

**EFFECT OF A LACTOBACILLI PROBIOTIC ON  
LONGEVITY AND MOBILITY OF MALE  
*DROSOPHILA MELANOGASTER* WITH  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

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**UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA  
JUNE 2020**



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by

**LIM CHIN PENG**

A dissertation submitted in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) in the field of Bioprocess Technology  
School of Industrial Technology  
Universiti Sains Malaysia  
June 2020

## **DECLARATION BY AUTHOR**

This dissertation is composed of my original work, and contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference has been made in the text. The content of my dissertation is the result of work I have carried out since the commencement of my research project and does not include a substantial part of work that has been submitted to qualify for the award of any other degree or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution.



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LIM CHIN PENG

JUNE 2020

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to forward my gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Liong Min Tze for providing the opportunity to engage in a new research field including breeding fruit flies and performing experiments that I have never involved in my final year project. She was always concern about the progress and problems that were faced throughout the project followed by the valuable feedbacks given. She would inspire me to think creatively so that I can solve issues faced or achieve goals critically and independently as well.

Next, I am grateful to my co-supervisor, Dr. Mohd. Ghows bin Mohd. Azzam from the School of Biological Sciences. Thank you for allowing us to go to your lab to breed flies and conduct experiments. I am thankful for the useful guidance that you have provided whenever we needed.

Also, I would want to say thank you to research officers Mr Ahmad Imran Zaydi and Mr Lee Boon Kiat, and postgraduate students Ms. Florence Tan Hui Ping and Mr. Andrew Chung Jie Ting who willingly and selflessly shared your experiences in conducting experiments and solving problems as well as on the operation of Toxtrac software. I also appreciated all the guidance and encouragement from all of you.

Lim Chin Peng

June 2020

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## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Caption</b>
$\alpha$	Alpha
$\beta$	Beta
\$	Dollar sign
$\gamma$	Gamma
$\kappa$	Kappa
$\mu$	Micro
%	Percent

  

<b>Abbreviations</b>	<b>Caption</b>
A $\beta$ 42	Amyloid beta 42 peptide
AD	Alzheimer's disease
ADI	Alzheimer's Disease International
AMPK	Adenosine monophosphate-activated kinase
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
APP	Amyloid precursor protein
BACE	Beta-secretase
BBB	Blood-brain-barrier
BDNF	Brain-derived neurotrophic factor
cAMP	Cyclic adenosine monophosphate
cfu	Colony-forming unit
cm	Centimetre
CNS	Central nervous system
CREB	cAMP response element-binding protein
dAPPI	Drosophila APP-like
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DR9	<i>Lactobacillus fermentum</i> DR9
GABA	$\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid
GRAS	Generally regarded as safe
HSD	Honestly significant difference
IGF	Insulin-like growth hormone
kg	Kilogram

KGGR	Kyoto Drosophila Genome and Genetic Resource
LAB	Lactic acid bacteria
LTP	Long-term potentiation
MDA	Malondialdehyde
mGluRs	Metabotropic glutamate receptors
mm	Millimetre
MMSE	Mini-mental state examination
MRS	De Mann, Rogosa, and Sharp
NF- $\kappa$ B	Nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells
NMDAR	Anti-N-Methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor
PS	Presenilin
PUFA	Polyunsaturated fatty acids
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Science
UAS	Upstream activation sequence
WHO	World Health Organization

# KESAN PROBIOTIK LACTOBACILLI TERHADAP TEMPOH HAYAT DAN MOBILITI *DROSOPHILA MELANOGASTER* JANTAN YANG MENGHIDAPI PENYAKIT ALZHEIMER

## ABSTRAK

Kira-kira 50 juta orang di dunia didiagnosis dengan penyakit Alzheimer seperti yang dilaporkan pada tahun 2019. Kerosakan lokomotor berlaku pada peringkat awal penyakit dan penurunan prestasi pesakit selalunya berkaitan rapat dengan penuaan. Tiada rawatan yang berkesan lagi dapat dijalankan secara meluas walaupun banyak kajian saintifik telah dilakukan. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk menilai kesan *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 terhadap tempoh hayat *Drosophila melanogaster* yang menghidapi penyakit Alzheimer dan mengkaji kesan *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 terhadap mobiliti *Drosophila melanogaster* yang menghidapi penyakit Alzheimer. Kajian dari segi tempoh hayat dan kemampuan pendakian telah dijalankan dalam peniga untuk mengetahui kesan rawatan menggunakan *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 dalam mengurangkan kadar pemendekan jangka hayat dan penurunan mobiliti *Drosophila melanogaster* yang menghidapi penyakit Alzheimer. Berdasarkan hasil kajian, tempoh hayat Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 menunjukkan penurunan yang lebih perlahan dan menyimpang daripada Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf mulai hari ke-11. Pada hari ke-23, tempoh hayat Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 adalah 23% lebih tinggi daripada Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf. Kebanyakan aspek pendakian menunjukkan hasil kajian yang menarik bahawa Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 mengalami peningkatan yang baik dari hari kelima sehingga hari ke-20 selepas menerima rawatan probiotik. Perkaitan antara aspek-aspek pendakian turut menyokong bahawa rawatan probiotik dapat dipertimbangkan untuk mengurangkan kemerosotan mobiliti. Penurunan kelajuan pendakian Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 telah dikurangkan secara ketara, seterusnya menyumbang kepada waktu

yang lebih pendek untuk melintasi garis tengah dan juga ketinggian yang lebih tinggi berbanding dengan Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf. Kami yakin bahawa rawatan probiotik menggunakan *L. fermentum* DR9 berpotensi untuk menyelamatkan keadaan pemendekan tempoh hayat dan kemerosotan mobiliti *Drosophila melanogaster* yang menghadapi penyakit Alzheimer.



# EFFECT OF A LACTOBACILLI PROBIOTIC ON LONGEVITY AND MOBILITY OF MALE DROSOPHILA MELANOGASTER WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

## ABSTRACT

Approximately 50 million people are diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease (AD) in the world as reported in 2019. Locomotor impairment were present in the early stage of the disease and the decline in the performance of AD patients is often related to aging. Effective treatment has yet to be conducted extensively even though considerable amounts of studies had been performed. This study aimed to evaluate the effect of *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 on the longevity of AD flies and to study the effect of *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 on the mobility of AD flies. Longevity test and climbing test were conducted in triplicates to determine the effect of treatment using *Lactobacillus fermentum* DR9 in alleviating the lifespan shortening and mobility impairment of AD flies respectively. Based on the results, the survival rate of Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 had showed a slower decreasing trend that deviated from that of Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf from Day 11 onwards. At Day 23, the survival rate of Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 was 23% higher than that of Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf. Most climbing parameters presented appealing results inferring that Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 had good improvement after receiving probiotic treatment from Day 5 to Day 20. The correlations among climbing parameters even supported that probiotic treatment can be put into consideration to alleviate the mobility degeneration. It was shown that the decrease in climbing speed of Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.DR9 was significantly attenuated, consequently resulting in shorter time required to cross the centre line and more height climbed than Actin5C-A $\beta$ 42.nf. We believed that probiotic treatment using *L. fermentum* DR9 has the potential to rescue the shortening of lifespan and mobility impairment of AD model.