**COVER LETTER**

**Address to the Chief Editor :**

Prof. dr. Sultana MH Faradz, PhD

Journal of Biomedicine and Translational Research

August 10th, 2022

Dear Prof. dr. Sultana MH Faradz, PhD,

We are pleased to submit the manuscript entitled “**Effectivity of Roselle Flower Infusion (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*) on Retinal Ganglion Cell Apoptosis of Sprague Dawley Rats Exposed to Cigarette Smoke**” to be considered for publication as a research article in the *Journal of Biomedicine and Translational Research*.

The prevalence of smoking is still high in Indonesia. Cigarette smoke contains a lot of free radicals that can reduce antioxidants in the body. One of those is Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) which can induce retinal ganglion cell apoptosis and eventually lead to optic neuropathy. One way to suppress the levels of free radicals in the body is to increase the body's antioxidant levels. Roselle or Hibiscus sabdariffa is an herbal plant that is reported to have a lot of antioxidant content. Thus, we conducted a study that aimed to prove that infusion of Rosella flower can reduce retinal ganglion cell apoptosis of Sprague Dawley rats exposed to cigarette smoke that was approved by the Health Research Ethics Commission of the Faculty of Medicine, Diponegoro University / Dr. Kariadi General Hospital Semarang.

All authors have contributed significantly and are in agreement with the content of the manuscript. The authors did not receive any grant to conduct the study.

I, Riski Prihatningtias, on behalf of the authors, certify that this manuscript is entirely original, and has not been copyrighted, published, submitted, or accepted for publication elsewhere. We have no conflict of interest associated with this publication.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



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