Amount of Crude Dried Compound Present in ASH	69
3.1.4	Antinociceptive Study	69
3.1.4.1	Preparation of Different Concentrations of ASH	69
3.1.4.2	Preparation of the Dosage of Drug	70
3.1.4.3	Experimental Animals	70
3.1.4.4	Establishment of the Antinociceptive Profile of ASH	71
3.1.4.5	Antinociceptive Assay	71
3.1.5	Statistical Analysis	72
3.2	Results	73
3.2.1	The Actual Amount and Percentage Yield of Crude Dried Compound Present in ASH	73
3.2.2	The Antinociceptive Activity of ASH	73
3.3	Discussion	77
4	DETERMINATION OF AMINO ACID AND FATTY ACID COMPOSITION, AND HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY PROFILES OF CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF HARUAN (<i>Channa striatus</i>)	80
4.1	Introduction	80
4.2	Materials and Methods	82
4.2.1	Determination of Amino Acid and Fatty Acid Composition of ASH	82

	Page	
4.2.1.1	Determination of Amino Acid Composition of ASH	82
4.2.1.2	Determination of Fatty Acid Composition of ASH	84
4.2.1.3	High Performance Liquid Chromatography Profiling of ASH	86
4.2.2	Statistical Analysis	86
4.3	Results	87
4.3.1	The Amino Acid and Fatty Acid Composition of ASH	87
4.3.2	The HPLC Profile of ASH	87
4.4	Discussion	93
5	DETERMINATION OF THE ONSET AND OFFSET TIME OF CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF HARUAN (<i>Channa striatus</i>) ANTINOCICEPTIVE ACTIVITY ADMINISTERED SUBCUTANEOUSLY AND INTRAPERITONEALLY IN MICE	100
5.1	Introduction	100
5.2	Materials and Methods	102
5.2.1	Preparation of Dosages of ASH	102
5.2.2	Preparation of the Dosage of Drug	102
5.2.3	Experimental Animals	102
5.2.4	Antinociceptive Assay	103
5.2.5	Statistical Analysis	103
5.3	Results	104
5.3.1	The Antinociceptive Activity of ASH Administered Subcutaneously	104
5.3.2	Comparison of the SC-administered ASH Antinociceptive Activity at the Respective Time Against the Control Group	106
5.3.3	The Antinociceptive Activity of ASH Administered Intraperitoneally	109
5.3.4	Comparison of the IP-administered ASH Activity at the Respective Time Against the Control Group	112
5.3.5	Comparison of the Effect of Changing the Route of Administration on the Antinociceptive Activity of ASH	114
5.4	Discussion	119
6	ELUCIDATION OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF OPIOID RECEPTOR IN CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF	

	Page
HARUAN (<i>Channa striatus</i>) ANTINOCICEPTIVE ACTIVITY IN MICE	128
6.1 Introduction	128
6.2 Materials and Methods	130
6.2.1 Preparation of Dosages of ASH	130
6.2.2 Preparation of the Dosage of Drug	130
6.2.3 Experimental Animals	130
6.2.4 Antinociceptive Assay	131
6.2.5 Statistical Analysis	131
6.3 Results	132
6.4 Discussion	135
7 EFFECTS OF VARIOUS RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS ON THE CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF HARUAN (<i>Channa striatus</i>) ANTINOCICEPTIVE ACTIVITY IN MICE	138
7.1 Introduction	138
7.2 Materials and Methods	139
7.2.1 Preparation of the Dosage of ASH	139
7.2.2 Preparation of the Dosage of Drugs	139
7.2.3 Experimental Animals	139
7.2.4 Antinociceptive Assay	140
7.2.5 Statistical Analysis	140
7.3 Results	141
7.4 Discussion	143
8 THE INVOLVEMENT OF PERIPHERAL L-ARGININE/NO/CGMP PATHWAY IN THE CRUDE AQUEOUS EXTRACT OF HARUAN (<i>Channa striatus</i>) ANTINOCICEPTIVE ACTIVITY IN MICE	152
8.1 Introduction	152
8.2 Materials and Methods	154
8.2.1 Preparation of Dosage of ASH	154
8.2.2 Preparation of the Dosage of Drugs	154
8.2.3 Experimental Animals	154
8.2.4 Antinociceptive Assay	155
8.2.5 Statistical Analysis	155
8.3 Results	156
8.3.1 Effect of Pretreatment of DH ₂ O, Aspirin and ASH with L-arginine, D-arginine, L-NAME and MB	156
8.3.2 Effect of Pretreatment of DH ₂ O, Aspirin and ASH with Combination of L-arginine and L-NAME or MB	162

	Page
8.4 Discussion	167
9 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION	172
10 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	184
REFERENCES	187
APPENDICES	213
BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR	220



LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	The Amino Acid Composition of ASH	89
2	The Fatty Acid Composition of ASH	91
3	The Amino Acid Composition of <i>C. striatus</i> (adapted from Mat Jais <i>et al.</i> , 1994)	94
4	The Fatty Acid Composition of <i>C. striatus</i> (adapted from Mat Jais <i>et al.</i> , 1994)	95
5	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of DH ₂ O Administered SC at Different Set of Time (min) (Negative Control Group)	104
6	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of Aspirin Administered SC at Different Set of Time (min) (Positive Control Group)	105
7	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 18.93 mg/kg ASH Administered SC at Different Set of Time (min)	105
8	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 47.33 mg/kg ASH Administered SC at Different Set of Time (min)	106
9	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 189.33 mg/kg ASH Administered SC at Different Set of Time (min)	106
10	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of DH ₂ O Administered IP at Different Set of Time (min) (Negative Control Group)	109
11	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of Aspirin Administered IP at Different Set of Time (min) (Positive Control Group)	110
12	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 18.93 mg/kg ASH Administered IP at Different Set of Time (min)	110



Table		Page
13	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 47.33 mg/kg ASH Administered IP at Different Set of Time (min)	111
14	The Antinociceptive Activity Profile of 189.33 mg/kg ASH Administered IP at Different Set of Time (min)	112



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	Haruan (<i>Channa striatus</i>), a Freshwater Fish	5
2	Nociceptor and Pain Pathway (modified from Kibiuk, 1995)	32
3	Activation of Specific Receptors for Tissue-damaging Stimuli (modified from Kandel <i>et al.</i> (2000))	33
4	Pathways and Chemicals Involved in Pain (modified from Rang <i>et al.</i> (1994))	34
5	Production of Prostaglandins and Other Inflammatory Mediators (modified from Kalant <i>et al.</i> (1985))	36
6	The Dried Sample of ASH Obtained After Freeze-drying for 48h	74
7	The Antinociceptive Profile of ASH Against the Control Groups	76
8	The Amino Acid Profiling of ASH	88
9	The Fatty Acid Profiling of ASH	90
10	The HPLC Profiling of the ASH Demonstrated the Presence of Four Major Fractions Labeled as A, B, C and D	92
11	Comparison of the Effect of SC-administered ASH Against the Control Groups at Their Respective Time of Administration	107
12	Comparison of the Effect of IP-administered ASH Against the Control Groups at Their Respective Time of Administration	113
13	Comparisons of the Effect of SC- or IP-injected ASH after 0 Min of Administration	115