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Gastric ulcer healing activity of *Zingiber simaoense* Y.Y. Qian rhizome ethanol extract in rats

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Zingiber simaoense Y.Y. Qian is a member in the *Zingiberaceae* family. In Thai Traditional Medicine, its rhizome has been used to relieve gastric disorders. The gastroprotective activity of *Z. Simaoense* Rhizome Ethanol Extract (ZSE) in experimental models of rats and some possible mechanisms to preserve gastric wall mucus have been reported. The aims of the present study were to find out the gastric healing activity of ZSE using acidified ethanol induced gastric ulcer model in rats, and to investigate more about the possible mechanisms of its gastroprotection using the methods of pretreatment with an inhibitor of Nitric Oxide (NO) synthase (NG-nitro-L-arginine methyl ester; L-NAME) and a Sulf Hydryl (SH) compound blocker (N-ethylmaleimide; NEM) in rats. The results showed that ZSE at the dose of 240 mg/kg could accelerate the gastric ulcer healing when observed on day 4 and 8, after ulcer induction. Pretreatment with L-NAME or NEM could inhibit gastroprotective activity of ZSE. In conclusion, the present study shows the gastric healing activity of ZSE, and the possible mechanisms of gastroprotection of ZSE may also involve its cytoprotective effect through gastric mucosal NO and SH compounds.

Biography

Puongtip Kuananusorn, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Thailand. She has done her PhD from Chiang Mai University. She has published about 12 papers in many journals and has been serving as a reviewer of many well-known journals. Her research fields include pharmacological activities of medicinal plants, especially, anti-ulcer, analgesic, antipyretic and anti-inflammatory activities as well as toxicological studies (acute and sub-chronic toxicity studies).

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