

SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND  
BIOLOGICAL STUDIES OF *p*-NITROANILIDE  
DERIVATIVES AS CHROMOGENIC  
SUBSTRATES FOR ENDOTOXIN SCREENING

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MASTER OF SCIENCE  
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**Thesis Submitted in Fulfillment of the  
Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science  
in the School of Fundamental Science  
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July 2016**

*Dedicated this thesis to:*

*My super awesome and hardworking supervisor, Dr Maisara Abdul Kadir*

*My chemistry teacher at SMKP, cikgu Harun*

*My beloved parents (umie and bak) and siblings*

*Thanks for the endless love*

*Indeed We have granted you a clear victory (1)*

*And grant you a might victory (3)*

*[Surah Al- Fath]*

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu  
in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

**SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND BIOLOGICAL STUDIES OF *P*-  
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**RUMAIZAH BINTI CHE ZULKIFLI**

**July 2016**

**Main Supervisor** : **Maisara Abdul Kadir, Ph.D**  
**Co-Supervisor** : **Associate Professor Noraznawati Ismail, Ph.D**  
**School** : **School of Fundamental Science**

The approach of using *p*-nitroanilide derivatives as chromogenic substrates has become a subject of interest due to their outstanding application in detecting endotoxin chromogenically. In this present study, five *p*-nitroanilide derivatives (two reported and three new compounds) namely *tert*-butyl (2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)carbamate (1), *tert*-butyl (1-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamate (2), *tert*-butyl (4-methyl-1-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-oxopentan-2-yl)carbamate (3), *tert*-butyl (1-((2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)amino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamate (4) and *tert*-butyl (1-((4-(methylthio)-1-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-oxobutan-2-yl)amino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamate (5) have been successfully synthesized from the reaction of protected amino acids and protected peptides with *p*-nitroaniline. The structures of these compounds were characterized using combination of common spectroscopic techniques such as Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR), Ultraviolet-Visible (UV-vis), <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C Nuclear Magnetic Resonances (NMR) and elemental analysis. Compounds 1-5 were subjected for biological assay analysis using Enzyme-linked immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) techniques to investigate the potential of these compounds to act as chromogenic substrates for endotoxin. Compounds 1-4 are able to detect endotoxin



until concentration at 0.03 EU/mL by forming a cloudy solution. However, compound 5 has limited solubility and unable to cleavage the peptide in the hydrolysis process. Among these compound, compound 3 gave the best endotoxin activity. From this research study, compound 3 is a suitable chromogenic substrate for endotoxin derived from simple amino acid and *p*-nitroaniline has been discovered.

Mengapa Alhamdulillah

Profesor Madya Nurazwanah Husni, Ph.D

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**SINTESIS, PENCIRIAN DAN KAJIAN BIOLOGIKAL TERHADAP TERBITAN *P*-NITROANILIDA SEBAGAI KROMOGEN UNTUK PENYARINGAN ENDOTOKSIN**

**RUMAIZAH BINTI CHE ZULKIFLI**

**Julai 2016**

**Penyelia Utama : Maisara Abdul Kadir, Ph.D**  
**Penyelia Bersama : Profesor Madya Noraznawati Ismail, Ph.D**  
**Pusat pengajian : Pusat Pengajian Sains Asas**

Pendekatan penggunaan terbitan *p*-nitroanilida sebagai substrat kromogen telah menjadi subjek yang mendapat perhatian disebabkan oleh aplikasinya yang tiada tandingan dalam mengesan kehadiran endotoksin secara kromogenik. Di dalam kajian ini, lima sebatian *p*-nitroanalida (dua telah dilaporkan, tiga sebatian baru) iaitu *tert*-butil (2-((4-nitrofenil)amino)-2-oksoetil)karbamat (1), *tert*-butil (1-((4-nitrofenil)amino)-1-oksopropana-2-il)karbamat (2), *tert*-butil (4-metil-1-((4-nitrofenil)amino)-1-oksopentana-2-il)karbamat (3), *tert*-butil (1-((2-((4-nitrofenil)amino)-2-oksoetil)amino)-1-oksopropana-2-il)karbamat (4) dan *tert*-butil (1-((4-(metiltio)-1-((4-nitrofenil)amino)-1-oksobutana-2-il)amino)-1-oksopropana-2-il)karbamat (5) telah berjaya dihasilkan daripada tindak balas antara beberapa jenis asid amino dan peptide terlindung, dan *p*-nitroanilina. Kesemua sebatian yang diperolehi telah dicirikan melalui teknik spektroskopi seperti spektroskopi Penukaran Fourier Inframerah (FTIR), Ultralembayung boleh nampak (UV-vis), <sup>1</sup>H dan <sup>13</sup>C Resonan Magnet Nukleus (RMN) dan analisis unsur. Sebatian 1-5 telah dihantar untuk analisis biologi dengan menggunakan teknik Asai Imunoserapan Terangkai Enzim (ELISA) untuk mengkaji potensi sebatian-sebatian ini sebagai



substrat kromogen untuk endotoksin. Di dalam pendekatan ini, satu Limulus Amebosit Lisat (LAL) yang diekstrak dari darah belangkas telah digunakan sebagai enzim proteolisis. Keputusan telah menunjukkan bahawa sebatian 1-4 berkeupayaan untuk mengesan endotoksin sehingga kepekatan pada 0.03 EU/mL dengan menghasilkan larutan keruh. Namun begitu, sebatian 5 mempunyai keupayaan keterlarutan yang terhad dan tidak berkeupayaan untuk memutuskan ikatan peptida di dalam proses hidrolisis. Di antara sebatian-sebatian ini, sebatian 3 telah memberi keupayaan yang terbaik untuk aktiviti endotoksin. Daripada penyelidikan kajian ini, satu kromogen substrat yang telah diterbitkan daripada amino asid ringkas dan *p*-nitroanilina untuk endotoksin telah ditemui iaitu sebatian 3.