

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b>	iii
<b>ABSTRACT (English)</b>	iv
<b>ABSTRACT (Thai)</b>	viii
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	xix
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	xxii
<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b>	xxvi
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Statement of problem	1
1.2 Literature review	7
1.2.1 Leukemia	7
1.2.1.1 Etiology and risk factor	7
1.2.1.2 Host factor	7
1.2.1.2.1 Hereditary defect in leukemia	7
1.2.1.2.2 Congenital chromosomal abnormalities	8
1.2.1.2.3 Immunodeficiency	8
1.2.1.2.4 Chronic marrow dysfunction	8
1.2.1.3 Environmental factor	9
1.2.1.3.1 Ionizing radiation	9
1.2.1.3.2 Chemicals and drugs	9
1.2.1.3.3 Viruses	10

1.2.1.4	Incidence	10
1.2.1.5	Leukemia Classification	11
1.2.1.5.1	Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	15
1.2.1.5.2	Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)	28
1.2.1.5.3	Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML)	29
1.2.1.5.4	B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL)	32
1.2.2	<i>Wilms' tumor 1 gene (WT1)</i>	36
1.2.2.1	Structure and function of WT1	37
1.2.2.2	Normal expression of WT1	41
1.2.2.3	WT1 in normal hematopoiesis	41
1.2.2.4	WT1 in leukemia	43
1.2.3	Curcumin	45
1.2.3.1	Curcumin structure	45
1.2.3.2	Solubility and stability	46
1.2.3.3	Metal-binding chemistry	49
1.2.3.4	History and traditional uses of curcumin	52
1.2.3.5	Curcumin and tumor signaling	53
1.2.3.5.1	Curcumin suppress NF- $\kappa$ B activation	56
1.2.3.5.2	Curcumin suppress AP-1	57
1.2.3.5.3	Curcumin suppress mitogen-activated protein kinases	58
1.2.3.5.4	Curcumin suppress protein kinases	59
1.2.3.5.5	Curcumin suppress Egr-1	60

1.2.3.5.6 Curcumin inhibits growth factor receptor protein	61
Tyrosine kinases	
1.2.3.6 Curcumin and leukemia	63
1.2.3.7 Curucmin in human clinical trials	66
1.2.3.8 Safety and pharmacology	75
1.2.3.8.1 Pharmacokinetic of curcumin	75
1.2.3.8.2 Safety	76
1.3 Objectives	78
<b>CHAPTER II MATERIALS AND METHODS</b>	
2.1 Chemicals and reagents	79
2.2 Cells and cell culture condition	79
2.3 Vector construction	79
2.4 Transfection procedure	80
2.4.1 Stable clone	80
2.4.2 Transient transfection	80
2.5 Extraction and isolation of pure curcumin	81
2.6 Proliferation and viability assay	82
2.6.1 MTT assay	82
2.6.2 Trypan blue exclusion assay	83
2.7 Total RNA extraction and quantitative reverse transcriptase PCR (qRT-PCR)	83
2.8 Protein extraction	85
2.8.1 Whole protein lysate (crude protein)	85
2.8.2 Nuclear, cytosolic and membrane fractions	86
2.8.3 Protein concentration measurement	87

2.9 Protein detection using SDS-PAGE, Western blot analysis and ECL analysis	89
2.9.1 Sodium dodecyl sulphate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE)	89
2.9.2 Western blot analysis and ECL detection	90
2.9.3 Stripping method	91
2.10 Cytotoxicity of pure curcumin on K562 and stable clone transfected U937 cells	92
2.11 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA levels in K562 and stable clone transfected U937 cells in a dose dependent manner	92
2.12 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA levels in K562 and stable clone of transfected U937 cells in a time dependent manner	93
2.13 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein levels in K562 and stable clone of transfected U937 cells in a dose dependent manner	93
2.14 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 and stable clone transfected U937 cells in a time dependent manner	93
2.15 Effect of pure curcumin on phosphorylated kinase protein	93
2.16 Effect of pure curcumin on activated PKC isoform	94
2.17 Protein half life assay	95
2.18 Proteasome assay	96
2.19 mRNA stability assay	97
2.20 Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) assay	97
2.21 Primer design for ChIP experiment	100
2.22 Reporter gene assay	100
2.23 Mutation promoter target assay	101

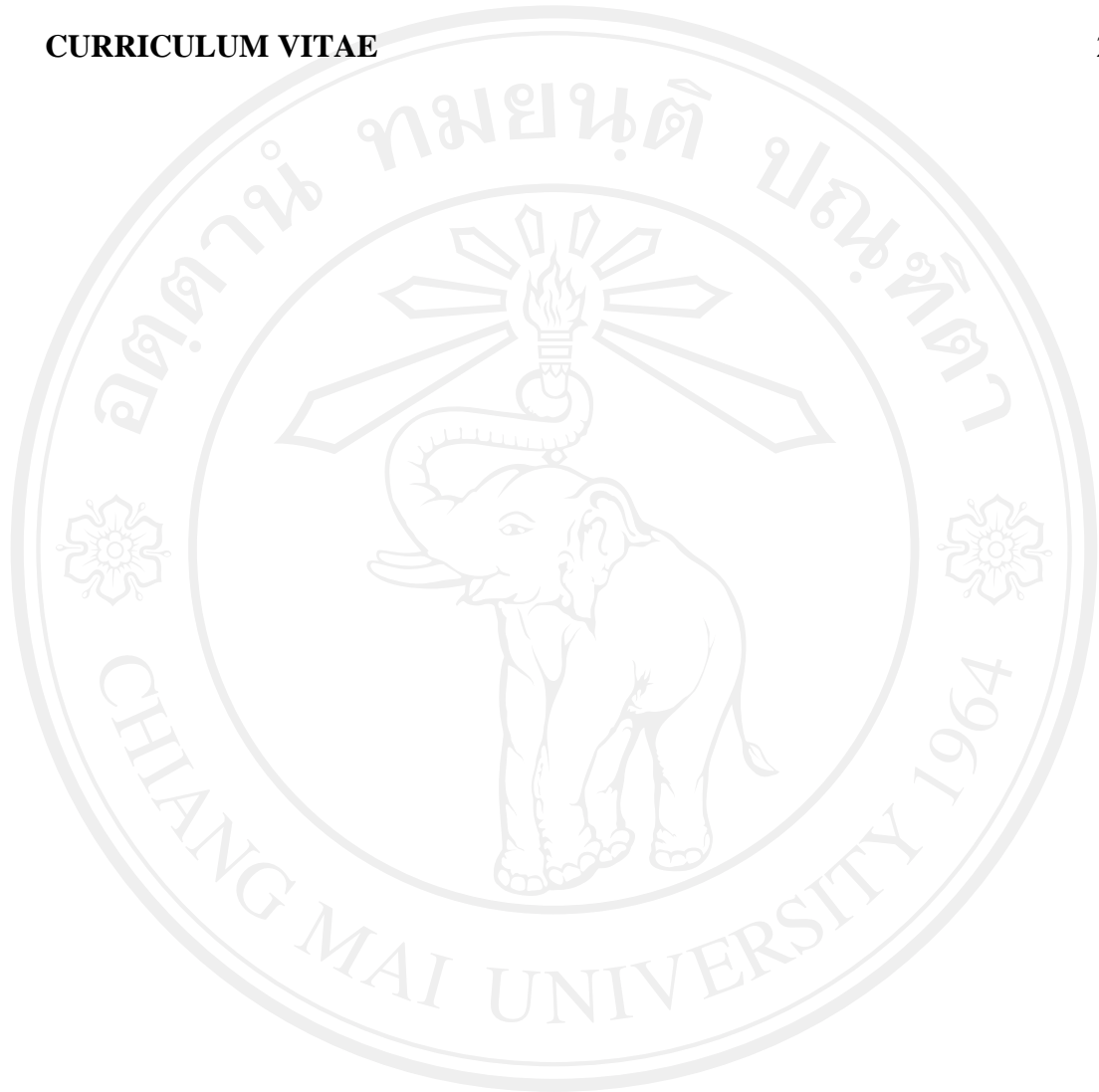
## CHAPTER III RESULTS

3.1 Effect of pure curcumin on cell viability in K562 cells	102
3.2 WT1 overexpression reverses the effect of pure curcumin activity	102
3.3 Effect of pure curcumin on <i>WT1</i> gene expression in K562 cells	106
3.3.1 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	106
3.3.1.1 Effect of various concentrations of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA expression at 24 h of incubation time	106
3.3.1.2 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA expression at various periods of time	106
3.3.2 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 cells	111
3.3.2.1 Effect of various concentration of pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 cells at 24 h of incubation time	111
3.3.2.2 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 cells in different time points	111
3.4 Effect of pure curcumin on <i>WT1</i> gene stability in K562 cells	116
3.4.1. Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA stability in K562 cells	116
3.4.2. Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein stability in K562 cells	116
3.4.3 Effect of proteasome inhibitor on WT1 protein half-life	121
3.5. Effect of pure curcumin on phosphorylated protein kinase in K562 cells	121
3.5.1 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin on phosphorylated protein kinase in K562 cells using human phosphor-kinase array	121
3.5.2 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin on protein kinase C signaling cascade in K562 cells	130

3.5.3 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin on protein kinase A cell signaling in K562 cells	130
3.5.4 Effect of various concentrations of pure curcumin on protein kinase C $\alpha$ in K562 cells	133
3.6 Effect of specific protein kinase inhibitor on <i>WT1</i> gene expression in K562 cells	135
3.6.1 Effect of PKC inhibitor (GF109203x) on <i>WT1</i> mRNA expression in K562 cells	135
3.6.2 Effect of PKC inhibitor (GF109203x) on <i>WT1</i> protein expression in K562 cells	135
3.7 PKC $\alpha$ activation up-regulates <i>WT1</i> expression and reverses pure curcumin inhibition of <i>WT1</i> expression in K562 cells	140
3.8 Investigation upstream and downstream of PKC $\alpha$ signaling cascade in K562 cells	145
3.8.1 Investigation upstream of PKC $\alpha$ signaling cascade in K562 cells	145
3.8.2 Investigation downstream of PKC $\alpha$ signaling cascade in K562 cells	145
3.9 Effect of pure curcumin on <i>WT1</i> proximal promoter in K562 cells	155
3.10 Identification of the effect of pure curcumin on Sp1 transcription factor binding <i>WT1</i> gene promoter in K562 cells	159
3.10.1 Effect of various concentrations of pure curcumin on Sp1 protein in K562 cells	159
3.10.2 Effect of pure curcumin on binding of Sp1 protein and <i>WT1</i> gene promoter in K562 cells	159
3.11 Effect of pure curcumin on <i>WT1</i> proximal promoter activity	164

3.12 Establishment and characterization of U937 clones constitutively expressing WT1	168
3.13 Cytotoxic effects of pure curcumin on four WT1 isoforms stably transfected U937 cells	172
3.14 WT1 overexpression reverses the effect of pure curcumin activity	172
3.15 Effect of pure curcumin on mRNA levels in four WT1 isoform stably transfected cells	176
3.16 Effect of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 protein in WT1 +/+ isoform transfected U937 cells	176
3.16.1 Effect of various concentrations of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 protein in stably transfected U937 cells	176
3.16.2 Effect of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 protein in stably transfected U937 cells at various time points	181
3.17 Effect of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 protein expression via pCMV promoter	181
3.18 Effect of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 protein half-life in WT1 +/+ isoform stably transfected U937 cells	186
3.19 Effect of PKC inhibitor on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein expression in transfected U937 cells	191
<b>CHAPTER IV DISCUSSION</b>	194
<b>CHAPTER V CONCLUSION</b>	207
<b>REFERENCES</b>	209
<b>APPENDICES</b>	249
Appendix A	250

Appendix B	261
Appendix C	265
<b>CURRICULUM VITAE</b>	280



ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved



## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table</b>	<b>Page</b>
1 Classification of leukemia	13
2 Clinical feature of acute myelogenous leukemia	17
3 FAB classification of acute myeloblastic leukemia	18
4 The MIC classification of AML	20
5 FAB classification of acute lymphoblastic leukemia	30
6 Effect of curcumin on different cell signaling pathways	53
7 Clinical trial of curcumin	66
8 Preparation of stock BSA standard solution	88
9 Inhibitory concentration at 20% and 50% values of pure curcumin on K562 cells	103
10 Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA expression in K562 after treatment with various concentration of pure curcumin	107
11 Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA levels in K562 cells after treatment with 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin treatment for 0, 3, 6, 12, and 24 h	109
12 Percentage of relative WT1 protein levels in K562 cells after treatment with various concentrations of pure curcumin	112
13 Percentage of relative WT1 protein levels in K562 cells after treatment with 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin in different time points	114

14	Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA level and half-life in K562 cells after treatment with actinomycin D in the presence or absence of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin at different time points	117
15	Percentage of relative WT1 protein levels and half-lives in K562 cells after treatment with cycloheximide in the presence or absence of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin at different time points	119
16	Percentage of relative WT1 protein levels in K562 cells after treatment with or without MG132 in presence or absence of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin in difference time points	122
17	Percentage of relative WT1 protein levels in K562 cells after treatment with or without EGCG or lactacystin in presence or absence of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin	124
18	Relative ratio of phosphor-kinase protein after pure curcumin treatment in K562 cells	126
19	Percentage of relative of protein kinase C isoenzyme and protein kinase A levels in K562 cells after 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin treatment	131
20	Percentage of relative activated PKC $\alpha$ protein levels in treated K562 cells with various concentrations of pure curcumin	133
21	Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA level in treated K562 cells with 0.0084 $\mu$ M (IC <sub>50</sub> value) GF109203x (PKC $\alpha$ inhibitor)	136
22	Percentage of relative WT1 protein level in treated K562 cells with 0.0084 $\mu$ M (IC <sub>50</sub> value) GF109203x (PKC $\alpha$ inhibitor)	138
23	Percentage of relative WT1 protein level is high levels after transfection with activated PKC $\alpha$	141

24	Activated PKC $\alpha$ stimulated endogenous WT1 protein expression and reversed pure curcumin activity in K562 cells	143
25	Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA level in treated K562 cells with 1.4 $\mu$ M (IC <sub>50</sub> value) LY294002 (PI3K inhibitor)	147
26	Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA level in treated K562 cells with 0.53 $\mu$ M (IC <sub>50</sub> value) U0126 (MEK inhibitor)	150
27	Percentage of relative WT1 mRNA level in treated K562 cells with 40 nM (IC <sub>50</sub> value) SP600125 (JNK inhibitor)	152
28	Percentage of relative WT1 and Sp1 protein levels after pure curcumin treatment with various concentration for 24 h	160
29	Relative enrichment ratio of SYBR green qPCR amplification of promoter DNA containing WT1 binding site in K562 cell which were treated with 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin	162
30	Firefly luciferase activity of 301 bp consensus WT1 promoter constructed pGL3 vector was treated with 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin for 24 h	165
31	IC <sub>20</sub> and IC <sub>50</sub> value of pure curcumin on cytotoxicity of transfected U937 cells	173
32	Percentage of relative levels of WT1 isoforms mRNA in transfected U937 cells after treatment with pure curcumin or DMSO	177
33	Percentage of relative exogenous WT1 +/+ protein level in transfected U937 cells after treatment with 10, 15, 17 $\mu$ M pure curcumin or 0.03% DMSO for 24 h	179
34	Percentage of relative levels of exogenous WT1 +/+ protein in transfected U937 cells after treatment with 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin in different time points	182

35	Percentage of relative exogenous WT1 protein level and half-life of WT1 +/+ transfected U937 cells after treatment with cycloheximide in the presence or absence of 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin at different time points	187
36	Percentage of relative exogenous WT1 +/+ protein level in stably transfected U937 cells after treatment with or without MG132 in presence or absence 15 $\mu$ M pure curcumin	189
37	Percentage of relative exogenous WT1 protein level in transfected U937 cells were treated with 2.5 $\mu$ M GF109203x (PKC $\alpha$ , $\beta$ 1, $\delta$ , and $\epsilon$ inhibitor)	192
38	The percentage of SDS-PAGE used for preparing gel	268

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>Figure</b>	<b>Page</b>
1 Structure of <i>WT1</i> gene and WT1 protein	38
2 Diagrammatic representation of major and minor WT1 protein isoforms	40
3 A stemless rhizomatous of <i>Curcuma longa</i>	46
4 Nature yellow dye	48
5 Tautomerism of curcumin under physiological conditions	49
6 Nomenclature of regions of curcumin I	51
7 Stages in tumor progression inhibited by curcumin	63
8 Structure of curcumin and its metabolite	77
9 Standard curve of BSA	88
10 The chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) assay and various methods of analysis	99
11 Cytotoxicity of pure curcumin on K562 cells	103
12 Effect of WT1 isoform overexpression on pure curcumin activity	105
13 Effect of various concentration of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	108
14 Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA expression of K562 cells in a time-dependent manner	110
15 Effect of various concentration of pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 cells by Western blot analysis	113

16	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein expression in K562 cells by Western blot analysis	115
17	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 mRNA stability using actinomycin D	118
18	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein stability using cycloheximide	120
19	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 protein stability by using MG132	123
20	Effect of pure curcumin and proteasome inhibitors on proteasomal degradation	125
21	Effect of pure curcumin on phosphorylated protein kinase in K562 cells	128
22	Effect of pure curcumin on the level of protein kinase C isoenzymes and protein kinase A expression in K562 cells	132
23	Effect of various pure curcumin on the level of activated protein kinase C $\alpha$ expression at cell membrane in K562 cells	134
24	Effect of protein kinase C inhibitor (GF109203x) on the level of WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	137
25	Effect of PKC inhibitor on the level of WT1 protein expression in K562 cells	139
26	Activated PKC $\alpha$ stimulated endogenous WT1 protein expression in K562 cells	142
27	PKC $\alpha$ activation stimulated endogenous WT1 protein expression in K562 cells	144
28	Overview of signaling transduction pathway	146

29	Effect of PI3K inhibitor (LY294002) on the level of WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	148
30	Effect of MEK inhibitor (U0126) on the level of WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	151
31	Effect of SP600125 (JNK inhibitor) on the level of WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	153
32	Effect of 0.014% DMSO on the level of WT1 mRNA expression in K562 cells	154
33	Sequence of the WT1 proximal promoter region	156
34	Pure curcumin treatment attenuated WT1 protein transcription factor binding to the proximal <i>WT1</i> gene promoter	157
35	Time-dependent comparison of WT1 protein levels versus promoter occupancy by qPCR	158
36	Effect of various concentration of pure curcumin on Sp1 protein expression in K562 cells	161
37	Pure curcumin treatment attenuated WT1 transcription factor protein binding to the WT1 proximal promoter	163
38	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 gene activity <i>via</i> Firefly luciferase reporter	166
39	Site directed mutagenesis of the WT1 consensus sequence (-50 to -39) abolished the WT1 promoter activity compared to the wild type WT1 promoter construct (301 bp WT1)	167
40	Expression of <i>WT1</i> gene in transfected cells by RT-PCR	169
41	Expression of <i>WT1</i> gene in transfected cells by qRT-PCR	170

42	Expression of WT1 protein in transfected U937 cells by immunoprecipitation and Western blot analysis	171
43	Cytotoxicity of pure curcumin on transfected U937 cells	174
44	Cytotoxic effect of pure curcumin on WT1 isoform-transfected U937 cells	175
45	Effect of pure curcumin on WT1 isoforms mRNA level in transfected U937 cells	178
46	Effect of different concentrations of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein in stably transfected U937 cells	180
47	Effect of pure curcumin at 15 $\mu$ M on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein expression in WT1 +/+ transfected U937 cells	183
48	Effect of pure curcumin on other proteins driven by the pCMV promoter	184
49	Effect of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein stability using Cycloheximide	188
50	Effect of pure curcumin on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein stability using MG132	190
51	Effect of GF109203x on exogenous WT1 +/+ protein expression in transfected U937 cells	193
52	Diagram signaling cascade propose relation of WT1 transcription factor activity	201
53	Schematic model of inhibitory mechanism of pure curcumin on endogenous <i>WT1</i> gene expression in K562 cells and exogenous WT1 protein in transfected U937 cells	206



## ABBREVIATIONS

%	Percent
$\beta$	Beta
$\alpha$	Alpha
$\gamma$	Gamma
$\epsilon$	Epsilon
$\delta$	Delta
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Degree Celsius
aa	Amino acid
ALL	Acute lymphocytic leukemia
AML	Acute myelogenous leukemia
AP-1	Activator protein-1
APL	Acute promyelocytic leukemia
ATM	Ataxia telangiectasia mutated
ATPase	Adenosine triphosphatase
BM	Bone marrow
bp	Base pair
BSA	Bovine serum albumin
CD	Cluster of Differentiation
CLL	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia

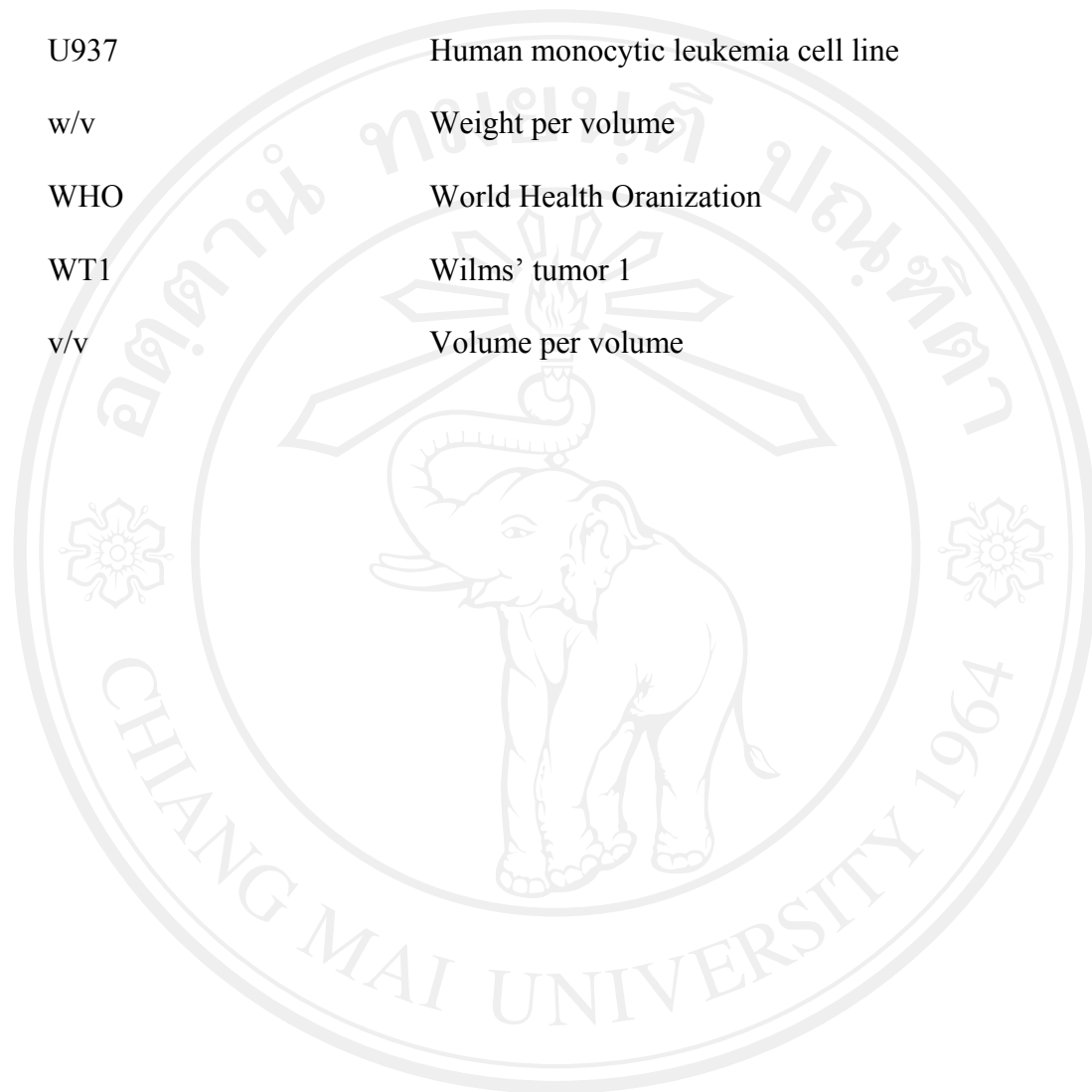
ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
 Copyright © by Chiang Mai University  
 All rights reserved

CML	Chronic myelogenous leukemia
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
CHX	Cycloheximide
COX	Cyclooxygenase
DEPC	Diethyl pyrocarbonate
DMSO	Dimethyl sulfoxide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DTT	Dithiotreitol
K <sub>2</sub> EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid dipotassium dihydrate
ECL	Enhanced chemiluminescence
EGF	Epidermal growth factor
FAB	French-American-British
FBS	Fetal bovine serum
FGF	Fibroblast growth factor
gm	Gram
GAPDH	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase
GST	Glutathione S-transferase
h	Hour
HEPES	<i>N</i> -2-hydroxyethylpiperazine- <i>N</i> -2-ethanesulfonic acid
HPLC	High performance liquid chromatography
IC <sub>20</sub>	Inhibitory concentration at 20% growth
IC <sub>50</sub>	Inhibitory concentration at 50% growth
IL	Interleukin
IU	International unit

JNK	c-Jun N-terminal kinase
kb	Kilobase
kDa	Kilodalton
KTS	Lysine-threonine-serine
L	Liter
LAP	Leukocyte alkaline phosphatase
LPS	Lipopolysaccharide
LOX	Lipoxygenase
K562	Human erythroid leukemia cell line
$\mu\text{g}$	Microgram
MIC	Morphologic-immunologic-cytogenetic
$\mu\text{L}$	Microliter
$\mu\text{M}$	Micromolar
M	Molar
mM	Millimolar
mL	Milliliter
MMP	Matrix metalloprotease
MPO	Myeloperoxidase
mRNA	Messenger ribonucleic acid
MTT	3-(4, 5 dimethylthiazole-2yl)-2, 5 Diphenyltetrazolium Bromide
NADH	Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
NF- $\kappa\text{B}$	Nuclear factor kappa B
nM	Nanomolar

nm	Nanometer
NOS	Nitric oxide synthase
OD	Optical density
PAS	Periodic acid shift
PBS	Phosphate buffer saline
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PKC	Protein kinase C
PKC $\alpha$	Protein kinase C alpha
PTK	Protein tyrosine kinase
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RPMI 1640	Roswell Park Memorial Institute 1640 medium
RT-PCR	Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction
qRT-PCR	Quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction
rpm	Revolution per minute
SBB	Sudan Black B
SD	Standard deviation
SEM	Standard error of sample mean
SDS-PAGE	Sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
Sp1	Stimulating protein 1
TAE	Tris acetate EDTA
TdT	Terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase
TEMED	<i>N, N, N, N</i> -tetramethyl ethylene diamine

TNF	Tumor necrosis factor
TPA	12- <i>O</i> -tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate
U937	Human monocytic leukemia cell line
w/v	Weight per volume
WHO	World Health Organization
WT1	Wilms' tumor 1
v/v	Volume per volume



ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright© by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved