

Traditional Medicine And Liver Prevention : Study Of The Use Of Curcuma Longa As Alternative Treatment For Rural Communities In West Sulawesi, Indonesia

Kadriah KADRIAH^{*1}

¹Public Health, Al Asyariah Mandar University, INDONESIA

Background : Curcumin (diferuloylmethane (C₂₁H₂₀O₆)) is a yellow – orange component contained in the Curcuma longa plant. Traditionally, Indonesian people have used it as a component of daily cooking spices and as a component of herbal medicine from various conditions and diseases such as fever, hepatitis, acne, bacterial infections, inflammation, scabies as well as it can be used as a chemotherapy for cancer. This study aims to describe people's experience in preventing liver disease. The author explore the person in reducing liver by using alternative drugs based on curcuma longa.

Methods : This study used qualitative methods with an ethnographic approach. The author collected data from the local community through interviews, observation and documentation. The phenomenon learned from this treatment was not only the behavior of people who use traditional medicine to prevent liver, but also the effectiveness of these traditional therapies.

Results : The Curcuma longa have become the main treatment choice for rural communities in preventing liver. This treatment is chosen because rural communities believe that curcuma longa has many benefits for health. The Curcuma longa is medicinal plants that are important in this society. In traditional medicine, it is used as anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, anorexia, diabetic wounds, and liver disorders.

Conclusions : Base on the results of the study it can be concluded that the majority of rural people in this place develop more and use herbs as alternative treatments to cure and prevent liver. They prefer to use alternative medicine (herbs like Curcuma longa) than pharmacological treatment.

Corresponding Author : Kadriah KADRIAH (rhyakadriah@gmail.com)