

Utilization Effectivity Of Pearl Oyster Shell (Pinctada Maxima) As Industrial Waste In Pangkep To Osteogenesis Bone Graft To Cavia Porcellus Femur

M.Hendra Chandha¹, Surijana Mappangara², Harun Achmad³, Sri Oktawati², Muthmainnah Buddin⁴, DanielTetan-El⁴, Firman Salam⁴, Handayani Halik⁵

¹Department of Oromaxillofacial Surgery, Faculty of Dentistry, Hasanuddin University Makassar, Indonesia

²Department of Periodontology, Faculty of Dentistry, Hasanuddin University Makassar, Indonesia;

³Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia;

⁴Periodontology Specialist Educational Program, Faculty of Dentistry, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

⁵Hasanuddin medical research center, faculty of Medical, Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia;

*Corresponding Author: Sri Oktawati; periounhas_sri@yahoo.com Institutional email address:

fdu@unhas.ac.id; web page: <http://dent.unhas.ac.id/>

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Abstract

Background and objective: Pinctada Maxima which is one of the naces some of the structures of marine biota whose contents can be used to build tooth structures are damaged due to disease. The aim of this study is to see the effectiveness of pearl shells on osteogenesis of bone graft in periodontal tissue and to determine the effectiveness of pearl shells on periodontal tissue through the formation of osteoblasts so that later it can be considered as an ideal alternative bone graft. **Methods:** Cavia Porcellus were divided into 3 groups of 30: Bone graft using Hydroxyapatite Pinctada maxima, Bovine Xenograft as positive control and placebo as negative control, then sacrificed on 14th and 21st days. The Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) analysis was performed to see the expression of osteocalcin (OCN) and Scan electron microscope (SEM) examination to see the formation of osteoblasts **Results:** Data were analyzed with Independent T test and processed in SPSS 24.0. It was shown that the osteoblast increases in the Batan and Placebo groups from day 14 to day 21, in contrast to the Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima test group with SEM analysis. For the OCN increase in all the Batan, Placebo and Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima groups and the most significant increase was in the Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima Test group although it was not significant with the RT-PCR analysis. **Conclusion:** Hidroxyapatite pinctada maxima has quite good potential as a bone graft.

Keywords: Osteocalcin, Osteoblast, Pinctada Maxima, Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR), Scan electron microscope (SEM).

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is one of the world's biodiversity hotspots which has a wide variety of marine biota diversity. Medical researchers began to turn their attention to the ocean because they believed the earth's oceans could provide better treatment than chemicals. Some marine biota structures can be used to build tooth structures (bone, dentin, pulp, and periodontal ligament) that are damaged or lost due to disease.¹⁻³

Based on the RISKESDAS of the Ministry of Health in 2018, there are 57.6% of the Indonesian population who experience oral health problems, one of which is infection in the periodontal tissue. Severe periodontal disease is characterized by tissue resorption of both alveolar bone and cementum which can result in tooth loss. Spontaneous regeneration does not always occur, so regenerative therapy is needed that can accelerate healing and

new bone formation. Tissue engineering is a biomedical technology developed to help regenerate limbs that cannot be repaired by the tissue itself.⁴⁻⁶

One type of tissue engineering for periodontal regeneration is the application of bone graft. Bone grafts are used to reconstruct intraosseous defects formed by periodontal disease. Bone graft can help bone regeneration through three methods, namely osteoinductive, osteoconductive, and osteogenesis. Broadly speaking, there are four types of bone grafts, namely autograft, allograft, xenograft and alloplastic synthetic material. Autograft is still the main choice in restoring bone defects but it is still very limited so that a replacement bone graft material is needed that can help bone regeneration.⁷⁻¹⁰

To accomplish normal physiological bone remodeling, the proper coupling of bone formation and bone resorption requires direct communication among different bone cells. Cells of the osteoblast lineage (osteoblasts, osteocytes, and bone-lining cells) and bone-resorbing cells (osteoclasts), together with their precursor cells, are organized in specialized units called bone multicellular units.^{11,12} The remodeling cycle consists of three consecutive phases: resorption, reversal, and formation. Resorption begins with the migration of partially differentiated mononuclear preosteoclasts to the bone surface where they form multinucleated osteoclasts.¹³⁻¹⁵

In bone damage caused by periodontal disease, the application of graft material is proven to be better than the open flap debridement method only. The goal of bone grafting on the periodontal tissue is to reduce pocket depth, improve clinical attachment, fill bone in the defect area and regenerate new bone, cementum and periodontal ligament so that they can properly support the teeth. Bone substitute is a natural or synthetic material, often containing only a mineralized bone matrix with no viable cells, that is able to achieve the same purpose.¹⁶⁻¹⁸

The discovery of dental implants in the skull of the Mayan tribesman was the beginning of a number of studies on clam shells. "Nacre" commonly called "mother of pearl" is part of the clam shell which has the main content of $\text{Ca}(\text{CO}_3)_2$. Nacre is able to facilitate the proliferation of osteoblasts, accelerate the production of extracellular matrix, and mineralization.^{19,20} Nacre contains inorganic and organic materials that have a basic structure similar to bone. Research on nacre material as bone graft has been carried out in many countries using different species. *Pinctada maxima* is a type of shellfish that has been cultivated in the Pangkep Islands, South Sulawesi. This species has also been widely studied in several countries as bone graft material, but there are still limited studies using this species in Indonesia.^{2,21-23}

According to the description above, the aim of this study is to see the effectiveness of pearl shells on osteogenesis of bone graft in periodontal tissue and to determine the effectiveness of pearl shells on periodontal tissue through the formation of osteoblasts so that later it can be considered as an ideal alternative bone graft.

METHODS

This study was according to the ARRIVE guidelines for animal pre-clinical research.

Animals

This was experimental laboratory research conducted on guinea pigs (*Cavia cobaya*). Male *Cavia cobaya* weighing 250–300 g and aged 2–3 months were utilized. All experimental protocols were approved by the Health Research Ethical Committee 0064/PL.09/KEPK FKG-RSGM UNHAS/2022. Before treatment, *Cavia cobaya* were adapted to a 12-h light/12-h dark cycle and given free access to tap water and standard food for a week. Unhealthy *Cavia porcellus* were excluded if they lose more than 10% of their body weight after a week of adaptation.

Preparation of Hydroxyapatite Bone Graft from *Pinctada Maxima*

Preparation of pearl oyster shell powder (*Pinctada Maxima*) were done using the precipitation method. This is done first by cleaning the shell. The shells are brushed clean, then dried using sunlight. The shells were broken into smaller sizes and roasted for 2 hours. The results of the sample were mashed using a mortar so that pearl oyster shell powder was obtained. The powder was tested using AAS to obtain the CaO content. Pearl oyster shell powder was synthesized using H_3PO_4 compound at a temperature of 100°C . The solution was allowed to sit for 24 hours to obtain a hydroxyapatite precipitate. This precipitate was calcined at a temperature of 800°C . The synthesis results were characterized using FTIR.

Experimental Procedures

Following the adaptation period, male *Cavia cobaya* were randomly assigned to one of three groups (each with ten *Cavia porcellus*): (1) Bone graft using naces from *Pinctada maxima*, (2) Bovine Xenograft as positive control and (3) placebo as negative control. The guinea pigs were anesthetized using ketamine (20 mg/kg) and Xylazine 10 mg/kg. Furthermore, each guinea pig went through surgery on one of the femurs, the surgical area was made with a horizontal incision with a scalpel no. 15 C to reduce bleeding and a full thickness flap was made. A cavity was made in the femur with a diameter of 3 mm and a depth of 3 mm with a round bur, and then irrigated using metronidazole infusion. The hole in the femur was given a placebo in the negative control group, pearl oyster shell hydroxyapatite powder in the treatment group, and BATAN hydroxyapatite material in the positive control group. Suturing was done using absorbable suture (vycril 5.0) on muscle and silk on skin, all suturing were done using Interrupted Suturing technique, then closed with hypafix. Antibiotics and analgesics were then given. On 14th and 21st day the *Cavia Porcellus* were sacrificed using ether. The femur was removed and sent Microstructure Laboratory, Faculty of Engineering, Indonesian Muslim University for Scan electron microscope (SEM) analysis to measure the osteoblast cell formation and the other sample was sent to Hasanuddin University HUM_RC Laboratory for RT-PCR analysis to identify of osteocalcin expression which is a marker of osteogenesis. The data were analyzed Independent T test data were processed in SPSS 24.0 and displayed in table and graphs.

RESULT

This research was conducted from March to September 2022 and has been approved by the Ethics Commission Number: 0064/PL.09/KEPK FKG-RSGM UNHAS/2022. The research data were then analyzed with the help of the IBM SPSS Statistic version 21 data analysis program. Shapiro-Wilk test used to determine the normality of the data and Levene's test for the homogeneity of the data. The results of the normality test using Shapiro-Wilk showed that the data were normally distributed with a mean value of $p > 0.05$. The results of the data homogeneity was tested using Levene test, and was found that the variance of the data on day 14 and 21 between groups was not homogeneous. The next test is the t-pari test to compare between the groups on day 14 and day 21 formation of osteoblasts the expression of osteocalcin (OCN) and in the femur of *Cavia Porcellus*

➤ Formation of osteoblasts in the femur of *Cavia Porcellus* with Scan Electron Microscope (SEM) examination

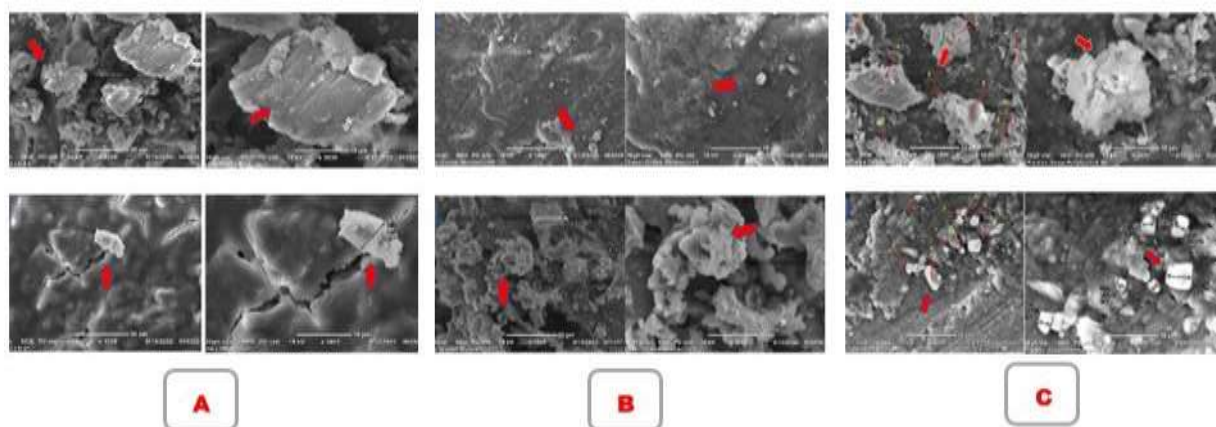


Figure 1. Osteoblast expression on days 14 (picture A) and 21 (picture B) using a Scan Electron Microscope Scan Electron Microscope (SEM) magnification 1500x and 3000x.

(A) Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima, (B) Batan, (C) Placebo sample marked with red arrows

The additional liquid granules of Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima (A) H-21 amounted to 1 grain with a particle size of 7.26 m and there were several cracks on the surface area of the bone scraping, this amount was less than that of Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima (A) H-14, which amounted to 12 grains with an average size of 13.31 m particles. This shows that the length of time/day does not affect the number of grains (particles) on the surface area of the bone scraping for the Hydroxyapatite Pinctada Maxima (A) sample. Additional fluid granules Batan (B) H-21 amounted to 16 granules with an average particle size of 7.03 m on the surface area of bone scraping, this amount was more than Batan (B) H-14 (picture A), which was 7 granules. This shows that the length of time/day affects the number of grains (particles) on the surface area of the bone scraping for the Batan (B) sample. Additional liquid granules on Placebo (C) H-21 amounted to 9 granules with an average particle size of 2.79 m on the surface area of bone scraping, this amount was less than Placebo (C) H-14 which amounted to 11 granules with an average particle size 12.33 m. This shows that the length of time/day does not affect the number of grains (particles) on the surface area of the bone scraping for the Placebo (C) sample

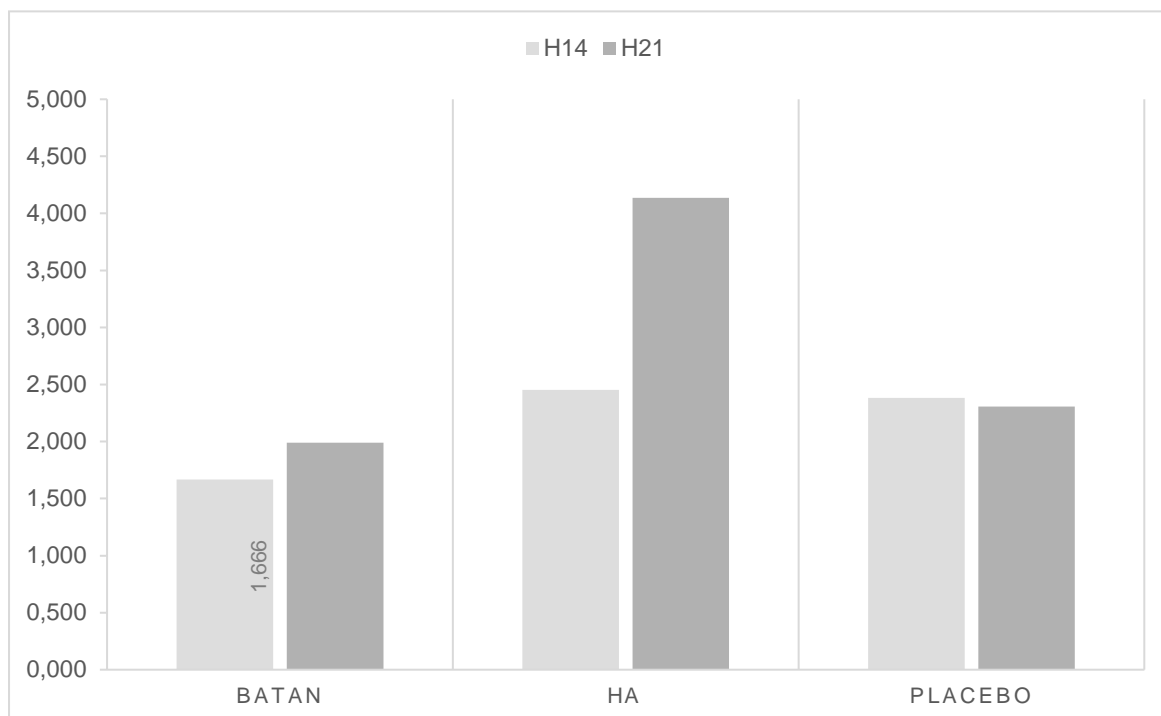
➤ **Expression of osteocalcin (OCN) The Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR)**

This analysis was performed to see the expression of osteocalcin (OCN) as a biomarker of osteogenesis in the femur of *Cavia Porcellus*

Tabel 1. The mean number of OCN expressions in the study group, on RT-PCR observations of the femur defects of guinea pig *cavia porcellus* on day 14 and day 21

Observation (days)	Variable	(Mean ± SD)
14	Batan	(1.666 + 2.653)
	Placebo	(2.381 + 1.48)
	Hydroxiapatite Pinctada maxima	(2.451 + 2.512)
21	Batan	(1.989 + 2.141)
	Placebo	(2.307 + 1.278)
	Hydroxiapatite Pinctada maxima	(4.135 + 2.77)

Based on the description in table 1, the average OCN expression on day 14 in the HA group had the highest average value (2,451 + 2,512) comparison between study groups showed the Batan group had the lowest average value (1,666 + 2,653). On day 21 the HA group had the highest average score (4.135 + 2.77) comparison between study groups showed the Batan group had the lowest average score (1.989 + 2.141)



Grafik 1. The mean number of OCN expressions in the study group, on RT-PCR observations of the femur defects of guinea pig *cavia porcellus* on day 14 and day 21

This graph shows that OCN expression has increased from day 14 to 21 in the hydroxyapatite and Batan samples, while showing decrease in the placebo sample. The Hydroxyapatite test sample showed the highest increase, being 2.451 and 4.135 on the 14th and 21st day respectively.

Table 2. Test of different mean OCN levels between study groups, on RT-PCR observations of guinea pig *cavia porcellus* femur defects on day 14 and 21

Observation (days)	Inter-group variabes	p-value*
14	Batan – Hydroxiapatite Pinctada Maxima	0.644
	Batan - Placebo	0.613
	Hydroxiapatite Pinctada Maxima - Placebo	0.959
21	Batan – Hydroxiapatite Pinctada Maxima	0.208
	Batan - Placebo	0.783
	Hydroxiapatite Pinctada Maxima - Placebo	0.217

Based on the 2-variable difference test table, RT-PCR Osteocalcin observations in the femoral defects of guinea pig *Cavia porcellus*. In all study groups on day 14 and day 21, there was no significant p -value > 0.05 , which meant that there was no significant difference between the 3 observational variables.

DISCUSSION

Hydroxyapatite (HA) as a bone graft has a chemical composition that is almost similar to real bone. HA has both osteoconductive and osteoinductive properties. HA has the characteristics of being biocompatible and bioresorbable. The use of bone grafts to replace lost or damaged bone structures due to defects after trauma or periodontal disease is expected to improve the wound healing process and induce new bone formation.^{15,24-26}

Several researchers have conducted material tests in the processing stage of oyster shells so that the processed product still contains high amounts of calcium. The material processing technique that the researchers used in this study was precipitation. From the research that has been done, the mineral composition of shells from 3 different sources is the same for all samples. Calcium carbonate and carbon combined comprise more than 98.7% of the total mineral content.²⁷⁻³⁰

The main factor in bone destruction in periodontal disease is the interaction of bacteria with the host. Plaque bacterial products cause differentiation of bone progenitor cells into osteoclasts and stimulate gingival cells to release mediators that have the same effect.³¹⁻³³ Lipopolysaccharide and other bacterial toxins play a role in immune cells and osteoblasts present in the gingival tissue which secrete IL-1 α , IL-1 β , IL-6, prostaglandin E2 and Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF)- α . These factors regulate osteoclast formation and activity.^{5,34}

Osteocalcin (OCN) is the most abundant non-collagenous protein in bone secreted solely by osteoblasts. Most OCN secreted by osteoblasts is incorporated into the organic matrix that will later ossify into bone, however, a small fraction is secreted into the circulation. For this reason, OCN is widely considered a bone formation marker and OCN concentration correlates with direct measurement of bone formation.³⁵⁻³⁷ In its carboxylate form it binds calcium directly and thus concentrates in bone. Osteocalcin is used as a marker of the mature osteoblast, also known as a marker of matrix mineralization.^{15,34,38}

In this study, two tests were carried out using Scanning electron microscope (SEM) examination to see the formation of osteoblasts and the Real Time-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) analysis was performed to see the expression of osteocalcin (OCN) as a biomarker of osteogenesis and Scan electron microscope (SEM) examination to see the formation of osteoblasts in the femur of *Cavia Porcellus*.

New bone is subsequently maintained through bone remodelling, regulated by continuous cycles of bone resorption and formation. Increases in serum osteocalcin levels are associated with rapid bone loss. In osteoporosis, there is a deficiency of the calcium level and since osteocalcin is known as a calcium-dependent biomarker and has a strong affinity with hydroxyapatite responsible for bone mineralization. Osteoporosis leads to decreased hydroxyapatite crystal formation, and hence, results in an increase in serum osteocalcin levels.^{39,40}

From the results of observations of the three treatments, osteoblast expression on drugs and placebo on H-14 was more than H-21, in contrast to Hydroxyapatite *Pinctada Maxima* on day 14 which was less than H-21 at 1500X magnification, as a previous study by Ismardianita et al (2017)⁴¹ by using animals sample which proved the increase of osteoblast cell number by day 14. It is also supported by a research by Salim et al (2015) which says that the process of resorption and bone formation in marmots takes about 2-4 weeks.⁴²

The results of the study by RT-PCT examination showed changes in increased expression level from day 14 to day 21 and Hydroxyapatite *Pinctada Maxima* showed the highest increase of 2.451 on day 14 and 4.135 on day 21. Osteocalcin is the most abundant noncollagenous protein that constitutes 1-2% of the total matrix proteins. Osteocalcin is a vitamin K-dependent protein and exclusively secreted by osteoblasts. Such research the first helix of OC is located in the middle region and is resistant to fragmentation because of the structure of the molecules and protease inaccessibility. All fragments of OC found in vivo are acidic forms with no amidated fragments reported to date.^{42,43}

RT-PCT examination showed increased expression levels from day 14 to 21 and HA *Pinctada Maxima*

showing the highest increase of 2,451 and 4,135 respectively. Research on the first helix of OC is located in the middle region and is resistant to fragmentation due to structural molecules and protease inaccessibility. All fragments of OC found in-vivo are acid forms and there was no amidated fragments found. ⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶

CONCLUSION

Based on the test results for the content and characteristics of bone graft containing pearl oyster shells (*Pinctada maxima*), this material contains a high enough element of Hydroxyapatite so that this material has quite good potential as a bone graft.

Scanning Electron Microscope examination in the Batan and Placebo groups in day 14 to 21 showed a significant increase of osteoblasts, in contrast to *Pinctada Maxima* Hydroxyapatite group. Osteocalcin test using RT-PCR examination showed increase in all groups, however the most significant was found in the *Pinctada Maxima* group, however this was found to be statistically insignificant.

Content and characteristics of bone graft containing pearl oyster shell (*Pinctada Maxima*) were found to contain high element of Hydroxyapatite therefore making it a suitable candidate for bone graft.

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