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Protokol penelitian yang diusulkan oleh : Luh Putu Widiastini, S.SiT., M.Kes
The research protocol proposed by

Peneliti utama : Luh Putu Widiastini, S.SiT., M.Kes

Nama institusi : STIKES Bina Usada Bali
Name of the institution

Dengan judul : Pengaruh Pemberian Ekstrak Etanol Daun Kelor (*Moringa Oleivera*) terhadap Jumlah spermatozoa serta Morfologi Spermatozoa Tikus Putih (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Galur Wistar Usia Tua

Title : *The Effect of Moringa Oleivera Leaf Ethanol Extract on the Number of Spermatozoa and the Spermatozoa Morphology of White Rats (Rattus Norvegicus) Old Age Wistar Strain*

Dinyatakan layak etik sesuai 7 (tujuh) standar WHO 2011, yaitu :

1. Nilai sosial, 2. Nilai ilmiah, 3. Pemerataan beban dan manfaat, 4. Risiko, 5. Rujukan/eksploitasi, 6. Kerahasiaan dan privacy, 7. Persetujuan setelah penjelasan, yang merujuk pada pedoman CIOMS 2016.
Hal ini seperti yang ditunjukkan oleh terpenuhinya indikator setiap standar

Declared to be ethically appropriate in accordance to 7 (seven) WHO 2011 Standards:

1. Social values, 2. Scientific values, 3. Equitable assessment and benefits, 4. Risks, 5. Persuasion/exploitation, 6. Confidentiality and privacy, and 7. Informed consent, referring to the 2016 CIOMS Guidelines.
This is as indicated by the fulfillment indicators of each standard.

Pernyataan Laik Etik ini berlaku selama kurun waktu tanggal 30 Desember 2020 sampai 30 Desember 2021
This declaration of ethics applies during the period December 30th 2020 until December 30th 2021.

Mangupura, 30 Desember 2020
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Komis Etik Penelitian Kesehatan

Ketua



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1 **PEMBERIAN EKSTRAK ETANOL *MORINGA OLEIFERA***
2 **MENINGKATKAN JUMLAH SERTA MEMPERBAIKI *MORFOLOGI***
3 ***SPERMATOZOA RATTUS NORVEGICUS* TUA**

4
5 **ETHANOL EXTRACT OF *MORINGA OLEIFERA* INCREASE THE**
6 **NUMBER OF *SPERMATOZOA* AND IMPROVE SPERM MORPHOLOGY**
7 **IN AGED *RATTUS NORVEGICUS***

8
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15 **ABSTRAK**

16 Penuaan pada pria dapat menyebabkan penurunan volume semen, Morfologi yang abnormal dan
17 penurunan motilitas sperma. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui Pengaruh Pemberian
18 Ekstrak Etanol Daun Kelor (*Moringa Oleivera*) Terhadap Jumlah Serta Morfologi Spermatozoa Tikus
19 Putih (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Galur Wistar Usia Tua. Penelitian ini menggunakan Tikus usia tua yang
20 berusia 18-19 bulan dengan berat badan 200-250 g, kondisi sehat dan tidak cacat fisik sejumlah 36
21 dibagi menjadi 2 kelompok, yaitu kelompok perlakuan (ekstrak etanol daun kelor 50 mg/kgBB/0,5 mL
22 CMC 0.5% per hari) dan kelompok kontrol (CMC 0.5% 0.5 mL per hari) selama 30 hari. Hasil penelitian
23 menunjukkan ekstrak Etanol Daun Kelor meningkatkan jumlah Spermatozoa (nilai p 0,000) dan
24 memperbaiki Morfologi Spermatozoa (nilai p 0,000). Dapat disimpulkan pemberian ekstrak etanol daun
25 kelor secara signifikan meningkatkan jumlah dan Morfologi Spermatozoa Tikus Putih Usia Tua.

26
27 **Kata Kunci:** Daun Kelor, Ekstrak Etanol, Jumlah *Spermatozoa*, *Morfologi Spermatozoa*, *Rattus*
28 *Norvegicus* Usia Tua

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30 **ABSTRACT**

31 Aging in men can lead to decreased semen volume, abnormal morphology and decreased sperm motility.
32 The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of giving of Moringa Leaf (*Moringa Oleivera*)
33 Ethanol Extract to the Number and Morphology of Spermatozoa of Old Age Wistar Rats (*Rattus*
34 *Norvegicus*). This research used rats aged 18-19 months old, body weight of 200-250 g, healthy condition
35 and no physical disabilities were 36 divided into 2 groups, the treatment group (ethanol extract of Moringa
36 leaves 50 mg/kgBW/ 0.5 mL CMC 0.5% every day) and the control group (0.5 mL CMC 0.5% every day)
37 for 30 days. The results showed that Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract increased the number of Spermatozoa
38 (p-value 0.000) and improved Spermatozoa morphology (p-value 0.000). It can be concluded that the
39 ethanol extract of Moringa leaves significantly increased the number and morphology of the Spermatozoa
40 of the Aged Rats.

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42 **Keywords:** Moringa Leaf, Ethanol Extract, Number of Spermatozoa, Spermatozoa Morphology, Aged
43 *Rattus Norvegicus*

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45 **PRELIMINARY**

46 In the last ten years, Indonesia's population growth rate is 1.25 percent per year.
47 There is a slowdown in the population growth rate of 0.24 percent when compared to
48 the period 2000–2010 which was 1.49 percent (Badan Pusat Statistik 2021). One of the
49 reasons for this decline is the birth rate. The birth rate may decrease due to infertility or
50 infertility.

51 According to the World Health Organization (WHO), infertility is a failure to achieve
52 pregnancy after one year of active sexual intercourse without using contraception (Aziz
53 and Agarwal 2017; Majzoub and Jr 2017). Causes of infertility in married couples can
54 be classified into three with the proportion, female factors 45%, male factors 40%, and

55 idiopathic factors 15% (Lestari dan Sari 2015). According to research from Kumar and
56 Singh, (2018), male factor is responsible for 40-50% of infertility cases in couples (Aziz
57 and Agarwal 2017).

58 The underlying causes of male infertility are grouped into three factors (1) pretest,
59 (2) testicular (3) post-aesthetic (Dimitriadis et al. 2017). Four main categories of sperm
60 damage lead to the diagnosis of male infertility including absence of sperm in the
61 semen (azoospermia), low sperm count (oligozoospermia), malformed sperm
62 morphology (teratozoospermia), and problems with sperm motility (asthenozoospermia).
63 (Majzoub and Jr 2017). Spermatozoa are very susceptible to oxidative stress, because
64 the antioxidant enzymes in Spermatozoa are low, Spermatozoa spend a long time in the
65 reproductive tract. (Sabeti et al. 2016), and Spermatozoa plasma membranes contain
66 high amounts of polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs). This high proportion of PUFA
67 causes Spermatozoa to undergo lipid peroxidation (Ayala et al. 2014; Lee et al. 2017;
68 Ali et al. 2020; R. Dias et al. 2020). According to (Henkel et al. 2018), Oxidative stress is
69 closely related to various pathologies such as infertility and the aging process (Ko et al.
70 2014; Bisht et al. 2017; Kumar and Singh 2018).

71 The reproductive aging process is characterized by a progressive decrease in
72 physiological integrity that triggers damage to the testes, epididymis and other
73 reproductive organs. Aging in men can cause a decrease in semen volume, abnormal
74 morphology and a decrease in normal sperm motility (Lucio et al. 2013; Morielli and
75 O'Flaherty 2015). Aging has a close relationship with the presence of free radicals in the
76 body, which can induce oxidative stress. Oxidative stress, defined as an imbalance
77 between reactive oxygen species (ROS) and antioxidant production (Luceri et al. 2018).
78 ROS production has a central role in age-related decline in male fertility, influencing
79 aging biomarkers (López-otín et al. 2013). The results revealed that Spermatozoa from
80 older animals produced more free radicals compared to younger ones, as well as lower
81 antioxidant activity (Sabeti et al. 2016).

82 The body needs antioxidants that function to protect, ward off free radicals and
83 prevent chain reactions so that greater damage does not occur and repair damaged
84 cells and tissues. The body synthesizes antioxidants called endogenous antioxidants,
85 while antioxidants that come from outside the body or from food and drinks are called
86 exogenous antioxidants (Widiastini et al. 2022). High quality spermatozoa require
87 ascorbic acid, amino acids, sterols, isoquartsetin glucoside, carotene, ramentin,
88 kaemperol, and kaemferitin, and vitamin E. One of the plants that contain all these
89 elements is Moringa leaves (*M. Oleivera*) (Singh et al. 2012; Syarifuddin et al. 2017).
90 The content of high nutritional value, properties and benefits has caused Moringa to be
91 nicknamed the Miracle tree and Mother's Best Friend. Moringa is known to contain more
92 than 90 types of nutrients in the form of essential vitamins, minerals, amino acids, anti-
93 aging, and anti-inflammatory (Aminah et al. 2015). Moringa contains 539 compounds
94 known in traditional African and Indian medicine and has been used in traditional
95 medicine to prevent more than 300 diseases (Toripah et al. 2014). The results of
96 phytochemical tests carried out on Moringa (*M. Oleifera*) leaves in the South Denpasar
97 area of Bali, it is known that the ethanolic extract of Moringa leaves (*Moringa Oleifera*)
98 has antioxidant capacity, including phenolics, flavonoids, tannins, vitamin C, alkaloids
99 and saponins. (Widiastini et al. 2021). The selection of rats (*R. norvegicus*) Wistar strain
100 as subjects in this study because it had a higher average of live spermatozoa (92%)
101 compared to the percentage of live spermatozoa in Sprague-Dawley (90.7%) (Simbolon
102 et al., 2013).

103 Based on this background, the purpose of this study was to determine the
104 administration of Moringa (*Moringa Oleivera*) Leaf Ethanol Extract to the number of

105 spermatozoa and the morphology of the spermatozoa of the Old Age Wistar Wistar
106 strain.

107 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

109 **Place and time of research**

110 This research was carried out in January-March 2021. Implementation of research
111 at the Integrated Biomedical Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine, Udayana University.

112 **Ingredient**

113 Male rats (*Ratus Norvegicus*) Wistar strain 200-250 grams, aged 18-19 months.
114 Moringa leaf ethanol extract 50 mg/kg BW per day for 30 days, 0.5% CMC, ketamine:
115 xylazine, 1 set of surgical instruments, surgical board, 0.9% NaCl solution, 1% Eosin
116 dye and 10% Nigrosin, dropper, petri dish, object glass, light microscope (Olympus
117 brand).

118 **Method**

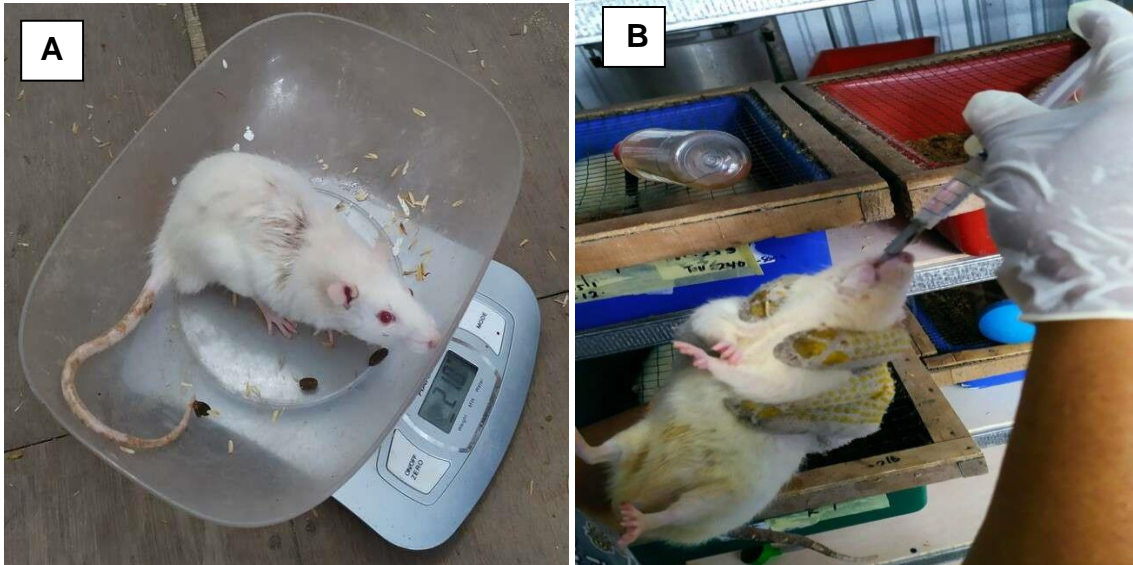
119 This study used an experimental research design, namely the randomized post-
120 test only control group design. The sample in this study was male Wistar rat (*Rattus*
121 *norvegicus*) old age according to the inclusion criteria, including body weight 200-250 g,
122 rat age 18-19 months. While the exclusion criteria were rats looked sick, did not move
123 actively. Samples that entered the drop out criteria were mice that died during the study
124 and there was a weight loss of more than 10% after the acclimatization period in the
125 laboratory. The sample size in this study was 36 rats which were divided into two
126 groups, namely 18 for the treatment group and 18 for the control group. To determine
127 the sample, the researcher used the Random Sampling technique.

128 **Making Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract**

129 Moringa leaf extract was made by maceration as much as 50 grams of dry
130 Moringa leaves, crushed using a blender, added 96% ethanol solvent, put in a
131 container, closed and left for two days protected from sunlight. This mixture is filtered to
132 obtain maserate. The pulp was macerated with 96% ethanol using the same procedure.
133 Maceration was carried out until a clear maserate was obtained. The macerate was
134 evaporated using a rotary vacuum evaporator at a temperature of 40 °C (Widiastini et
135 al. 2021).

136 **Research procedure**

137 This research started from weighing the weight of all experimental animals. The
138 dose of ethanol extract of Moringa leaves was given to the treatment group as much as
139 50 mg/kgBW dissolved with 0.5% CMC as much as 0.5 mL per day. The control group
140 was given 0.5% CMC 0.5 mL per day. Giving is done through sonde, at 08.00-09.00
141 Wita and given for 30 days.

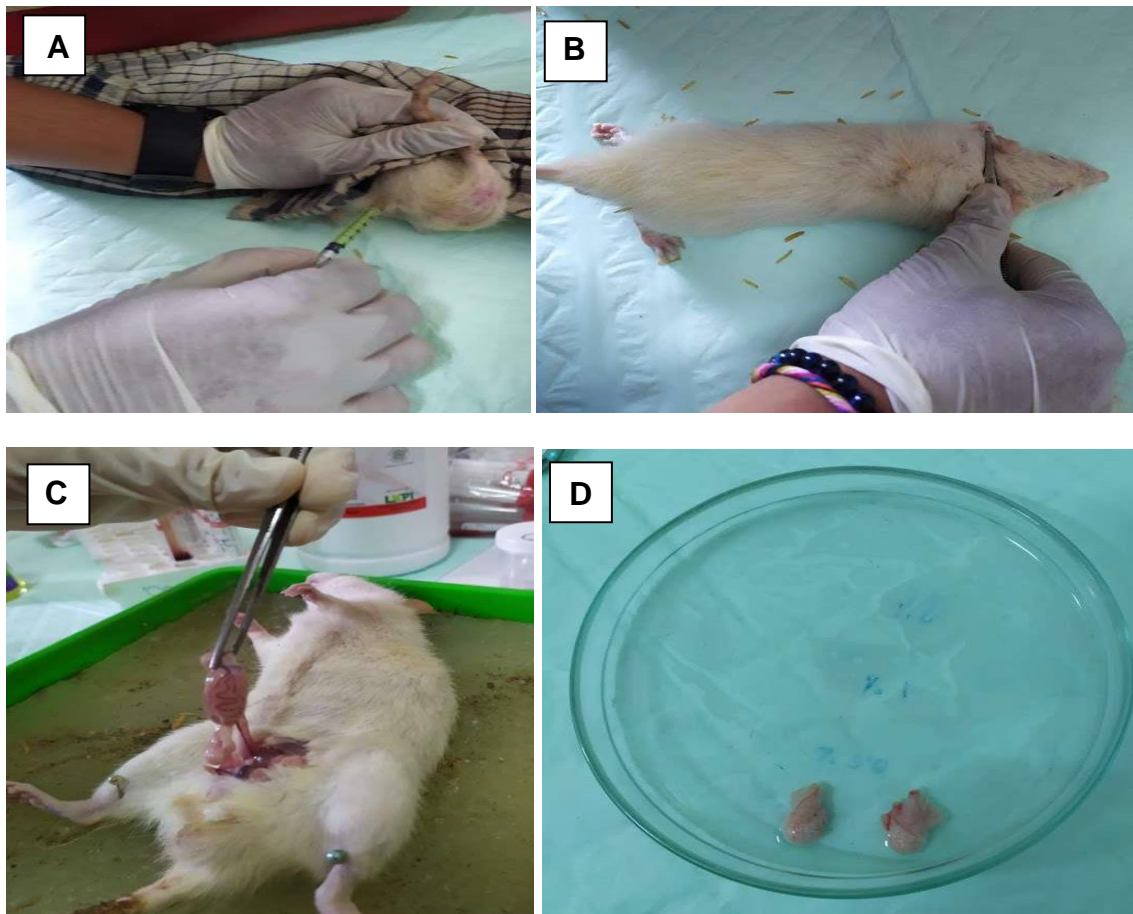


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Figure 1. The treatment given to the research sample. Weighing of experimental animals (*Rattus norvegicus*) (A). Giving intervention to experimental animals (*Rattus Norvegicus*) (B).

143 After passing the treatment period, namely on the 30th day, the old male **Wistar**
 144 strain (*R. Norvegicus*) was euthanized. The rats were terminated with anesthesia using
 145 ketamine: xylazine at a dose of 100 mg/kg: 10 mg/kg (comparison 10: 1) intra-
 146 muscularly (IM), then euthanized by cervical dislocation method. The testes were
 147 separated from the cauda epididymis and then put into a petri dish containing 5 mL of
 148 0.9% NaCl, the cauda epididymis was cut as finely as possible in a petri dish and stirred
 149 until homogeneous. Buried rat body.

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Figure 2. Actions taken after 30 days of treatment. Anesthesia of the study sample (*Rattus Norvegicus*) prior to euthanasia (A). The implementation of Euthanasia of the research sample using the cervical dislocation method (B). Open orchidectomy (C). Cauda epididymis study sample (D).

154 **Counting the Number of Spermatozoa**

155 The number of spermatozoa was observed using an improved Neubauer counting
156 chamber (hemocytometer). The spermatozoa suspension that had been diluted with 5
157 mL of physiological saline solution (0.9% NaCl) was taken 10 L and then placed into a
158 counting chamber (hemocytometer), after which it was covered with a cover glass.
159 When covering with a cover glass no air bubbles should form. The hemocytometer
160 containing the spermatozoa suspension was then observed under a light microscope
161 with a magnification of 400 x which was carried out for 6 times the field of view.
162 Spermatozoa that were counted were spermatozoa located in the middle and the edge
163 of the chamber (top and left of the chamber), while spermatozoa located at the edge of
164 the right and bottom chambers were not counted. The average number of spermatozoa
165 (n) was obtained from the total number of spermatozoa present in each chamber
166 divided into 4. The length of each chamber is 1 mm and the height is 0.1 mm, so that
167 the volume of the chamber = 0.1 mm³ (1.0 mm² x 0.1 mm).

168 **Spermatozoa Morphological Observations**

169 Spermatozoa morphology was observed using the Eosin 1% and Nigrosin 10%
170 staining method, by making a smear of spermatozoa on an object glass, then 1 drop of
171 Eosin 1% and 1 drop of Nigrosin 10% were given, then homogenized and air-dried for 5
172 minutes. Then observed under a light microscope with a magnification of 400x. The
173 repetition is done 6 times. The normal morphology of spermatozoa is when the head
174 and neck are intact and the tail is straight. Spermatozoa are said to be normal if the
175 head is curved like a hook, the neck is straight and the tail is single and free. While the
176 abnormal morphology if the head is small or too large, the neck is broken or branched,
177 the tail is branched, curled and broken, there are cytoplasmic droplets on the head,
178 neck or tail (Majzoub and Jr 2017).

179 The data analysis is descriptive analysis, namely by displaying the distribution of
180 the frequency and mean of the number of spermatozoa and morphology of
181 spermatozoa. Data normality analysis was performed using the Saphiro Wilk test, the
182 data was normally distributed if the p value > 0.05. After obtaining the data before and
183 after treatment, both in the treatment and control groups. After obtaining the results of
184 the data normality test, a comparative analysis was performed. If the data is normally
185 distributed, the analytical test used is the independent sample t test at a significance
186 level of = 0.05 to determine the difference between the treatment and control groups.
187 Data analysis used a 95% confidence level (95% CI/Convidence interval is another
188 parameter to measure how accurately the Mean of a sample represents (includes) the
189 true Population Mean value) or is stated if p < 0.05. Meanwhile, if the data are not
190 normally distributed, the analytical test used is the Mann Whitney test, to determine the
191 difference between the treatment and control groups, data analysis uses a 95%
192 confidence level or is declared different if p < 0.05.

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194 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

195 **1. Characteristics of Research Subjects**

196 A total of 36 rats met the eligibility criteria, namely white rats (*Rattus norvegicus*)
197 Wistar strain with male sex, age 18-19 months, body weight 200-250 g and healthy. The
198 average body weight of the mice used was 229.35gr ± 11.4%.

199 **2. Number of Sperm in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Male Wistar Strain After Giving**
200 **Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract**

201 ¹ Live spermatozoa were characterized by no color absorption (clear) while dead
202 spermatozoa were indicated by the absorption of 1% Eosin and 10% Nigrosine dyes
203 (Figure 3).

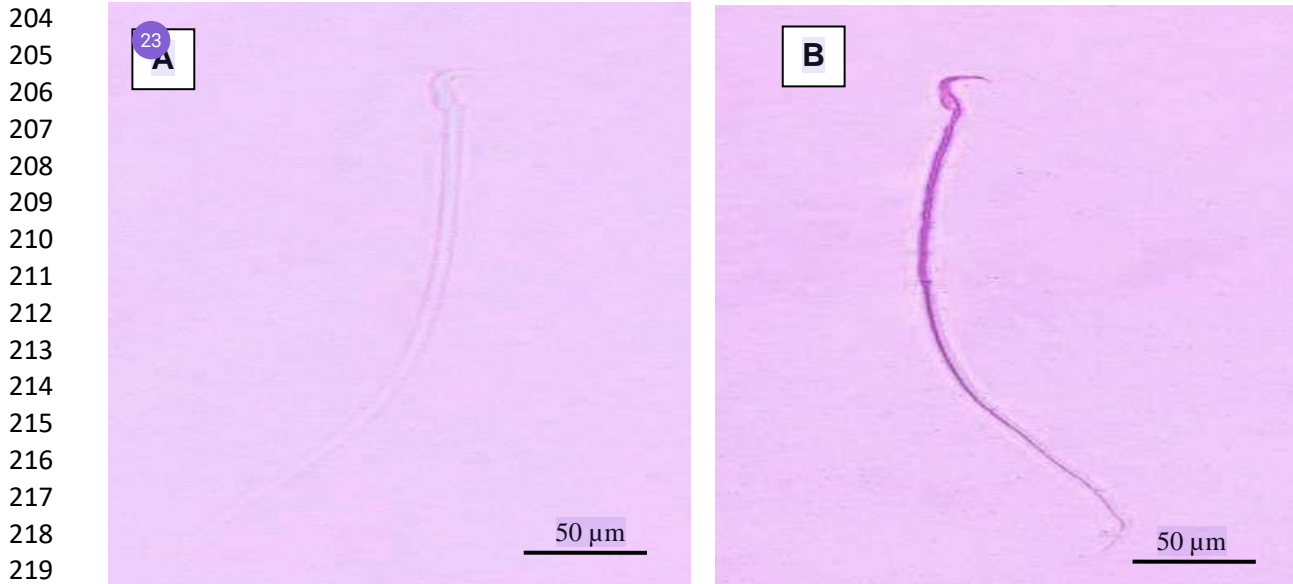
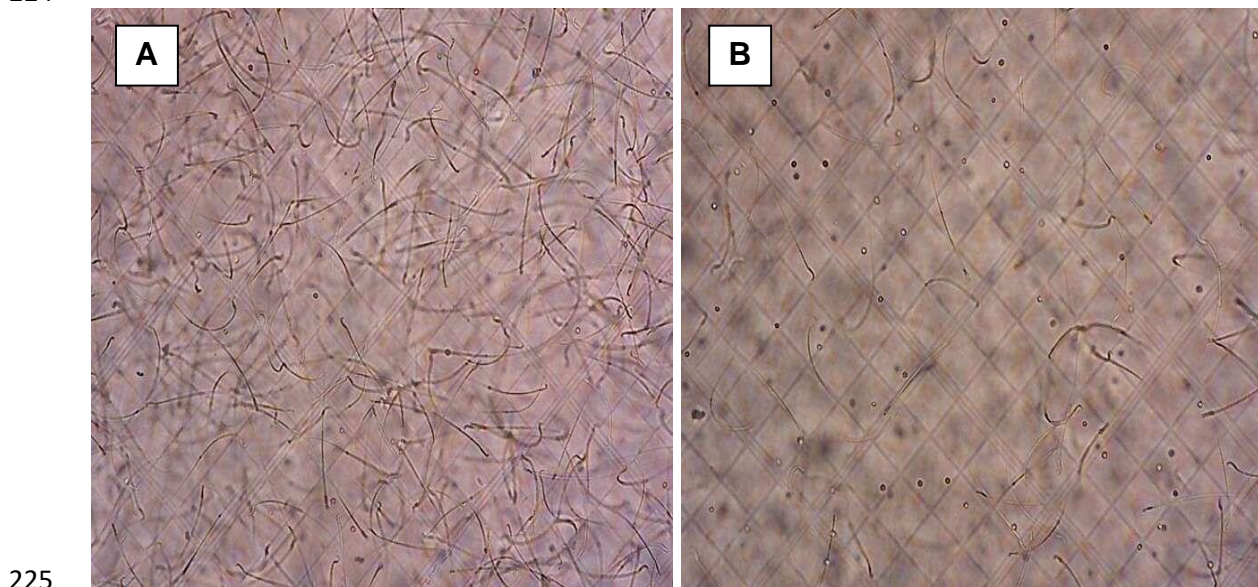


Figure 3. *Rat sperm after being given Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract. Live spermatozoa (A). Dead spermatozoa (B) were observed under a microscope with a magnification of 400x.*

221 From Figure 4 shows the number of Spermatozoa in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*)
222 Male Wistar Strain After Giving Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract in the treatment group
223 showed a higher density than the control group.
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Figure 4. Number of Spermatozoa in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Male Wistar Strain After Giving Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract. Treatment group (A). The control group (B) was observed under a microscope with a magnification of 400x

Table 1. Number of Sperm in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Male Wistar Strain After Giving Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract

Group	Mean	95% CI	Minimum	Maximum	Normality test	P
Treatment	87,70% ± 5,82	87,11 – 88,29	86%	89,67%	0,632	0,000
Control	74,56% ± 1,18	71,66 – 77,46	65,67%	85,17%	0,172	

Description: P < 0.05, there is a significant effect using the independent sample t test

From the table above, it can be seen that the treatment group has an average number (mean) of 87.70%, with a 95% CI value of 87.11 - 88.29, while the control group is 74.56%, with a 95% CI value. 71.66 – 77.46. Sperm count data in the treatment and control groups were normally distributed with a p-value of 0.632 for the treatment group and 0.172 for the control group, because the data were normally distributed, independent t-test analysis was performed and the p-value was 0.000 (p-value < 0.05), which means that there is a significant difference in sperm count between the group given Moringa leaf ethanol extract and the control group, so it can be interpreted that the Moringa leaf ethanol extract significantly increases sperm count.

The antioxidant content in Moringa leaves works to neutralize free radicals thereby preventing oxidative damage to most biomolecules and provides significant protection against oxidative damage, has the ability to protect lipo proteins from peroxyl radicals thereby increasing the number of spermatozoa, this is in line with research conducted by (Bebas et al. 2015), showed that the administration of vitamin C 0.1 mg/ml in, can maintain the viability of spermatozoa and increase the motility of spermatozoa. Research conducted by (Diao et al. 2019), showed that supplementation with Quercetin (Flavonoid) could protect Spermatozoa from sperm damage mediated by H₂O₂ (hydrogen peroxide). Study (Manhal M. Dafaalla et al. 2016), It was found that there was a significant difference in sperm count in white rats between the group given Moringa leaf ethanol extract and the control group that was not given, so it can be concluded that Moringa leaf ethanol extract can have a significant effect on sperm count. Study (Priyadarshani and Varma 2014) juga menunjukkan hasil yang sama yaitu jumlah sperma meningkat secara signifikan pada tikus hiperglikemik yang diberikan bubuk kelor sebanyak 200 mg/kg berat badan dengan nilai (P < 0,05). Reaserach (Fatoba et al. 2013) get a value (P < 0.05), which means Moringa oleifera can significantly increase mass activity, progressive motility and sperm concentration in mice.

1. Sperm Morphology in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Male Wistar Strain After Giving Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract

Spermatozoa morphology calculations were carried out using a light microscope with a magnification of 400x on 100 spermatozoa cells. (Figure 5).

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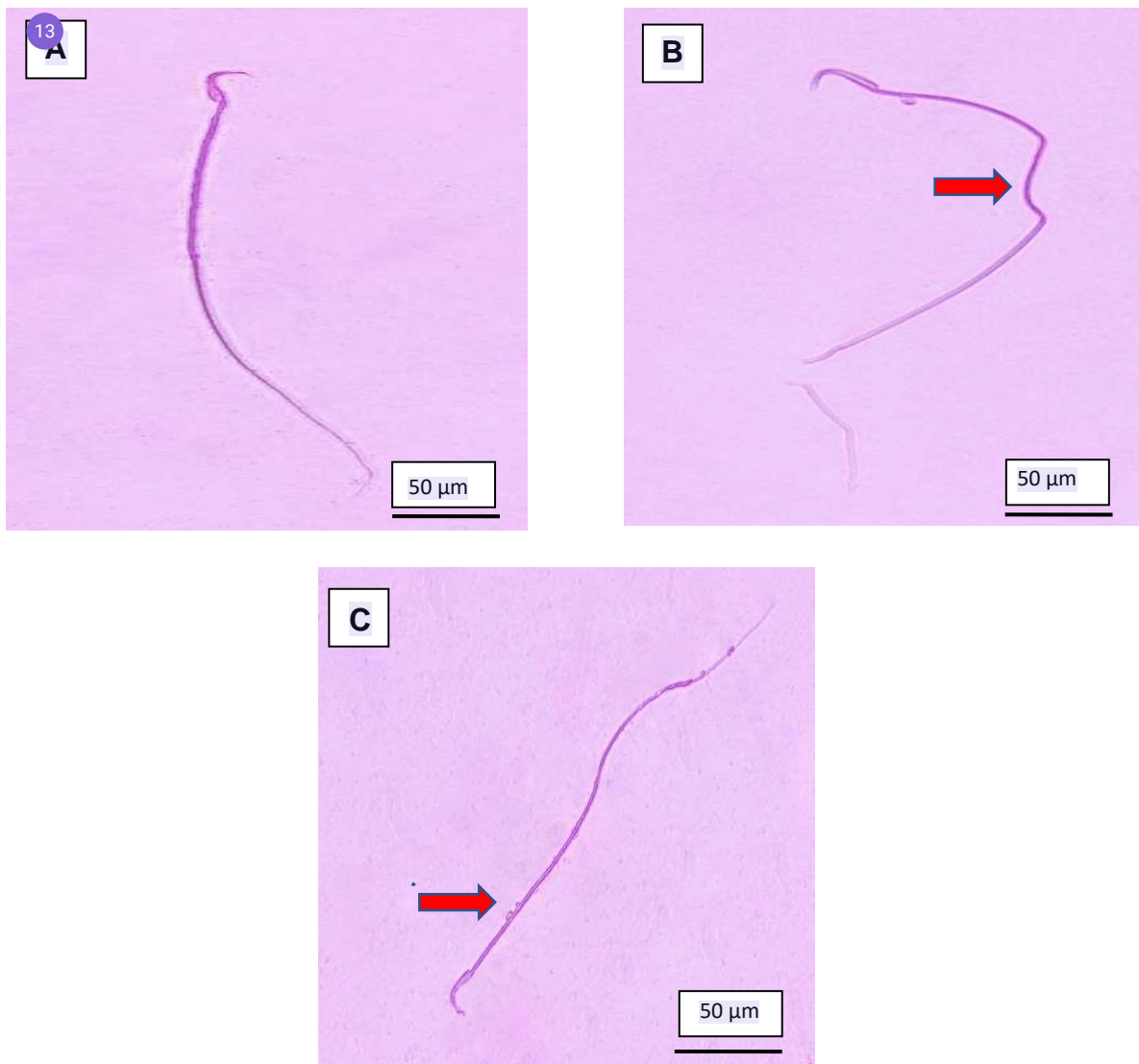


Figure 5. Mouse spermatozoa with normal morphology (A), abnormal tail (B), and cytoplasmic droplets (C)

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Table 2. Sperm Morphology in Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Male Wistar Strain After Giving Moringa Leaf Ethanol Extract

Group	Mean ± SD	95% CI	Minimum	Maximum	Normality test	P
Treatment	82,28% ± 6,64	78,97- 85,58	68,83%	89,33%	0,023	0,000
Control	61,89% ± 9,78	57,02 – 66,75	38,83%	78%	0,015	

Description: P <0.05, there is a significant effect using the Mann Whitney test

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From the table above, it can be seen that the treatment group had good sperm morphology with an average (mean) of 82.28%, 95% CI 78.97–85.58, while in the control group the average (mean) namely 61.89% with a 95% CI value of 57.02-66.75. The data on the number of sperm in the treatment and control groups were not normally distributed with a p value of 0.023 for the treatment group and 0.015 for the control group, then the analysis was carried out using the Mann Whitney test and the results obtained p value of 0.000 (p value <0.05), which means there are There were significant differences in sperm morphology between the group given Moringa leaf ethanol extract and the control group, so it can be interpreted that Moringa leaf extract can have a significant effect on sperm morphology.

This is in accordance with previous research (Wahjuningsih et al. 2019), showed that the addition of Moringa leaf extract could improve cement quality. Study

(Carrera-Chávez et al. 2020) The results obtained that semen supplementation with *Moringa oleifera* seeds increased antioxidant activity, sperm membrane integrity, viability and progressive motility. *Moringa* leaf ethanol extract containing Ascorbic acid holds a much stronger antioxidant than others by supplying up to 65% of seminal plasma. (Sahu CR 2016). Research (Wahjuningsih et al. 2019; Carrera-Chávez et al. 2020), *Moringa* leaf extract which contains antioxidants is able to maintain spermatozoa membranes and protect sperm damage caused by free radicals, thereby increasing density and improving spermatozoa morphology. Administration of antioxidant compounds can increase sperm parameters, such as morphology, motility, concentration, and reduce DNA damage with a value ($P < 0.05$) (Martin-Hidalgo et al. 2019; R. Dias et al. 2020). However, it should be noted, excessive use of antioxidants can cause pro-oxidants called antioxidant paradoxes, this can reduce endogenous oxidants that are important for the induction of physiological pathways, thereby inhibiting sperm capacitation, hyperactivation and acrosomal reactions of spermatozoa which can increase various pathological conditions such as aging. and infertility in men (Henkel et al. 2018; Ali et al. 2020). So that giving *Moringa* leaf ethanol extract 50 mg/kgBW can increase sperm count and improve sperm morphology in Wistar strain *Rattus norvegicus* in old age.

CONCLUSION

This study showed that the Spermatozoa Number of Old Age White Rats (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Wistar Strain given *Moringa* Leaf Ethanol Extract (*Moringa Oleivera*) was higher than the control group. The treatment group (White Rats/*Rattus Norvegicus* Wistar strain) given *Moringa* Leaf Ethanol Extract (*Moringa Oleivera*) also showed more normal Spermatozoa Morphology than the control group. In this study, there was a significant effect of giving *Moringa* Leaf Ethanol Extract (*Moringa Oleivera*) in increasing the number of spermatozoa and improving the sperm morphology of the white rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) Wistar strain of old age. Suggestions that can be given in this study are further research on the provision of *Moringa* leaf ethanol extract by paying attention to the reproductive cycle to more deeply see the effect of *Moringa* leaf ethanol extract on male reproductive health.

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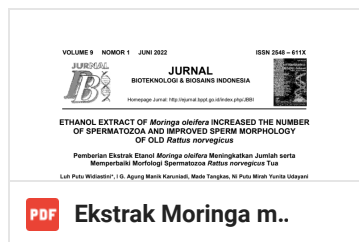
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