

Review Article

Chemical Diversity of Indole Alkaloids from Malaysian *Kopsia* Species (Apocynaceae) and Their Biological Activities

Wan Nur Huda Wan Hanafi¹, Mohamad Nurul Azmi Mohamad Taib^{1*}
and Pinus Jumaryatno²

¹Natural Products and Synthesis Organic Laboratory (NPSOLab), School of Chemical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia

²Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Universitas Islam Indonesia, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

* Corresponding author: mnazmi@usm.my

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ABSTRACT

The genus *Kopsia*, which belongs to the family Apocynaceae, has been used extensively in traditional treatment. This mini-review provides a comprehensive analysis of the chemical diversity of indole alkaloids from Malaysian *Kopsia* species and their biological activities. Fourteen species with 164 indole alkaloids have already been studied and successfully isolated and characterised. Most of them are categorised as aspidofractinine, aspidospermane and eburnane types. The literature and references for this manuscript were obtained from various sources including SciFinder®, Reaxys®, ScienceDirect®, PubMed Central®, NIH National Library of Medicine, Google Scholar and The Plant List®.

Keywords: Apocynaceae, *Kopsia*, indole alkaloids, aspidofractinine, aspidospermane, eburnane

1. INTRODUCTION

The name “*Kopsia*” which belong to Apocynaceae family was published in 1823 by Blume in honour of the Dutch botanist J.Kops (1765-1849) with one species, *K. arborea* Blume. To date, there are about 23 species have been identified from Southern China and Burma to northern Australia and Vanuatu (Middleton, 2004). Most species occur in Southeast Asia, namely in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo (Middleton, 2004). In Malaysia, there are nearly 14 species which have been particularly well-investigated. Among the Malays, *K. larutensis* King and Gamble are known for its Malay names “pokok karang”, *K. macrophylla* Hook. f. as “bangku”, *K. pauciflora* Hook f. as “sertong”, *K. singapurensis* Ridl. as “selada” and *K. fruticosa* (Roxb.) A.DC. as “cabai hutan”. Table 1 compiled all *Kopsia* species found in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo including its distribution.

The *Kopsia* species has been suggested for various medicinal uses. In 1966, a report by Burkill states that the root of *K. larutensis* King & Gamble, *K. macrophylla* Hook f., *K. singapurensis* Ridl., and *K. pauciflora* Hook f. is used by the Malays for poulticing ulcerated noses in tertiary syphilis. In Java, *K. arborea* is used for headaches. *K. officinalis* Tsiang & Li is used in traditional Chinese medicine to treat rheumatoid arthritis and gout (Sevenet et al., 1994). In addition, *Kopsia* species have also been studied for their biological activities. Chan et

al., (2016) reported that *K. dasyrachis* and *K. fruticosa* have anti-plasmodial properties, while *K. arborea*, *K. singaporensis* and *K. tenuis* have anti-proliferative properties against human cancer cells (Chan et. al., 2016). A positive result on the anti-hypertensive activity was also reported for *K. teoi* from a preliminary screening of its alkaloid extracts.

Table 1. *Kopsia* species and its distribution in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo

Species	Distribution
<i>K. arborea</i> Blume	Perak
<i>K. dasyrachis</i> Ridl.	Sabah (Lukan)
<i>K. deverrei</i> L. Allorge	Johor
<i>K. fruticosa</i>	Selangor, Federal Territories of Putrajaya
<i>K. larutensis</i>	Perak
<i>K. griffithii</i> King & Gamble	Melaka, Selangor
<i>K. macrophylla</i> Hook. F	Negeri Sembilan, Johor (Gunung Angsi)
<i>K. pauciflora</i> Hook. F	Melaka
<i>K. profunda</i> Markgr	Terengganu (Belara Forest Reserve)
<i>K. terengganensis</i> L. Allorge & Wiart	Terengganu (Dungun)
<i>K. singaporensis</i> Ridl.	Johor (Mersing)
<i>K. sleeseniana</i> Markgr.	Sarawak (Bintulu)
<i>K. tenuis</i> Leenh. & Steenis	Sarawak (Mattang)
<i>K. teoi</i> L. Allorge	Johor (Keluang)

The aim of this review is therefore to provide an overview of the chemical and pharmacological studies on indole alkaloids isolated from the *Kopsia* genera. For this mini-review, a comprehensive analysis and comparison of literature from various sources such as SciFinder®, Reaxys®, ScienceDirect®, PubMed Central®, NIH National Library of Medicine, Google Scholar and The Plant List® was conducted.

2. ALKALOIDS FROM *Kopsia* SPECIES

Plants belonging to this genus produce an abundance of indole alkaloids, many of which have an interesting carbon skeleton and biological activity (Kam, 1999). The first alkaloids from the genus *Kopsia* were determined in 1890 by Greshoff who worked on the seeds of *K. flavida* Blume, *K. arborea* Blume and *K. fruticosa* A. DC. Most species of the genus *Kopsia* comprises alkaloids derived from the aspidofractinine type which can be described as C₁₈ linked to C₂. There was also the aspidospermane type which refers to an ethyl chain, and the eburnane type, which contains a linkage N₁-C₁₆ (Sevenet et al., 1994). Figure 1 illustrates the structure of each type of alkaloid in the genus *Kopsia*. Researchers preferred the Mayer test, Dragendorff reagent or TLC followed by Dragendorff detection for the detection of alkaloids (Raal et al., 2020). Table 2 shows the *Kopsia* species whose alkaloid content has been reported.

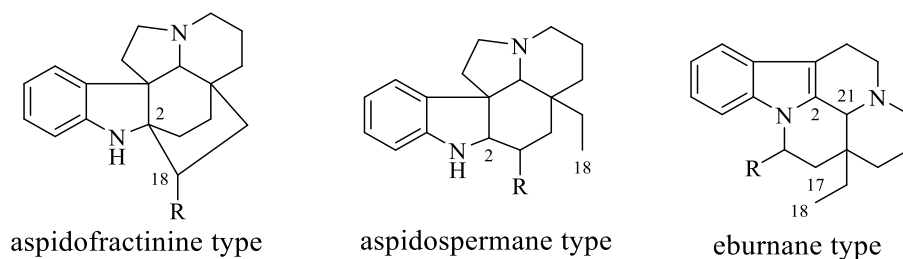


Figure 1. Indole alkaloid main skeleton isolated from *Kopsia* species

Table 2. *Kopsia* species and its reported alkaloids

Plant	Part	Isolated alkaloid	References
<i>K. arborea</i>	L	Methyl-12-methoxychanofrucosinate (1)	Lim et al., 2007
		Methyl-11,12-dimethoxychanofrucosinate (2)	Lim & Kam et al., 2008
		Methyl- <i>N</i> ₁ -decarbomethoxychanofrucosinate (3)	Wong et al., 2016
		Methyl-11,12-methylenedioxychanofrucosinate (4)	Wong et al., 2021
		Methyl-11,12-methylenedioxy- <i>N</i> ₁ -decarbomethoxychanofrucosinate (5)	
		Methyl-11,12-methylenedioxy- <i>N</i> ₁ -decarbomethoxy- $\Delta^{14,15}$ -chanofrucosinate (6)	
		Arboricine (7)	
		Arboricinine (8)	
		Arborisidine (9)	
		Arbornamine (10)	
		Prunifoline A (11)	
		Prunifoline B (12)	
		Prunifoline C (13)	
		Prunifoline D (14)	
		Prunifoline E (15)	
		Prunifoline F (16)	
	SB	Arbolodinine A (17)	
		Arbolodinine B (18)	
		Arbolodinine C (19)	
<i>K. dasyrachis</i>	L	Kopsidasine (20)	Kam et al., 1999a
		Kopsidasine- <i>N</i> -oxide (21)	Kam et al., 1999c
		Kopsidasinine (22)	Saxton, 1998
		Kopsirachine (23)	
		Methyl-11,12-methylenedioxychanofrucosinate (4)	
		Methyl- <i>N</i> ₁ -decarbomethoxychanofrucosinate (3)	
		Methyl-11,12-methylenedioxy- <i>N</i> ₁ -decarbomethoxychanofrucosinate (5)	
		11,12-dimethoxykopsamine (24)	
		Danuphylline (25)	
		Kinabalurine G (26)	
	S	Kopsiflorine (27)	
		Kopsilongine (28)	
		11-methoxykopsilongine (24)	
		Kopsinine (29)	
		Kopsinine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (30)	
		11,12-methylenedioxykopsinaline (31)	
		Tetrahydroalstonine (32)	
		Pleiocarpamine (33)	
		16-hydroxymethylpleiocarpamine (34)	
		Kopsine (35)	
	<i>N</i> -carbomethoxy-5,22-dioxokopsane (36)		
	(+)-eburnamonine (37)		
	(+)-isoeburnamine (38)		
	Leuconoxine (39)		
	Paucidactine B (40)		
	(-)-norpleiomutine (41)		
	(-)-demethylnorpleiomutine (42)		
	(+)-kopsoffinol (43)		
	Kopsiflorine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (44)		
	Kopsilongine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (45)		
	Decarbomethoxykopsifine (46)		
	Kopsinarine (47)		
	11,12-methylenedioxykopsine (48)		

		Dasyrachine (49) Rhazinicine (50) (+)-19(<i>R</i>)-hydroxyeburnamine (51) (-)-19(<i>R</i>)-hydroxyisoeburnamine (52)	
	L, S	Kopsamine (53) Kopsamine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (54) Pleiocarpine (55) 12-methoxypleiocarpine (56) Kopsifine (57)	
<i>K. deverrei</i>	SB	(+)-kopsinone (58) (-)- <i>N</i> -carbomethoxy-17 β -hydroxykopsinine (59) (-)- <i>N</i> -carbomethoxy-17 β -hydroxy- $\Delta^{14,15}$ -kopsinine (60) (+)- <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxykopsinaline (28) Kopsamine (53) Pleiocarpamine (33) 16-hydroxymethylpleiocarpamine (34)	Mauger et al., 2021 Saxton, 1998
	L	10-methoxykopsinone (61) 12-methoxykopsinone (62) 14,15-dihydro-10-methoxykopsinone (63)	
<i>K. fruticosa</i>	L, B	Kopsine (35)	Gilbert, 1965
	L	(-)-fruticosamine (64) (-)-fruticosine (65)	Teo et al., 1990
<i>K. griffithii</i>	L	Kopsilongine (28) Kopsamine (53) Kopsamine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (54) Pleiocarpine (55) (+)-eburnamonine (37) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine (66) <i>N</i> -carbomethoxy-11-hydroxy-12-methoxykopsinaline (67) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-11,12-dimethoxykopsinaline (24) Tetrahydroalstonine (32) 12-methoxykopsidasinine (68) 16-(<i>R</i>)-19,20- <i>E</i> -isositrikine (69) 12-methoxypleiocarpine (56) Harmicine (70)	Kam & Sim, 1998 Kam et al., 1999b
	SB	(-)-eburnamine (71) Kopsinine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (30) 16- <i>epi</i> -deacetylakuammiline (72) Rhazinaline <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (73) Akuammiline <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (74) 16- <i>epi</i> -deacetylakuammiline- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (75) 11,12-methylenedioxykopsinaline- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (54)	
	L, SB	Harmane (76) Leuconolam (77) Leuconoxine (36) Kopsinine (29) Rhazimol (78) Buchtienine (79)	
<i>K. larutensis</i>	L, B	(-)-eburnamonine (37) (-)-eburnamine (71) (+)-isoeburnamine (38) (-)-kopsinine (29) (-)-eburnaminol (80) (+)-larutensine (81)	Awang et al., 1991 Kam et al., 1992 Shahari et al., 2017

	S, B	(–)-kopsinine (24) Kopsilarutensinine (82) Tetrahydroalstonine (32)	
	L	(+)-eburnamonine (37) (+)-eburnamonine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (83)	
<i>K. macrophylla</i>	L	Kopsilactone (84) Kopsone (85)	Kan-Fan et al., 1995 Sevenet et al., 1994
	B	5,22-dioxokopsane (86) Dregamine (87) Tabernaemontanine (88) Akuammiline (89) Rhazimol (78) Norpleiomutin (41) Kopsoffine (90)	
	L, B	8-hydroxyskytanthine (91) 8-oxoskytanthine (92) 8-oxo- $\Delta^{5,9}$ -skytanthine (93) 11,12-methylenedioxykopsinaline (31) 11,12-methylenedioxy 16-deoxykopsinaline (94)	
<i>K. pauciflora</i>	S	(–)-eburnamine (71) (+)-isoeburnamine (38) (+)-eburnamonine (37) (+)-eburnamenine (95) Norpleiomutine (41) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine (66) Kopsamine- <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (24) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-11,12-dimethoxykopsinaline (24) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxykopsinaline (28) 12-methoxy-10-demethoxykopsidasinine (68) Larutienine B (96) 11,12-methylenedioxykopsinaline (31) (–)-19(<i>R</i>)-hydroxyisoeburnamine (52) (+)-19(<i>R</i>)-hydroxyeburnamine (51)	Gan et al., 2014; Kam & Yoganathan, 1996b; 1997
	L	Pauciflorine A (97) Pauciflorine B (98) Pauciflorine C (99) Paucifoline (100) Paucidactine A (101) Paucidactine B (40) Kopsirensine A (102) Kopsirensine B (103) Kopsirensine C (104) Catharinensine (105) Tetrahydroalstonine pseudoindoxyl (106) Andransinine A (107) Andransinine (108) Precondylcarpine (109) Larutensine (81) Arboloscine A (110) Leuconodine F (111) Mersicarpine (112) Leuconolam (77) Lahadinine A (113) Lahadinine B (114) Paucifinine (115) Paucifinine- <i>N</i> -oxide (116)	
	L, S	Larutienine A (117)	

		Leuconoxine (39) Rhazinilam (118) (+)-19(<i>R</i>)-hydroxyeburnamine (51) Tetrahydroalstonine (32) Kopsinine (29) <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-11,12-methylenedioxykopsinaline (53) Kinabalurine A (119) Kinabalurine B (120) Kinabalurine C (121) Kinabalurine D (122) Kinabalurine E (123) Kinabalurine F (124) (+)-kopsoffine (90) (+)-kopsoffinol (43)	
<i>K. profunda</i>	S, L	(–)- <i>N</i> ₁ -methoxycarbonyl-11,12-methylenedioxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine (125) (–)- <i>N</i> ₁ -methoxycarbonyl-11,12-methylenedioxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (126) (–)- <i>N</i> -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine (66) (–)- <i>N</i> ₁ -methoxycarbonyl-12-methoxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine <i>N</i> ₄ -oxide (127) (–)- <i>N</i> ₁ -methoxycarbonyl-12-hydroxy- $\Delta^{16,17}$ -kopsinine (128)	Kam & Tan, 1995
<i>K. terenganensis</i>	B	(+)-quebrachamine (129) (–)-eburnamine (71) (+)-isoeburnamine (38) (–)-eburnaminol (80) (+)-larutensine (81) Terengganensines A (130) Terengganensines B (131)	Uzir et al., 1997
<i>K. sleeseniana</i>	L, B	Kopsingine (132)	Kam, 1999.
<i>K. singapurensis</i>	SB	11,12-methylenedioxykopsaporine (133) Singapurensine A (134) Singapurensine B (135) Singapurensine C (136) Singapurensine D (137) Aspidophylline A (138) Rhazinal (139) Kopsinine (29) 17 α -hydroxy- $\Delta^{14,15}$ -kopsinine (140) Kopsinganol (141) Rhazinilam (118) Leuconolam (77) Akuammidine (142) Tetrahydroalstonine (32)	Subramaniam et al., 2007
	L	Vincophylline (143) Kopsilosine A (144) Kopsilosine B (145) Kopsilosine C (146) Kopsilosine D (147) Kopsilosine E (148) Kopsilosine F (149) 16-epikopsinine (150) Kopsilongine (28) Kopsilongine- <i>N</i> -oxide (45)	

		Kopsidine D (151)	
	S, L	Kopsingine (132) 16- <i>epi</i> akuammiline (152) 16- <i>epide</i> acetylakuammiline (72) Kopsaporine (153)	
<i>K. tenuis</i>	L	Lundurine A (154) Lundurine B (155) Lundurine C (156) Lundurine D (157) Tenuisine A (158) Tenuisine B (159) Tenuisine C (160) Tenuiphylline (161)	Kam et al., 2004
<i>K. teoi</i>	L, B	Kopsinol (162) Kopsinginol (163) Kopsinganol (141) Kopsingine (132) Kopsaporine (153) Rhazinilam (118) Rhazimol (78) Akuammiline (89) Kopsinginine (164) 17- α -hydroxy- $\Delta^{14,15}$ -kopsinine (140)	Kam & Yoganathan, 1996a

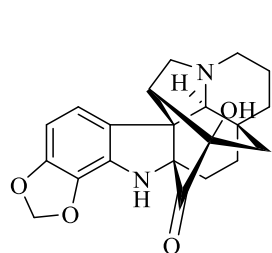
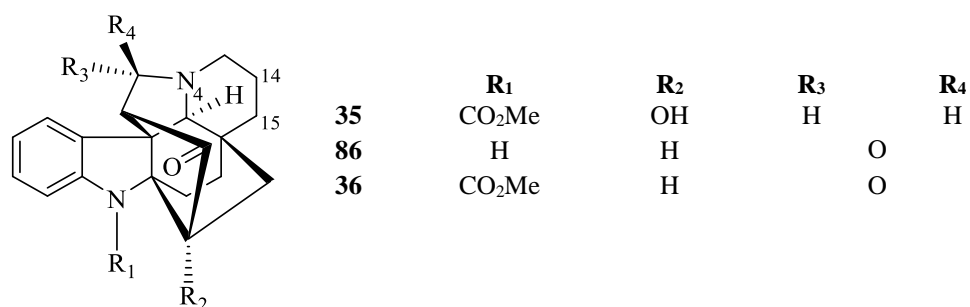
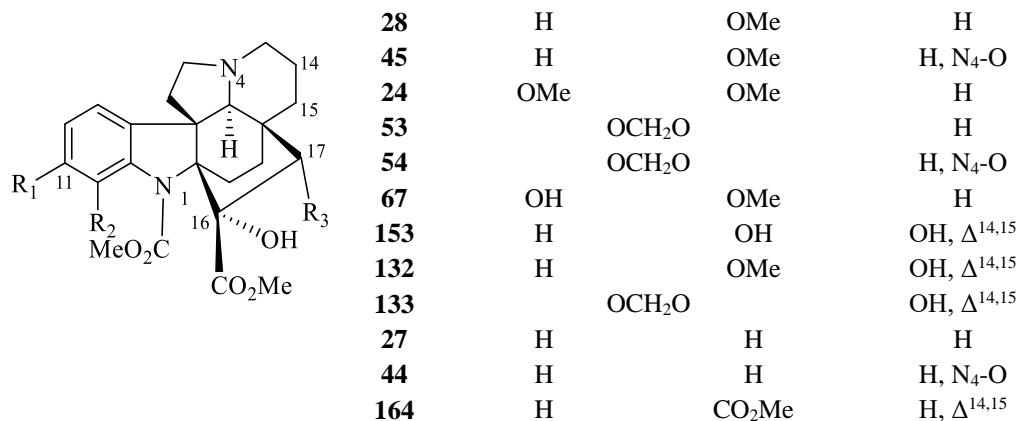
Aspidofractinine type

	59	R₁	R₂	R₃	R₄	R₅
	60	H	H	CO ₂ Me	H	OH
	31	H	H	CO ₂ Me	H	OH, $\Delta^{14,15}$
	140	OCH ₂ O	H	H	OH	H
	29	H	H	H	H	α -OH, $\Delta^{14,15}$
	30	H	H	H	H	H
	94	OCH ₂ O	H	H	H	H, N ₄ -O
	55	H	H	CO ₂ Me	H	H
	56	H	OMe	CO ₂ Me	H	H

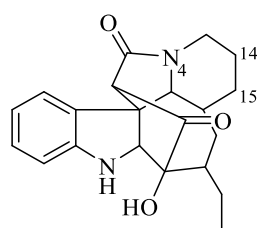
	58	R₁	R₂
	62	H	H, $\Delta^{14,15}$
	61	H	OMe
	63	OMe	H, $\Delta^{14,15}$

	162	R₁	R₂	R₃	R₄
	163	H	H	CO ₂ Me	OH
	141	H	OMe	H	H, $\Delta^{14,15}$

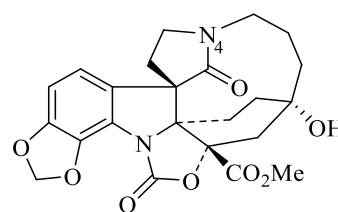
R₁ R₂ R₃



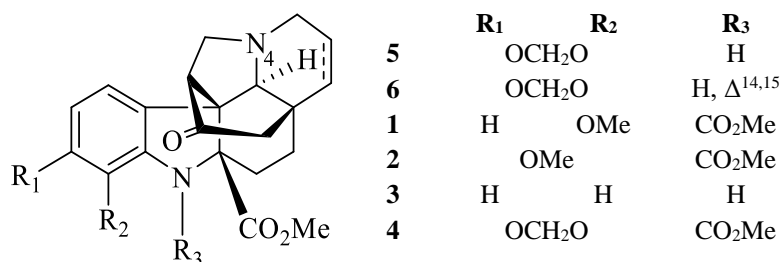
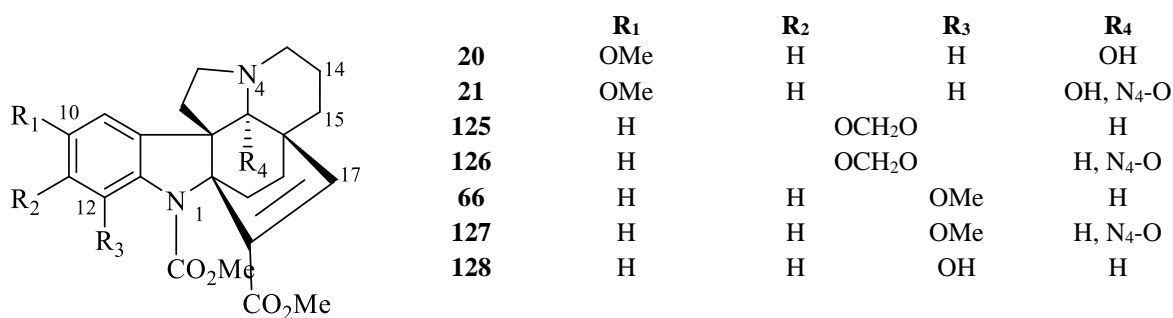
Dasyrachine (**49**)

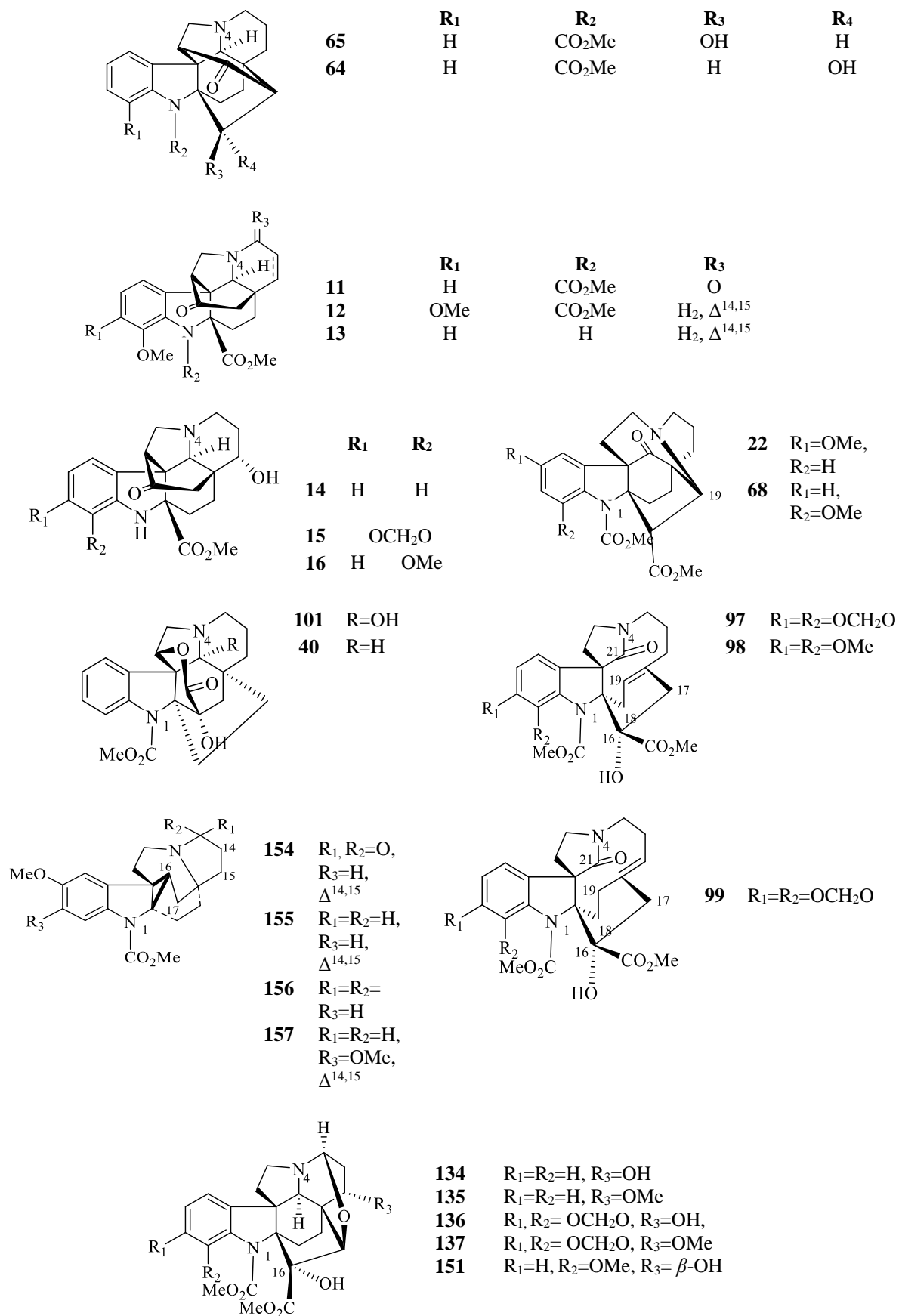


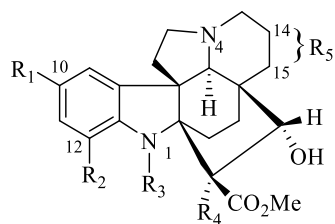
Kopsilarutensinine (**82**)



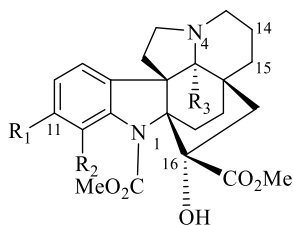
Paucifoline (**100**)



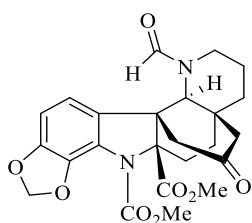




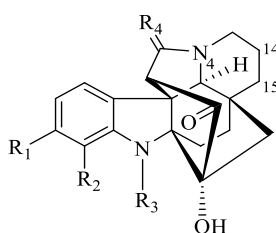
144	R₁	R₂	R₃	R₄	R₅
145	H	H	CO ₂ Me	OH	$\Delta^{14,15}$
146	H	H	CO ₂ Me	OH	NIL
147	H	H	CO ₂ Me	OH	15- α -OH
148	OMe	H	CO ₂ Me	OH	NIL
149	OMe	H	CO ₂ Me	OH	15- α -OH
	H	OMe	CO ₂ Me	OH	15- α -OH



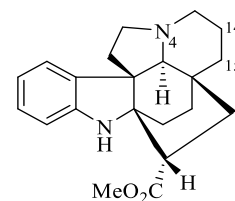
113	R₁	R₂	R₃
114	OCH ₂ O		CN
115	OMe	OMe	CN
116	OCH ₂ O		OH
	OCH ₂ O		OH, N ₄ -O



Danuphylline (25)

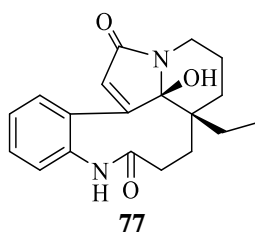


Kopsinarine (47)

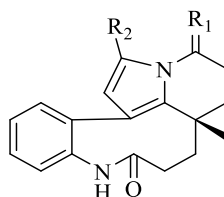


16-epikopsinine (150)

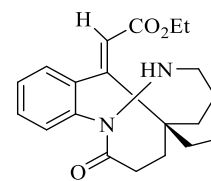
Aspidospermane type



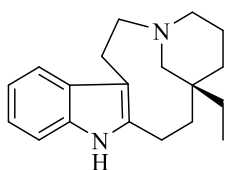
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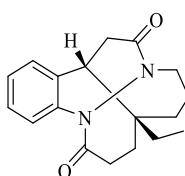
118	R ₁ = H ₂ , R ₂ =H
50	R ₁ = O, R ₂ =H
139	R ₁ = H ₂ , R ₂ =CHO



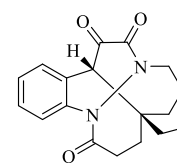
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129

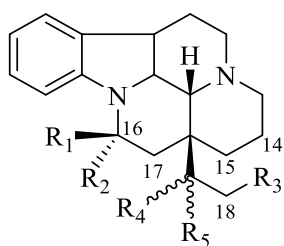


39

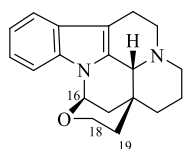


111

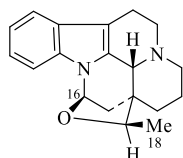
Eburnamine type



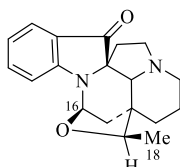
71	R₁	R₂	R₃	R₄	R₅
38	H	OH	H	H	H
80	OH	H	H	H	H
95	OH	H	OH	H	H
37		H	H	H	H, $\Delta^{14,15}$
83		O	H	H	H
51		O	H	H	H, N ₄ -O
52	H	OH	H	OH	H
	OH	H	H	OH	H



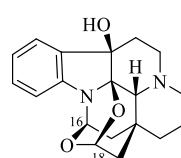
Larutensine (81)



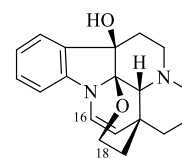
Larutienine A (117)



Larutienine B (96)

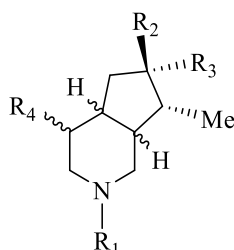


Terengganensine A (130)

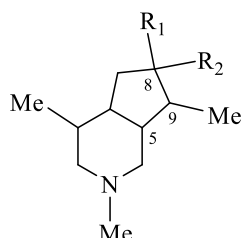


Terengganensine B (131)

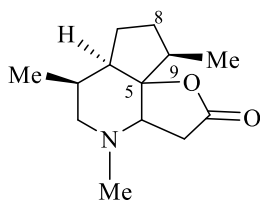
Piperidine type



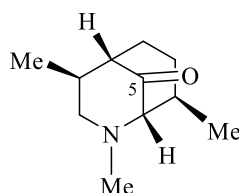
	R₁	R₂	R₃	R₄
119	Me	OH	H	α -Me, 5- β -H, 9- α -H
120	Me	O	H	α -Me, 5- β -H, 9- α -H
121	H	O	H	α -Me, 5- β -H, 9- α -H
122	Me	OH	H	β -Me, 5- α -H, 9- β -H
123	Me	O	H	β -Me, 5- α -H, 9- β -H
124	Me	OH	H	β -Me, 5- α -H, 9- β -H



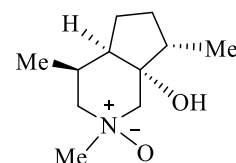
91	$R_1=R_2=OH$
92	$R_1=R_2=O$
93	$R_1=R_2=O, \Delta^{5,9}$



Kopsilactone (84)

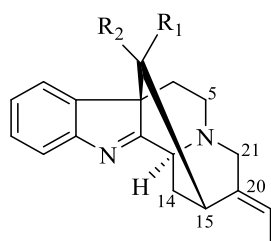


Kopsone (85)

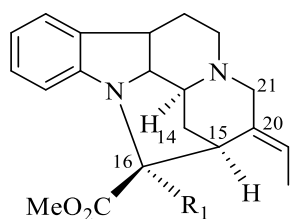


Kinabalurine G (26)

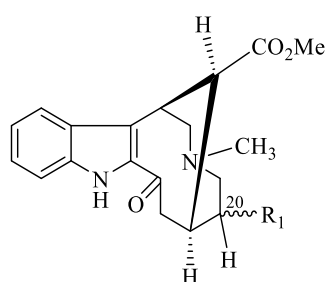
Corynane type



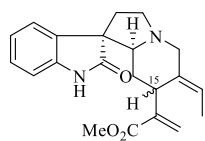
	R₁	R₂
78	CO ₂ Me	CH ₂ OH
72	CH ₂ OH	CO ₂ Me
75	CH ₂ OH	CO ₂ Me, N ₄ -O
89	CO ₂ Me	CH ₂ OAc
74	CO ₂ Me	CH ₂ OAc, N ₄ -O
152	CH ₂ OAc	CO ₂ Me



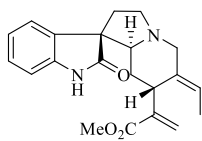
33	$R_1=H$
34	$R_1=CH_2OH$



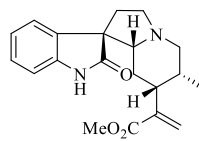
87	$R_1=\alpha$ -CH ₂ CH ₃
88	$R_1=\beta$ -CH ₂ CH ₃



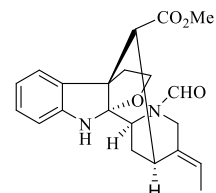
15 α -H Kopsiresinsine A (102)
 15 β -H Kopsiresinsine B (103)



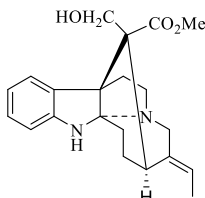
Kopsiresinsine C (104)



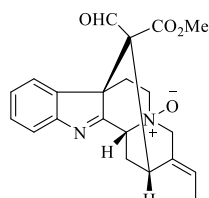
Catharinensine (105)



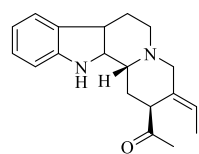
Aspidophylline A (138)



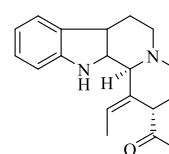
Vincophylline (143)



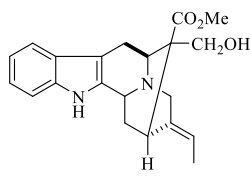
Rhazalinine N_4 -oxide (73)



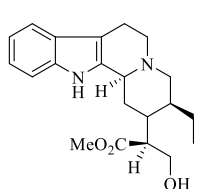
Arboricine (7)



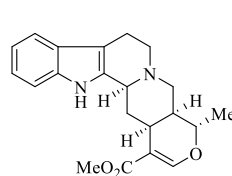
Arboricine (8)



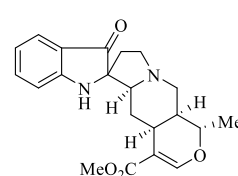
Akuamidine (142)



16-(*R*)-19,20-*E*-isositrikinine (69)

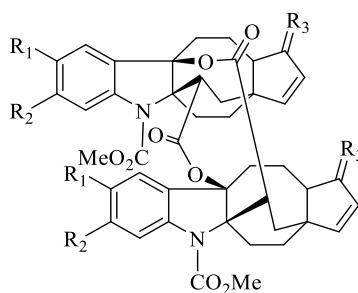


Tetrahydroalstonine (32)



Tetrahydroalstonine pseudoindoxyl (106)

Bisindole type



158

R₁
OMe

R₂
H

R₃
H₂

159

OMe

OMe

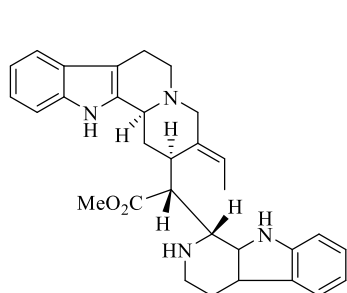
H₂

160

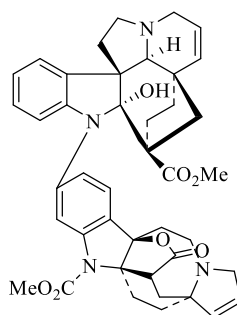
OMe

H

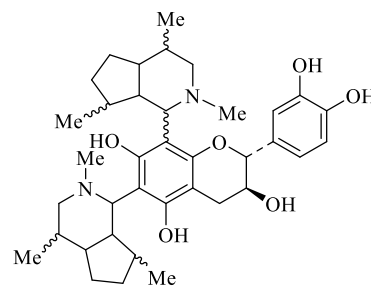
O



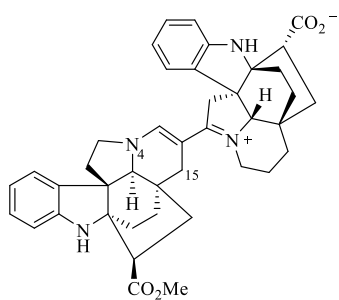
Buchtienine (79)



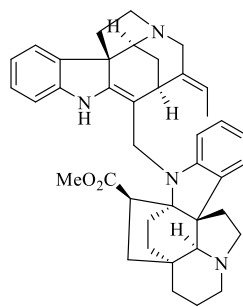
Tenuiphylline (161)



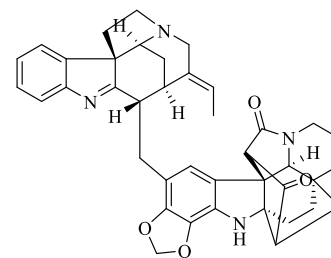
Kopsirachine (23)



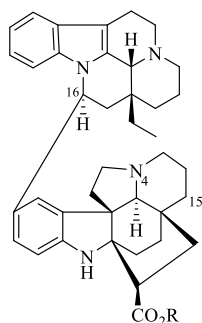
Arbolidinine A (17)



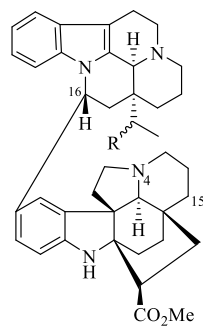
Arbolidinine B (18)



Arbolidinine C (19)

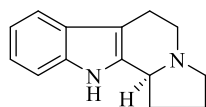


R= Me Norpleimutine (41)
 R= H Demethylnorpleimutine (42)

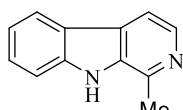


R=OH Kopsoffinol (43)
 R=H Kopsoffine (90)

Harmane type

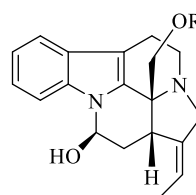


Harmicine (70)

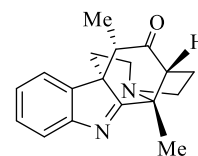


Harmane (76)

Abornane type

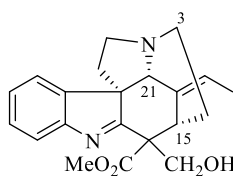


Arbormamine (10)

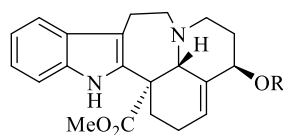


Arborisidine (9)

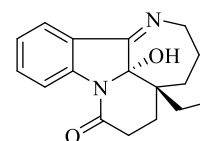
Uleine type



Precondylocarpine (109)



R=Me Andransinine A (107)
 R=Et Andransinine (108)



Mersicarpine (112)

3. BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES FROM *Kopsia* SPECIES

Certain biological activity has been tested on the selected plant extract and their isolated alkaloids. Table 3 showed the compilation of the activities and the chemical constituents involved in the *Kopsia* species. To date, there have been no report on the biological activity of Malaysian species of *K. deverrei*, *K. profunda*, *K. sleeseniana* and *K. macrophylla*.

Table 3. *Kopsia* species and its reported biological activity

Species	Biological activity	Results	References
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<i>K. griffithi</i>	Anti-leishmanial	In the preliminary test, 79 , 33 and 76 showed positive results among all isolated alkaloids. 79 showed higher activity ($0.39 < IC_{50} < 1.56 \mu\text{g/mL}$) than 33 and 76 ($6.25 < IC_{50} < 25.00 \mu\text{g/mL}$) against <i>Leishmania donovani</i> (promastigote)	Kam & Sim, 1998
<i>K. teoi</i>	Anti-hypertensive	In anaesthetized spontaneously hypertensive rats (SHR), the use of compounds 132 and 153 resulted in linear dose-related decreases in the basal mean arterial blood pressure and concomitant fall in heart rate.	Mok et al., 1998
<i>K. singapurensis</i>	Anti-proliferative	Compounds 118 and 139 showed significant cytotoxicity toward drug-sensitive and against vincristine-resistant KB cells, a human oral epidermoid carcinoma cell line with IC_{50} of 0.65 and 0.73 μM , respectively. Compounds 138 , 144 , 145 , and 147 showed potency in reversing drug resistance in drug-resistant KB cells with IC_{50} of 12.0, 3.8, 5.0, and 11.5 μM , respectively.	Subramaniam et al., 2007
<i>K. tenuis</i>	Anti-proliferative	Four compounds: 154 , 155 , 156 and 157 have been tested <i>in vitro</i> for their cytotoxicity towards B16 melanoma cells. Only 155 and 157 showed active potency with IC_{50} of 2.8 and 7.2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.	Kam et al., 2004
<i>K. pauciflora</i>	Anti-proliferative	Compounds 97 and 98 are potent at the concentration of 13 and 25 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively, in inhibitory activity against melanin biosynthesis in cultured B16 melanoma cells without any cytotoxicity towards the cells.	Kam et al., 1996c
		Compound 112 reversibly inhibited HL60, a human leukaemia cell line cycle progression in S-phase. This compound induced reactive oxygen species production and apoptosis at higher concentrations (above 30 μM).	Shiobara et al., 2021
<i>K. dasyrachis</i>	Anti-plasmodial	In the preliminary screening, the plant extract from DCM: MeOH (1:1) extraction showed a positive result ($IC_{50} = 4.62 \mu\text{g/mL}$) against the Gombak A strain of the malaria parasite, <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> .	Khozirah et al., 2011
	Anti-proliferative	Compound 24 was found to have the ability to reverse multidrug resistance (MDR) in vincristine-resistant KB cells with the IC_{50} value of 1.6 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.	Kam et al., 1998
<i>K. fruticosa</i>	Anti-plasmodial activity	The DCM extract showed significant activity against the chloroquine-sensitive 3D7 strain of <i>P. falciparum</i> with EC_{50} of 7.14 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.	Wong et al., 2011
<i>K. larutensis</i>	Anti-allergic activity	Compounds 71 , 29 , 82 and 32 were tested for anti-allergic screening in the inhibition of β -hexosaminidase in RBL-2H3 cells. Compound 32 with IC_{10} of 11.78 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ showed the highest percentage (61%) to inhibit the degranulation process of mast cells.	Shahari et al., 2017
<i>K. arborea</i>	Anti-proliferative	Compounds 17 , 18 , and 19 were tested for <i>in vitro</i> antiproliferative effects in various human cancer cell lines; KB, vincristine-resistant KB, PC-3, HCT116, HT-29, MDA-MB-231, MCF 7 and A549. Only compound 18 gives a pronounced inhibitory activity against those cells (IC_{50} ranging from 1.3-9.6 μM) whereas others were found ineffective ($IC_{50} > 10 \mu\text{M}$).	Wong et al., 2021

<i>K. terengganensis</i>	Anti-proliferative	Different crude extracts of bark and leaves were subjected to toxicity test on KB cells. Results showed that the bark extract gives higher toxicity (ED ₅₀ =22µg/mL) compared to leaves (ED ₅₀ =60µg/mL).	Uzir et al., 1997
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4. CONCLUSION

The phytochemical investigation of fourteen Malaysian *Kopsia* species resulted in the isolation of 164 indole alkaloids and most of them classified as aspidofractinine, aspidospermane, and eburnane types. Some species were found to possess medical properties and used to treat ailments such as anti-leishmanial, anti-hypertensive, anti-plasmodial, anti-allergic and anti-proliferative. However, it was still lacking in other *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies to prove the biological activities. Further research and clinical test can strengthen the properties of chemical constituents isolated in *Kopsia* species.

Declaration of Interest

The authors hereby declare that there is no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgement

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