

An Ethnomedicinal Study of Plants Used for Healing of Infectious Diseases in Kuantan Singingi District of Riau Province, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT Indonesia is rich in biodiversity of medicinal plants used traditionally for healing several ailments. This explorative ethnomedicinal study aims to document the traditional healers and the medicinal plants for infectious diseases in Riau Province, Sumatera, Indonesia. Interviews with local healers resulted in the documentation of 44 species, 33 genera, and 23 families of plants. Zingiberaceae (20.0%) is the most widely used family. Most recipes are prepared as pounded (27.2%) and administered or taken orally (57.7%). The rhizome of *Curcuma longa*, *Alpinia galanga* and *Zingiber zerumbet* are used for several infectious diseases treatments, including dysentery and stomachache. The outcomes obtained in the study are worthy for further investigation to verify their ethnomedics, efficacy and safety for more scientific research and could contribute to the development of Indonesian herbal remedies to discover new plant-based drugs for anti-infectious disease agents.