The Effects of Colostrum Immunoglobulin on Strongyloides Infection in Mice

Laurentius Rumokoy1, Jimmy Posangi2, Santi Turangan3, Ning Irianti2, Wisje Lusia Toar1, Julio Lopez Aban4

1 Department of Nutrition and Feed Sciences, Faculty of Animal Husbandry, Sam Ratulangi University, Jln Campus Unsrat, Manado 95115, Indonesia
2Department of Medicine Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Sam Ratulangi University, Jln Campus Unsrat, Manado 95115, Indonesia
3 Faculty of Animal Husbandry, University of Jenderal Soedirman, Jln. dr Soeparno Purwokerto, 53123 Indonesia.
4 Area of Parasitology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Salamanca. Avda Ldo Mendez Nieto, 37007. Salamanca, Spain

Corresponding author email: rumokoy@msn.com

Abstract. This experiment was conducted to determine the effects of bovine colostrum IgG on mice infected with Larvae of Strongyloides venezuelensis (L3Sv). This experiment was a 2X2 factorial arrangement including two level of colostrum immunoglobulin-Gand two level of endostatine. The parameters were fecal eggs and number of female adult in the gut. The data were statistically analyzed for the mean and standard deviation values, and the differences in treatment groups were subject to ANOVA, if the global differences were detected, a post-ANOVA with LSD test ensued. The development of female adult in the gut, for each group, was performed using Spearman’s rho test. Results showed that colostrum immunoglobulin-G reduce very significantly (P<0.001) the number of eggs per gram feces than in the groups of infected animals treated with endostatine as well as in the mice injected with 3000 L3Vs only. While the reduction of female larvae was significant obtained (P<0.05) in colostrum treatment (L3Sv + colostrum IgG) in comparison with endostatine. It was concluded that the supplementation of immunoglobuline-G through the animal digestive system hadpositively control the Strongyloidesvenezuelensis parasite infection. This result provides aninsight to utilize IgG colostrum in animal husbandry to overcome the threat of parasitic worms infection.

Key words: Immunoglobulin-G, colostrum, intestine, parasite, animal husbandry

Introduction

The threat of death in young ruminant animal characterized with extensive farms in rural areas is often caused by a parasite and or pathogenic microbe agent (Pfukenyi et al., 2007).Furthermore Nath et al. (2013) showed that Strongyloides a genus of parasitic nematode that often leads serious menace in livestock under traditional maintenance with
poor hygiene. In connection with the countermeasures to this kind of infection, various synthetic drug has long been used especially to tackle problems in mammalian livestock, on the other hand it is also well known that certain drug residue can be very harmful for the animal production consumer (Panic et al., 2014). To date, very limited scientific information is available on the benefits natural resource of colostrum IgG in overcoming worm parasite infection (Rumokoy and Toar, 2014). It encourages a research to find the extent of IgG colostrum effect as a new strategy to overcome the animals infected with Strongyloides.

Livestock under traditional maintenance are easily susceptible to disease caused by parasites and or other pathogen agents. A study conducted by Nonga and Paulo(2015) indicated that 52% of parasites were Strongyloides. A potential alternative to overcome this problem of Strongyloides infection is to increase the immunity by empowering immune globuline-G because if neonates consume the colostrum, IgG will get immunity improvement against pathogen agent ex-uthero (Rumokoy and Toar, 2014). The cheap source of immunoglobuline-G (IgG) a is colostrum substances. In colostrum, the concentration of immunoglobulins is particularly high, with IgG being the major immunoglobulin class present in ruminant milk (Stelwagen et al., 2009). The good quality colostrum contains no less than 60 gr Ig/L (Drogoul et al., 2008) depends on varied factors including feed nutrient consumed (Mann et al., 2016) and environmental condition (Cabral et al., 2016). Three isotypes of Ig found in colostrums are IgG, IgM, IgA. The most important Ig level in colostrum is IgG (Jacques, 2012). Toullec et al. (2001), reported that in a first milking cow’s colostrum, Ig represent approximately 50% of total protein, IgG 88% of total Ig and IgG1 95% of total IgG.

Neonate losses are very important in the mammalian livestock due to the parasite and pathogen agents (Mezo et al., 2007). Poulsen et al. (2010) reported that most of these neonate losses were due to infectious diseases included the parasites in conjunction with failure of passive transfer (FPT) that has been acknowledged as a major cause of neonatal disease in the world especially in the rural community. On the other hand, the infection of dangerous helminthes in the world become an important health problem in animal farm or domestics. Individual infections acquired through intact skin penetration by larvae filariform during contact with soil contaminated with feces or other material infected. Larvae of Strongyloidespapilus could enter the circulation and hematogenously carried to the lungs, where they enter the alveolar space (Dimitrijevic et al., 2012). It is necessary to find a solution scientifically, which can be obtained and developed from local natural resources to address the existing problems, especially those located in the tropical humid areas as in Indonesia.

The empowerment of natural resources for the purpose to manage these conditions such as parasitic infections can be reached by using bioactive materials like immunoglobulin-G obtained from mammalian maternal, for example cows (Cabral et al., 2016) and horses (Drogoul et al., 2008; Rumokoy and Toar, 2014). Worm infections in animal farm can cause significant economic loss (Alnakip et al., 2014). This loss is very important in the newborn: a review on a large number of animals showed that about 12% of the foals died before weaning, half occurred on the first week after birth (Kalinbacak et al 2005). According to Stepek et al., (2006) this zoonosis parasites are particularly prevalent in rural areas of developing countries, where animals are often found living alongside humans in conditions of overcrowding, poor socio-economy and poor sanitation and hygiene, and there is frequently insufficient medical care and veterinary services and an unawareness of zoonotic diseases. There are many different causes of parasitic infection
in animals or livestock, particularly young animal that raise animal mortality rate. The significance of FPT has been acknowledged the major cause of neonatal disease. The immune system of the new born uses various cells, cell surface receptors and signaling pathways to trigger an efficient host defense (Medzhitov, 2009).

In tackling such problems in young animals, passive transfer can be an alternative treatment with either colostrum replacer or immunoglobulin-G lyophilized (Rumokoy and Toar, 2014). Simultaneously, Swan et al., (2007) showed that passive transfer of IgG and pre-weaning health in newborn calves fed a commercially available plasma-derived colostrum replacement (CR) product or maternal colostrum may have had an opportunity against the pathogenic agent. Accordingly, William et al. (2014) and Priestley et al. (2013) pointed that passive transfer of antibody using colostrum replacement is a good choice because it contains nutrients and high level of IgG. Thus, many elements of mineral, vitamins, lipids, glucose and protein are available in the colostrum. Immunoglobulin-G is the most important level among other proteins globular in colostrum secretion. However, the study of the passive transfer of maternal antibody has poorly studied although very important in the management of livestock, especially where ecologically, the diseases are easily spread to cattle (Garnier, 2011). Endostatin function in generally is to induce microvascular endothelial cells apoptosis and inhibit endothelial proliferation (Zatterstrom et al. 2000), and to decrease both egg per gram of feces and number of larvae from lung tissue (Shariati et al., 2010).

The objective of this study was to determine the effects of IgG colostrum on animal infected with Larvae of Strongyloides venezuelensis (L3Sv) through a model of experiment by supplementing colostrum IgG through drinking water compared to endostatine injection in mice and to the infected animal without endostatine.

**Materials and Method**

**Animal**

A total of 24 female CD1 mice, aging six-week with body weight 20–27 g were used (Charles River Laboratories, Barcelona, Spain). Mice were housed in standard polycarbonate cages and placed in humidity and temperature controlled environment with a 12-hours photoperiod. The nutrients composition of the diets manufactured by Envigo Company, as shown in table 1. The animals received water and feed *ad libitum* in the Experimental Animal Service of the University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain. The experiments of this work complied with current European Union law on animal experimentation.

**Table 1. Nutritional Composition of the Diets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient and Energy Values</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crude Protein</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude Fiber</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>42.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbohydrate</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detergent Fiber</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy density</td>
<td>Kcal/g (kJ/g)</td>
<td>3.1 (13.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parasite**

The parasites were *Strongyloides venezuelensis*. Filariform infective larvae (L3) were obtained from a strain used in the Department of Parasitology, University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and their life cycle was maintained by serial passages in 4-week-old male wistar rats. Feces were cultured...
in polyethylene urine sample recipients with vermiculite, mixed with distilled water for 3–7 days, 90% RH at 28 °C.

**Experimental design**

Twenty four female mice housed in Center of Animal Research, Salamanca University were allotted to a 2x2 completely randomized factorial design, including two levels of colostrum immunoglobulin-G and two level of endostatine. The parameters were fecal eggs and number of female adult in the gut. The data were statistically analyzed for the mean and standard deviation values, and the differences in treatment groups were subject to ANOVA, if the global differences were detected, then a post-ANOVA was tested using the LSD test. The development of female adult in the gut, for each group, were performed using the Spearman’s rho test. All experiment animals were maintained in this research center. The bovine colostrum IgG replacer was obtained through the laboratory of Parasitology USAL. The larvae was suspended at a concentration of 3 X 10⁵/mL in PBS. The effect IgG by comparing with the endostatine effect was evaluated in three group of mice: Group A (L3Sv) was infected mice with 3000 L3 of *Strongyloides venezuelensis* (L3Sv) per animal; Group B (L3S+endostatine) constituted of mice L3Sv infected treated with a ratio of 2 mg endostatine in one kg of body weight. This endostatine was used as a parasite inhibitor. The injection was only performed at the first day experiment. Group C (L3Sv+IgG) received drinking water added with IgG 2 gr/L water. Egg output per gram of feces (EPG) was recorded on day 5, 6 and 7 post infection (PI) and parthenogenetic females from the gut.

**Parasitological technique**

This stage applied McMaster technique in all treatment groups in comparison with control in triplicate. In the necropsy, the small intestine was removed (as shown in figure 1).

**Figure 1. In the necropsy of experiment animal, small intestine was removed**

Upon removing, the intestine washed, cut open longitudinally, and incubated in PBS for 4 hours at 37°C, and the adult worms were collected and counted. Percentage of egg reduction was calculated using the formula (mean of infected mice group – mean of treated mice group) x100/mean of infected mice group.

**Statistical analysis**

The results of fecal eggs counts were statistically analyzed by ANOVA, if the global differences were detected then a post-ANOVA using LSD test ensued. The development of female adult in the gut for each group was performed using Spearman’s rho test.

**Results and Discussion**

**Eggs recovering**

The eggs output observed is shown in Figure 1. The experimental treatment response, to the number of eggs per gram (EPG) of the animals tested, sorted respectively according to the level of the quantity of eggs. In this study we found that colostrum immunoglobulin-G highly significantly (P<0.001) reduced the number of eggs per gram feces compared to that in control group of infected animals treated with endostatine and in the mice injected with 3000 L3Vs only. The increasing EGP in the feces was significant observed in day 5 to day 7.
Furthermore the results showed that the numbers of egg in the feces of animals treated with endostatine and animals treated with IgG was significantly different (P>0.05). The IgG of colostrums, useful for the neonates to defense against the parasite and pathogenic microbe sex-utero (Rumokoy and Toar, 2014). This results can be connected to the efforts for breaking down the worm infection as one of the major nematode infections of mammalian in tropical and subtropical regions (Obonyo et al., 2013).

The use of colostrum IgG has advantages compared to others substance because it is safe for animal health. If applied to the mammalian livestock such as horses, cows, goats, pigs,
these substances (IgG colostrum) might not adversely affect the health of livestock products consumer. Furthermore, IgG colostrum can be obtained easily from horse colostrum and or livestock mammals such as cows and goats, so easily applied in rural areas to anticipate such endo-parasites problems. In fact, the price of anti-strongyloides products such as endostatine is costly and not readily available in the markets.

**Females recovering from the gut**

We evaluated the effects of colostrum immunoglobulins and endostatin administration in mice infected with 3000 L3 S. *Venezuelensis*. The average number of parasite *S. venezuelensis* females from the gut was 61 in the group of infected mice, 41 in the group of mice treated with endostatin; and the lowest was 18,5 in the group of mice treated with colostrum IgG.

The number of female adult in intestin of mice infected without endostatin nor IgG compared to mice given endostatin or IgG was statistically difference (P<0.05). While the different amount of larvae between the mice treated with endostatin and those with IgG colostral was not significant differences (P>0.05). This positive response of IgG compared to other controls group was associated with the function of colostrum antibodies which are thought to coat the mucosal surfaces lining the gut and prevent invasion by pathogenic organisms (Hurley and Theil, 2011). In addition, the supply of colostrum IgG from other parent as passive transport of antibodies serves to overcome the problems of microbial pathogenic and parasitic infections (Werem et al., 2001). This response has a similar impact as reported by Poulsen et al., (2010) that ingestion and absorption of the immunologic substances in colostrum by neonatal could reduce morbidity and mortality rates and have a positive influence on the future productivity.

The risk of parasite infection is often correlated to the rapid environmental change and therefore an anticipation against this phenomena could be implemented by empowering the function of colostrum through a passive transfer immunity (Jolles et al., 2015). The significant effect to reduce the female of SL3Vs in the gut along the observation of our experiment seems related to Perkens and Wagner (2015) that the immune response of some adaptive immune parameters, such as immunoglobulin (Ig)G1, IgG3, IgG5 and IgA antibodies starts before or at birth and matures within 3 months of life. Furthermore the finding articulated that other antibody responses, such as IgG4, IgG7 and IgE production, slowly develop within the first year of life until they reach adult levels. This statements become one of scientific reasons to apply the colostrum IgG substance against the parasite threat to the neonates.

![Figure 4](image)

Figure 4. The lowest number of L3Sv in gut was recorded in animals treated with L3S + IgG
Conclusions

Supplementation of colostrum IgG through drinking water can strongly reduce the EPG post infection and also the larvae in animals infected with of parasite *S. venezuelensis*. This ability of colostrum to reduce the parasite is more powerful than endostatine action to inhibit the number of eggs and larvae of the infected animal with *Strongyloides*.

Acknowledgment

The authors were grateful to the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education of Republic of Indonesia for financial support for the experiment under an international collaboration with the University of Salamanca Spain. Equal gratitude is addressed to the Director of CIETUS of University of Salamanca in Spain for the permit to us Indonesian researchers to conduct research in their Laboratory of Parasitology and Immunology.

References


Perkins GS and B Wagner. 2015. The development of equine immunity: Current knowledge on


