อนุพันธ์พอร์ไฟรินที่มีกรดลิโปอิกเพื่อการประยุกต์สู่เป้าหมายไมโทคอนเดรีย



บทคัดย่อและแฟ้มข้อมูลฉบับเต็มของวิทยานิพนธ์ตั้งแต่ปีการศึกษา 2554 ที่ให้บริการในคลังปัญญาจุฬาฯ (CUIR) เป็นแฟ้มข้อมูลของนิสิตเจ้าของวิทยานิพนธ์ ที่ส่งผ่านทางบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย

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วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาวิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาเคมี คณะวิทยาศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ปีการศึกษา 2559 ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย LIPOIC ACID-CONTAINING PORPHYRINIC DERIVATIVES FOR MITOCHONDRIA TARGETING APPLICATIONS

Miss Duangkamon Kaewwichit



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งานวิจัยนี้สังเคราะห์พอร์ไฟรินที่ละลายน้ำได้ที่มีไพริดีเนียมและกรดลิโปอิกแทนที่ที่ ตำแหน่งเมโซได้สำเร็จ สารประกอบชนิดใหม่ทั้งหมดได้รับการพิสูจน์เอกลักษณ์ด้วยเทคนิค NMR-สเปกโทรสโคปี และแมสสเปกโทรเมทรี สมบัติทางกายภาพเชิงแสงของสารประกอบได้รับการ ตรวจสอบด้วยเทคนิคยูวี-วิสิเบิล และฟลูออเรสเซนส์สเปกโทรโฟโตเมทรี สำหรับการศึกษาฤทธิ์ทาง ชีวภาพ สารประกอบนี้แสดงค่าความเป็นพิษต่ำ (IC<sub>50</sub> = 25–150 µg/mL) ในเซลล์ HaCaT และ HDFa อย่างไรก็ตาม จากการทดสอบด้วยวิธี ROS generation สารประกอบนี้ไม่แสดงฤทธิ์ต้านอนุมูล อิสระในเซลล์ทั้งสองชนิด นอกเหนือจากนั้น การประเมินผลในไมโทคอนเดรียเป้าหมายของ สารประกอบที่สังเคราะห์แสดงให้เห็นว่าสารประกอบนี้สามารถถูกสะสมในในไมโทคอนเดรียของเซลล์ HaCaT ได้

ภาควิชา เคมี สาขาวิชา เคมี ปีการศึกษา 2559

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DUANGKAMON KAEWWICHIT: LIPOIC ACID- CONTAINING PORPHYRINIC DERIVATIVES FOR MITOCHONDRIA TARGETING APPLICATIONS. ADVISOR: ASSOC. PROF. PATCHANITA THAMYONGKIT, Dr.rer.nat., 85 pp.

In this research, an asymmetric water-soluble porphyrin having pyridinium and lipoic acid- based meso- substituents was successfully synthesized. All new compounds characterized by NMR spectroscopy were and mass spectrophotometry. Their optical properties were also investigated by UV-visible and fluorescence spectrophotometry. For the biological studies, low cytotoxicity ( $IC_{50}$  = 25–150 µg/mL) of these compounds in HaCaT and HDFa cells was observed. However, based on ROS generation assay, these compounds did not exhibit antioxidative activity in both kinds of cells. Moreover, mitochondria-targeting evaluation of the synthesized compounds showed that these compounds can be accumulated in the mitochondria of the HaCaT cells.

> จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย Chulalongkorn University

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

°C	: degree Celcius
calcd	: calculated
CDCl <sub>3</sub>	: deuterated chloroform
CO <sub>2</sub>	: carbondioxide
<sup>13</sup> C-NMR	: carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
DMF	: N,N'-dimethylformamide
DMSO- $d_6$	: deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide
DMSO	: dimethylsulfoxide
DMEM	: dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium
DNA	: deoxyribonucleic acid
D <sub>2</sub> O	: deuterium oxide
d	: doublet (NMR)
ESI-HRMS	: electrospray ionization-high resolution mass spectrometry
EtOH	: ethanol
g	: gram(s)
HDFa	: human dermal fibroblast, adult
HaCaT	: human keratinocyte
h	: hour(s) ONGKORN ONIVERSITY
<sup>1</sup> H-NMR	: proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
Hz	: hertz
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	: hydrogen peroxide
IC <sub>50</sub>	: the half maximal inhibitory concentration
J	: coupling constant
m/z	: mass to charge ratio
MALDI-TOF-MS	: matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight-mass
	spectrometry
MeOH	: methanol
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	: methylene chloride

MHz	: megahertz
min	: minute(s)
ε	: molar absorptivity
m	: multiplet (NMR)
mmol	: millimole(s)
mg	: milligram(s)
mL	: milliliter(s)
nm	: nanometer(s)
N <sub>2</sub>	: nitrogen
O <sub>2</sub>	: oxygen
obsd	: observed
rt	: room temperature
ROS	: reactive oxygen species
S	: singlet (NMR)
t	: triplet (NMR)
TEA	: triethylamine
UV-Vis	: ultraviolet and visible spectroscopy
λ	: wavelength
$\lambda_{ ext{ex}}$	: excitation wavelength
$\lambda_{abs}$	: absorption wavelength
$\lambda_{em}$	: emission wavelength
μL	: microliter(s)
μΜ	: micromolar(s)
δ	: chemical shift
% yield	: percentage yield

#### CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

Mitochondria are organelle which have important role in metabolism in the body and control of cell equilibrium. Cycle of cell division, growth, decline and death is controlled by mitochondrial function, called intrinsic pathway,<sup>1</sup> which keeps the body balance all the time. In mitochondria, the important mechanism is oxidative phosphorylation<sup>2</sup> which is metabolic pathway of ATP synthesis for using in the body activity. For mechanism of oxidative phosphorylation, electrons are transferred to oxygen molecules through electron transport chain in mitochondria. During oxidative phosphorylation, reactive oxygen species (ROS) are generated.<sup>3</sup> Normally, the presence of ROS in each part of body is not equal. ROS generation mostly occurs in the mitochondria because this organelle involves a respiratory chain. However, the ROS generation in the body is balanced by the presence of molecules in the body called antioxidants. The antioxidant molecules can change ROS to neutral molecules, and, therefore, control the amount of ROS. However, the ROS in the body do not come from only the metabolism, but also from the external sources, such as air pollution, ultraviolet and radiation chemistry, resulting in loss of oxidationantioxidation equilibrium<sup>4</sup> in case the antioxidants in the body cannot handle the excessive ROS. Due to their high reactivity, ROS can destroy various membranes and cells *via* an oxidative damage process.<sup>5</sup> As the metabolism center, mitochondria is affected the most by this process<sup>6</sup> and, therefore, its DNA (mitochondrial DNA, mtDNA) become a major target of the oxidative damage. The first expression of the body, when damaged mtDNA has occurred, is cellular  $aging^7$  which associated with many diseases.

Recently, porphyrin compounds are of great interest as an antioxidant for biomedical applications,<sup>8</sup> such as emerging applications,<sup>9</sup> photodynamic therapy<sup>10</sup> and mitochondria-targeting applications.<sup>11</sup> Several kinds of porphyrin are known to localize and be accumulated in mitochondria without distributing to other cells.<sup>12</sup> Some porphyrin derivatives were used in mitochondria-targeting applications, such as *meso*-

tetraphenyl porphyrin derivatives<sup>13</sup> which showed effective photodynamic activity to MCF-7 human breast cancer cell line (**Figure 1–1**).



**Figure 1–1**: Some *meso*-tetraphenyl porphyrin derivatives used in mitochondriatargeting applications.

 $\alpha$ -Lipoic acid (ALA) is one of biomedically active compounds acting as an antioxidant.<sup>14</sup> ALA is naturally occurring compound synthesized by plants and animals, including mitochondria in humans. Basically, ALA is both water- and fat-soluble, and thus, is widely distributed in both cellular membranes and the cytosol of eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells.<sup>15</sup> An important property of ALA is prevention of mitochondrial dysfunction from oxidative stress. ALA alone is an effective antioxidant, but, in some cases, it also can combine with other antioxidants, *e. g.* glutathione, vitamin C, coenzyme Q10, to become a high potential antioxidant.<sup>16</sup>

According to above-mentioned properties of porphyrin and ALA, in this research, we aim to synthesize asymmetric porphyrin having three water-solubilizing pyridinium *meso*-groups and a biomedically active unit derived from ALA at the remaining *meso* position. Both of ALA and pyridinium-substituted porphyrin are well-known water-soluble and biocompatible compounds that can pass through cell membranes.<sup>17</sup> The target molecule is expected to exhibit antioxidative properties with low cytotoxicity and high specificity to mitochondria.

# 1.1 objective of this research

To synthesize lipoic acid-containing porphyrinic derivatives and investigate for their potential applications as antioxidants and mitochondria-targeting applications.

# 1.2 Scope of this research

This research covers the synthesis of asymmetric water-soluble porphyrin having pyridinium and lipoic acid-bared *meso*-substituents. New compounds will be fully characterized by spectroscopic techniques, *i.e.* proton-nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and carbon-nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>13</sup>C-NMR) spectroscopy, mass spectrometry. Photophysical properties will be investigated by ultraviolet-visible and fluorescence spectrophotometry. Medical evaluation includes the studies of cytotoxicity, reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation and specificity to mitochondria.



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#### CHAPTER II

# THEORY AND LITERATURE REVIEWS

## THEORY

#### 2.1 Mitochondrial Structure

In 1890, mitochondria (singular, mitochondrion) were first described by Richard Altmann.<sup>18</sup> Mitochondria are double-membraned organelles which found in cytoplasm. Mitochondria have diameter and length of 0.1–0.5 micron and 1–2 micron respectively.<sup>14b</sup> In cytoplasm, they are composed of outer and inner membranes as shown in Figure 2–1.<sup>19</sup> The outer membrane fully covers the inner membrane organelle with an intermembrane space in between. The outer membrane contains many types of protein-based pored that called "porins"<sup>20</sup> and allows diffusion of large molecules and ions to the cell. The inner membrane is highly complex structure<sup>21</sup> that relates with electron transport system, transport proteins and ATP synthetase. The boundary inner membrane is folded into layers, called cristae, which can increase the inner membrane area. Furthermore, this membrane encompasses mitochondrial matrix which contains enzymes for citric acid cycle reactions. The matrix also contains mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA),<sup>22</sup> called a nucleoid, and contains dissolved oxygen, carbon dioxide and water that play important role for metabolism.<sup>23</sup> For this reason, permeability of the inner membrane is different from the outer one in that it only allows oxygen, carbon dioxide and water to pass through.



Figure 2-1: General structure of mitochondria.

# 2.2 Detection of mitochondrial imaging with fluorescent probe

Mitochondrial transmembrane potential  $(\Delta \psi m)^{24}$  is an important parameter of mitochondrial function and has been used as an indicator of healthy cells. High  $\Delta \psi m$  indicates healthy cell, while low  $\Delta \psi m$  indicates unhealthy one.  $\Delta \psi m$  changes can be observed from a fluorescent probe.

5,5',6,6'-tetrachloro-1,1',3,3'tetraethylbenzimi-dazolylcarbocyanine iodide (JC-1) is one of the fluorescent probe used to detect mitochondrial imaging.<sup>25</sup> JC-1 is a novel cationic carbocyanine dye that accumulates in mitochondria. In healthy cells with high mitochondrial  $\Delta \Psi$ m, JC-1 spontaneously forms complexes known as Jaggregates with intense red fluorescence. On the other hand, in unhealthy cells with low  $\Delta \Psi$ m, JC-1 remains in the monomeric form, which shows only green fluorescence. An example of the treatment of hepatocyte cells with JC-1 is shown in **Figure 2–2**.<sup>26</sup>



**Figure 2–2**: Red and green mitochondrial fluorescence after treating hepatocyte with JC-1. Nuc stands for nucleus.

#### 2.3 Detection of cell viability

PrestoBlue (PB) is one of commercial reagents<sup>27</sup> used for detection of cell viability. PB has been developed for detecting cell-mediated cytotoxicity *in vitro*. The reagent exhibits change in a color, as well as a shift in its fluorescence, and thus can be quantified using either fluorometric or spectrophotometric approach. Similarly, PB is commercially prepared as a non-toxic, ready-to-use solution. According to the manufacturer, PB is the fastest live assay for assessing cell viability with an incubation step as short as 10 min. It is also a very sensitive assay, which can detect as few as 12 cells per well. So far, the PB assay has been used to establish the biological activity.

This reagent has also been reported to be useful to evaluate the growth of *cell* and to visualize microorganisms in environment.

## 2.4 Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) generation

#### 2.4.1 Overview

Free radical can be defined as reactive chemical species having a single unpaired electron in an outer orbit.<sup>28</sup> The major kind of the free radical that damages the biological systems is oxygen free radical which is generally known as a reactive oxygen species (ROS).<sup>29</sup> In ROS, an atomic oxygen has two unpaired electrons in separate orbits in its outer electron shell. In general, ROS can be

- (1) generated during UV light irradiation and by X-ray or gamma ray
- (2) present in the atmosphere as pollutant
- (3) caused by metal-catalyzed reactions
- (4) caused by neutrophils and macrophages during inflammation.<sup>30</sup>

ROS are known as factor of mitochondrial damage and cell deterioration. Appearance of oxygen free radical has harmful to health and lifespan in human.<sup>31</sup> However, oxygen free radical is not only harmful effect to cells, but also has important role for metabolic pathway and mitochondrial electron transport chain which is related to many activities in the body.

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#### 2.4.2 Detection of ROS generation

2',7'-Dichlorofluoreceine-diacetate (H<sub>2</sub>DCF-DA) is one of the molecular probes used as indicators for ROS. It is often called a "hydrogen peroxide-detecting probe" as it measures a H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> level in intact cells.<sup>32</sup> Oxidation of these probes can be detected by monitoring the increase in fluorescence with a flow cytometer, fluorometer, microplate reader, or fluorescence microscope, using excitation sources and filters appropriate for fluorescein, which is maximally excited at 495 nm and emits at 520 nm. The oxidation of dichlorodihydro-fluorescein (H<sub>2</sub>DCF) to 2',7'-dichlorofluoreceine (DCF) is a two-step process<sup>33</sup> as shown in **Scheme 2–1**.





First, the DCF radical is formed, and then further oxidized to DCF by a reaction with molecular oxygen. The first step of  $H_2$ DCF oxidation can be mediated by different radical species, such as hydroxyl radical, carbonate radical, and nitrogen dioxide.  $H_2O_2$  does not react with  $H_2$ DCF directly but requires the presence of peroxidases or other enzymes containing transition metals. Moreover, an alteration of the signal can be caused by antioxidant enzymes or superoxide that react with the probe, resulting in the appearance of the fluorescent signal. The superoxide radical is formed in the second step of probe oxidation and can then be dismutated to  $H_2O_2$  and cause self-amplification of the signal.

# 2.5 Lipoic acid (ALA)

#### 2.5.1 Structure

ALA is a disulfide derivative of octanic acid.<sup>34</sup> It appears as yellow solid. Its chemical structure, shown in **Figure 2–3**, contains two sulfer atoms at C6 and C8 which are linked by a disulfide bond, forming a dithiolane ring. At C6, an C5-alkyl chain with a terminal carboxyl group is attached. Since C6 is chiral, the molecule exists as two enantiomers, *i.e.* (*R*)-(+)-lipoic acid and (*S*)-(-)-lipoic acid, or as a racemic mixture, (*RS*)-lipoic acid.



Figure 2-3: Enantiomers of ALA.

Naturally, ALA appears in two forms, *i.e.* oxidized and reduced forms.<sup>35</sup> The oxidized form is called ALA and the reduced form is called  $\alpha$ -dihydrolipoic acid (DHLA). Their structures are shown in Figure 2–4.



Figure 2-4: Chemical structures of ALA and DHLA.

#### 2.5.2 Antioxidative activities of ALA

ALA occurring in the nature is *R*-enantiomer form (*R*-ALA).<sup>36</sup> It is an essential cofactor in an  $\alpha$ -ketoacid dehydrogenase complex and a glycine cleavage system. In plants and animal tissues, it contains low amounts of *R*-ALA and is detected in the form of lipoyllysine. However, the highest concentration of lipoyllysine in animal tissues was found in kidney, heart, and liver.

ALA is generally non-toxic to normal cells. In the cells, ALA has been suggested as an essential mitochondrial co-factor and help regenerating other antioxidants to make them active again.<sup>37</sup> Furthermore, it has direct scavenging activity towards ROS. ALA and DHLA are found to be highly reactive against a variety of ROS *in vitro*, hydroxyl radical, hypochlorous acid, and singlet oxygen.<sup>38</sup>

In medical applications, ALA can combine with other antioxidant molecules to improve the antioxidative properties, leading to more effective cognitive function and increased antioxidant capacity in biomembranes.<sup>39</sup>

2.5.3 Uses and applications of lipoic acid

Lipoic acid is generally used for medical therapy such as

- (1) cosmetic industrial applications,
- (2) treatment of many diseases, such as diabetes and nerve-related symtoms of diabetes, cancer liver diseases, diseases of the heart and blood vesels, and
- (3) supplement food and antioxidant application.<sup>40</sup>

2.6 Porphyrin

2.6.1 Overview

In 1841, porphyrins were discovered by Scherer.<sup>41</sup> The name of porphyrin derived from "porphyra" (Greek language) meaning reddish-purple.<sup>42</sup> Porphyrins are highly conjugated macrocyclic organic compounds consisting of tetra pyrrole rings linked by four methane (–CH=) bridges. Porphyrin molecules are highly stable because of conjugated system and due to its conjugated 18  $\pi$ -e<sup>-</sup> system. It conforms to Huckel (4n+2) rule for aromaticity. The Porphyrin having no any substituent is called "porphine".<sup>43</sup> The structure of porphine is shown in **Figure 2–5**.



Figure 2–5: Structure of porphine.

In the porphyrin ring, C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>, C<sub>15</sub> and C<sub>20</sub> are in *meso*-positions, and C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>7</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>, C<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>13</sub>, C<sub>17</sub> and C<sub>18</sub> are in  $\beta$ -positons. The porphyrins can have various substituents at these positions. The porphyrin core is a tetradentate ligand having four nitrogen atoms available for coordination with any metal to form an organometallic complex. When the porphyrin core coordinates with a metal, the two inner protons are removed from the pyrrole ring providing a very stable complex and displays aromatic character.<sup>44</sup> Normally, porphyrins exhibit characteristic absorption properties in a visible region with four Q bands and one B band (also called Soret band) present between 500 to 700 and around 400 nm, respectively.<sup>45</sup>

Porphyrin complexes play an important role in biological system. For example, magnesium complexes in the chlorophyll, iron complexes in the hemoproteins (heme, cytochrome C), and cobalt complexes in vitamin  $B_{12}$ .<sup>46</sup> The structure of some natural porphyrin complexes are shown in **Figure 2–6**.



Figure 2-6: Structures of some natural porphyrin complexes.

# 2.6.2 Porphyrin synthesis

Porphyrin and their derivatives can be synthesized by condensation reaction between pyrrole and aldehyde. *Meso*-substituents (R in **Figure 2–7**) can be varied by the type of aldehydes.





One of the simplest porphyrins derivative is tetraphenylporphyrin (**TPP**). Synthesis of TPP was firstly synthesized by Adler *et al.*,<sup>47</sup> as shown in **Scheme 2–2**, from a condensation of pyrrole and benzaldehyde in the presence of propionic acid.



Scheme 2-2: Synthesis of TPP by Adler et al.

The development for the synthesis of **TPP** was then introduced by Lindsey *at* al.<sup>48</sup> Firstly, tetraarylporphyrinogen is formed by a condensation between appropriate aldehyde and pyrrole in the presence of a mild acid, usually BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> or TFA, at room temperature following by the irreversibly oxidation with a quinone derivatives in the second step (**Scheme 2–3**).



Scheme 2-3: Synthesis of TPP by Lindsey et al.



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### LITERATUE REVIEWS

In 1993, Meunier, B. *et al.*<sup>49</sup> reported synthesis of water-soluble cationic metalchelated tris(methylpyridiniumly)porphyrin containing a hydroxy and amino tethers for using as DNA cleavers in the tumor cells as shown in **Scheme 2–4**. The studies indicated that the porphyrin derivatives exhibited antitumoral activity.



Scheme 2–4: Preparation of asymmeteric water soluble cationic porphyrins by Meunier, B. *et al.* 

In 2006, Benfi, S. *et al.*<sup>50</sup> reported design and synthesis of 5,10,15,20-tetraarryl-, 5,10-diaryl- and 5-monoarylporphyrins for using as photosensitizers in HCT116 human colon adenocarcinoma cells as shown in **Figure 2–8**. The studies indicated that the difference of aryl *meso*-substitution patterns affected hydrophobic/hydrophilic character of the resulting photosensitizers. This is an essential feature for both cell penetration and subcellular localization. Compounds with the tetraarryl and diaryl substituents were more effective in term of photodynamic activity than the monoaryl

substituents. However, the hydroxyl-substituted diaryl derivatives were more photodynamic active than the corresponding methoxy-substituented ones. Moreover, the monoaryl porphyrins which are byproducts from the synthesis of diarylporphyrin was found to be particularly effective photosensitizers and selectively targeted to HCT116 human colon adenocarcinoma cells.



**Figure 2–8**: General structures of tetraarylporphyrin, diarylporphyrin, and monoaryporphyrins studied by Benfi, S. *et al.* 

In 2008, Pujic, M. G. *et al.*<sup>51</sup> reported the synthesis of new antioxidative resveratrol-lipoic acid (A) and resveratrol-vitamin E (B) conjugates and their in vitro hydrolysis with Stratum corneum enzymes (Schemes 2–5 and 2–6).



Scheme 2–5: Preparation of resveratrol-lipoic acid and conjugates studied by Pujic, M. G. *et al.* 



Scheme 2–6: Preparation of resveratrol-lipoic acid and conjugates studied by Pujic, M. G. *et al.* 

Both new antioxidants showed beneficial antioxidative effect that can efficiently protect skin cells from sun light.

In 2009, You, Y. *et al.*<sup>52</sup> described evolution of delocalized lipophilic cationic dyes as delivery vehicles for photosensitizers to mitochondria. A porphyrin-rhodamine B conjugate (**TPP-Rh**) and a porphyrin-acridine orange conjugate (**TPP-AO**) were synthesized by coupling a monohydroxy porphyrin (**TPP-OH**) to rhodamine B (**Rh B**) and acridine orange base (**AO**), respectively, *via* a saturated hydrocarbon linker. The synthesis of both molecules were shown in **Schemes 2–7** and **2–8**.



Scheme 2-7: Synthesis of TPP-OH by You, Y. et al.



Scheme 2-8: Synthesis of TPP-Rh and TPP-AO by You, Y. et al.

Their mitochondria-targeting ability was confirmed by fluorescence imaging. The mitochondrial localization of **TPP-Rh** and **TPP-AO** was obtained by staining each dye (red region) with Mitotracker green (MG). The green and red images were superimposed, and the region of colocalization appeared as yellow as shown in **Figure 2–9**.



Figure 2-9: Fluorescence images from staining experiment by You, Y. et al.

In 2011, Lu, C. *et al.*<sup>53</sup> reported design, synthesis and evaluation of PEGylated lipoic acid derivatives as potent anti-melanogenic agent. The novel PEGylated lipoic acid ester derivatives were synthesized by simple routes and also studied for their anti-melanogenic property on B16F10 melanoma cell. This molecule can inhibit melanin formation better than lipoic acid and thus the lipoic acid derivatives act as active anti-melanogenic and anti-aging agent. The synthetic pathway and inhibitory effect of the PEGylated lipoic acid ester derivatives were described in **Scheme 2–9** and **Figure 2–10**, respectively.



Scheme 2–9: Synthetic route to novel water-soluble PEGylated lipoic acid ester derivatives by Lu, C. *et al.* 



**Figure 2–10**: Inhibitory effects of PEGylated lipoic acid ester derivatives on melanin synthesis.

In the same year, Bernini, R. *et al.*<sup>54</sup> reported the synthesis of a novel ester of hydroxytyrosol and  $\alpha$ -lipoic acid exhibiting an antiproliferative effect on human colon cancer HT-29 cells. The molecule was synthesized by general esterification reaction to provide lipoic acid derivatives (**Scheme 2–10**).



Scheme 2–10: A synthetic pathway of lipoic acid derivatives described by Bernini, R. *et al.* 

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The target product presented a cell growth inhibitory activity expressively more potent than that of the corresponding parent compounds.

# CHAPTER III

# **EXPERIMENTS**

# 3.1 Chemicals

All chemical are purchased from commercial sources and used as received without further purification.

1. 4-pyridine carboxzaldehyde	: Sigma-Alc
2. 4-ntrobenzaldehyde	: Sigma-Alc
3. pyrrole	: Sigma-Alc
4. propionic acid	: Merck
5. sodium hydroxide (NaOH)	: Merck
6. tin(II) chloride dihydrate (SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O)	: Merck
7. hydrochloric acid (HCl)	: Lab-scan
8. α-Lipoic acid	: Sigma-Alc
9. <i>N,N</i> '-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC)	: Sigma-Alc
10. Iodomethane (CH <sub>3</sub> I)	: Merck
11. dimethylformamide (DMF)	: Lab-scan
12. manganese (II) chloride tetradydrate	
(MnCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O)	: Fluka
13. methylene chloride (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )	: Lab-scan
14. methanol (MeOH)	: Merck
15. ethanol (EtOH)	: Merck
16. triethylamine (Et <sub>3</sub> N)	: Lab-scan
17. dethyl ether	: Merck

- Sic -Aldrich
- -Aldrich
- -Aldrich

- can
- -Aldrich
- -Aldrich
- can

18. acetone		: Lab-scan
19. sodium sulfate (Na <sub>2</sub> SC	D <sub>4</sub> )	: Merck
20. silica gel		: Merck
21. deuterated chloroform	m (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	: Merck
22. deuterated dimethy s	sulfoxide	
(DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> )		: Merck
23. dulbecco's modified	eagle's medium (DMEM)	: Gibco
24. fetal bovine serum (F	BS)	: Gibco
25. antimycotic		: Gibco
26. trypsin/Ethylenediam	inetetraacetic acid	
(trypsin/EDTA)		: Gibco
27. 5,5',6,6'-tetrachloro-2	I,1',3,3'tetraethylbenzimi-	
dazolylcarbocyanine	iodide (JC-1)	: MERK, Calbiochem

3.2 Analytical instruments

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were obtained in deuterated chloroform (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) using an NMR spectrometer operated at 400 MHz. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in part per million (ppm) relative to the residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> peak at 7.26 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy and 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy. Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hertz (Hz).

Mass spectra were obtained using high resolution electrospray ionization (HRESI), and matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI) mass spectrometry with  $\alpha$ -cyano-4-hydroxy cinamic acid ( $\alpha$ -CCA) as a matrix.

Absorption and emission spectra of the solution were measured in dimethyl formamide and  $H_2O$  and absorption extinction coefficient ( $\mathcal{E}$ ) were reported in

L/mol·cm. Fluorescence spectra were measured in dimethyl formamide and  $H_2O$ . Absorption and emission were measured in dimethyl formamide and  $H_2O$  at room temperature.

3.3 Experimental section

3.3.1 Synthesis

3.3.1.1 5-p-nitrophenyl-10-15-20-(tripyridin-4-yl)porphyrin (1)



Following a previous report,<sup>55</sup> a mixture of 4-pyridine carboxaldehyde (2.73 g, 25.5 mmol) and 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.28 g, 8.50 mmol) in propionic acid (200 mL) was stirred at 110 °C for an hour. Then, pyrrole (2.27 g, 38.9 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was refluxed for additional 1 h. Afterwards, the mixture was cooled and neutralized with a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOH until pH was 8. The solution was filtered and washed with a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOH. The filtrate was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (2 L) and filtered again. The resulting purple solid was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 6% EtOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), affording **1** as purple solid (0.286 g, 5%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  $\delta$  –2.89 (s, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.82–8.88 (m, 8H), 9.07 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H) (Figure A-1); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* obsd 662.447 (M<sup>+</sup>), calcd avg mass 662.218 (M<sup>+</sup>, M = C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A-2);  $\lambda_{abs}$  417, 513, 546, 587, 642 nm (Figure A-3);  $\lambda_{em}$  ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 417 nm) 652, 715 nm (Figure A-4). The spectral data are consistent with those described in the literature.



#### 3.3.1.2 5-p-aminophenyl-10-15-20-(tripyridin-4-yl)porphyrin (2)

Following a previous reported,<sup>56</sup> a solution of **1** (53 mg, 0.084 mmol) in a 6 M aqueous solution of HCl (8 mL) was reacted with SnCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (90 mg, 0.40 mmol) under reflux for 18 h. After cooling down to room temperature, the mixture was neutralized with a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOH until pH was 8 and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to dryness. The purple crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 6% EtOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), affording **2** as purple solid (37 mg, 73%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  $\delta$  –2.84 (s, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H); 8.78–8.87 (m, 6H), 9.00–9.07 (m, 8H) (Figure A-5); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* obsd 633.785 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>), calcd avg mass 632.244 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, M = C<sub>41</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>8</sub>) (Figure A-6);  $\lambda_{abs}$  418, 517, 551, 595, 652 nm (Figure A-7);  $\lambda_{em}$  ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 418 nm) 647, 713 nm (Figure A-8). The spectral data are consistent with those described in the literature.


# 3.3.1.3 5-p-nitrophenyl-10-15-20-tri(4-N-methylpyridinium)porphyrin (TMNPyP)

Following a previous report,<sup>57</sup> a solution of **1** (23 mg, 0.035 mmol) in DMF (10.0 mL) was reacted with iodomethane (1.0 mL) at room temperature for 24 h. After that, the resulting mixture was precipitated with diethyl ether and the precipitate was washed with hexane and acetone, leading to **TMNPyP** as brownish purple solid (20 mg, 79%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –3.05 (s, 2H), 4.72 (s, 9H), 8.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.87–9.29 (m, 14H), 9.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 6H) (Figure A-9); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* obsd 707.108 (M<sup>+</sup>); calcd avg mass 707.800 ([M]<sup>+</sup>, M = C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>35</sub>I<sub>3</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A-10);  $\lambda_{abs}$  425, 517, 551, 590, 646 nm (Figure A-11);  $\lambda_{em}$  ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 425 nm) 652, 716 nm. (Figure A-12).



Following a published procedure,<sup>58</sup>  $\alpha$ -lipoic acid (0.418 g, 2.03 mmol) was reacted with dicyclohexyl carbodiimide (DCC, 0.230 g, 0.280 mmol) in acetonitrile (10.0 mL) at room temperature for 10 h. After that, the solution was filtered to remove dicyclohexylurea. Lipoic anhydride was obtained as filtrate and directly treated with 2 (0.031 g, 0.045 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10.0 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h and then precipitated with hexane, affording compound **3** as airsensitive purple solid (0.034 g, 84%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR  $\delta$  –2.89 (s, 2H), 1.78–1.86 (m, 4H), 1.88–2.04 (m, 2H), 2.47–2.65 (m, 4H), 3.18–3.32 (m, 2H), 3.61–3.76 (m, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (s, 8H), 8.78–8.88 (m, 6H), 8.94 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 9.04 (s, 6H) (Figure A-13);.<sup>13</sup>C-NMR  $\delta$  25.3, 29.0, 34.7, 37.7, 38.5, 40.3, 56.5, 117.0, 117.4, 118.1, 121.2, 129.4, 135.1, 138.1, 148.3, 150.1, 171.4 (Figure A-14); HR-ESI-MS *m/z* obsd 821.2817 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>); calcd 821.2845 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, M = C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>40</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A-15);  $\lambda_{abs}$  419, 514, 549, 567, 646 nm. (Figure A-16);  $\lambda_{em}$  ( $\lambda_{ex} =$  419 nm) 650, 720 nm (Figure A-17).

#### 3.3.1.5 Compound P-Lp



Following Tome *et al.*,<sup>59</sup> compound **3** (12 mg, 0.013 mmol) in DMF (2.0 mL) was reacted with iodomethane (1.0 mL) at room temperature for 1 h. After that, the resulting mixture was precipitated with diethyl ether and the precipitate was washed with EtOH, leading to **P-Lp** as brownish purple solid (10 mg, 87%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR:  $\delta$  –3.88 (s, 2H), 0.59–1.41 (m, 10H), 2.02–2.21 (m, 3H), 3.84 (s, 9H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 4H), 8.08–8.34 (m, 14H), 8.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 4H), 9.48–9.60 (m. 1H) (**Figure A-18**); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR:  $\delta$  25.0, 28.4, 34.2, 34.4, 36.5, 38.2, 47.9, 56.2, 114.4, 115.2, 117.6, 122.9, 132.1, 134.8, 139.7, 144.1, 156.6, 171.7 (**Figure A-19**); HR-ESI-MS *m/z* obsd 865.3463 (M<sup>+</sup>), calcd 865.3454 (M<sup>+</sup>, M = C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>49</sub>I<sub>3</sub>N<sub>8</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>) (**Figure A-20**);  $\lambda_{abs}$  (*E*) 428 (8.1×10<sup>4</sup>), 519, 555, 648 nm (**Figures A-21** and **A-22**);  $\lambda_{em}$ ( $\lambda_{ex}$ = 428 nm) 658, 719 nm (**Figure A-23**).



Following a published method,<sup>60</sup> P-Lp (10 mg, 0.011 mmol) in DMF (2.00 mL) was reacted with MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O (45 mg, 0.23 mmol) at room temperature for 4 h. The mixture was washed with diethyl ether to obtain brownish purple solid (9 mg, 90%). MALDI-TOF-MS m/z obsd 918.405 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>), 1062.458 ([M+ $\alpha$ -CCA]<sup>+</sup>); calcd avg mass 919.060 ([M<sup>+</sup>], M = C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>47</sub>I<sub>3</sub>MnN<sub>8</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A-24);  $\lambda_{abs}$  (£) 373, 398, 469 (6.5×10<sup>4</sup>), 673 nm (Figures A-25 and A-26). No emission peak was observed (Figure A-25).

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3.3.2 Biological studies

3.3.2.1 Cell culture

Human dermal fibroblasts, adult (HDFa) and Human keratinocyte (HaCaT) cell lines<sup>61</sup> were cultured in Dulbecco's modified eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS) 1% (v/v) antibiotic and antimycotic at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere containing 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Cell at early passages (below 30 passages) were used in cell experiments to avoid complications of replicative senescence. After HFDa and HeaCaT cell lines approximately reached 90% confluence, cell were sub-cultured using 0.25% (v/v) trypsin / EDTA.

#### 3.3.2.2 Cytotoxicity

Cell viability was assessed using Prestoblue<sup>TM</sup> reagent.<sup>62</sup> HFDa and HaCaT cell lines were seeded into 96-well plates at density of  $5\times10^3$  cells/well under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 12 h. Cells were washed by phosphate buffered saline (PBS) twice and treated with various concentrations of lipoic acid, **TMNPyP**, **P-Lp** or **Mn-P-Lp** (90 µL) for 24 h. Then, PrestoBlue<sup>TM</sup> solution (10 µL) was added and the cells were incubated at 37 °C for 30 min. Finally, absorbance was measured on a microplate reader at 560 and 590 nm to obtain the percentage of the viable cells which was calculated by comparison with that of the control group (DMEM).

## 3.3.2.3 Reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation

Intracellular reactive oxygen species (ROS)<sup>63</sup> production was confirmed by 2',7'dichlorofluoreceine-diacetate (H<sub>2</sub>DCF-DA) assay. Briefly, HFDa and HaCaT cell lines were seeded into 96-black well plates at density of  $5\times10^3$  cells/well (100 µL) of complete medium and incubated at 37 °C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 12 h. The cells were washed by PBS twice. After that, various concentrations of lipoic acid, **TMNPyP**, **P-Lp** or **Mn-P-Lp** (100 µL) were added into the cells for pre-treatment and incubated for 24 h. After that, the solution was discarded, and the cell were added with H<sub>2</sub>DCFDA and then incubated for 30 min at 37 °C in dark place. The cells were washed by PBS twice and treated with 10% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>(100 µL). Fluorescence was measured using a microplate reader at 485 nm and 528 nm every 10 min for 1 h.

## 3.3.2.4 Mitochondria-targeting evaluation

Mitochondria-targeting activity was determined by LSM 800 confocal microscope. From previous report,<sup>64</sup> HaCaT cells were seeded in 24 wells corningplate at density  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/well. Then cells were incubated at 37 °C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 12 h. After that, the cells were treated with 50 ppm lipoic acid, P-Lp or Mn-P-Lp, and the resulting mixtures were incubated at 37 °C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 6 h. Protocol of JC-1 staining was applied from Chazotte, B..<sup>65</sup> The cells were washed with PBS. JC-1 dye and Hoechst 33342 (10  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>) in DMSO were loaded in each well and incubated for 15 min, the cells were then washed with PBS and imaged by a LSM 800 confocal microscope using lens 40X with excitation wavelength of 488 and 561 nm using emission filters at 505–550 nm for a green channel, and 575–630 nm for a red channel. The pictures were collected and analysed by ZEN software version 2.1.

#### 3.3.2.5 Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis of the data was determined with a one-way randomized ANOVA design by GraphPad Prism 5.0 software. When the overall test of significance (p < 0.05, p-value is probability of the randomness in sampling) led to a rejection of the null hypothesis, post-hoc comparison (Tukey) were performed.

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## CHAPTER IV

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## 4.1 Synthesis and characterization of target asymmetric porphyrin

The synthesis of the target asymmetric porphyrin started with a condensation of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde, pyrrole and 4-pyridinecarboxaldehyde in propionic acid to give  $1^{56}$  in 5% yield as shown in **Schemes 4–1** and **4–2**.



Scheme 4–1: A synthetic route of the lipoic acid-containing porphyrinic precursor.



Scheme 4–2: A synthetic route of the target lipoic acid-containing porphyrinic derivative.

Low yield of **1** is attributed to the formation of other statistically possible porphyrinic byproducts. After that, **1** was reduced with  $SnCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  in a 6 M aqueous solution of HCl under reflux for 18 h, affording **2**<sup>66</sup> in 73% yield. To obtain benchmark compound **TMNPyP**, used to compare biological activities with **P-Lp**, compound **1** was methylated with an excess amount of iodomethane at room temperature for 24 h. Then, **2** was condensed with lipoic anhydride<sup>67</sup> *via* amidation reaction in the presence of DCC in a mixture of CHCl<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CN with a ratio of 1:1 at room temperature for 30 h, leading to **3** in 84% yield. Mechanism of these steps are shown in **schemes 4–3** and **4–4**.



Scheme 4–3: Mechanism of preparation of lipoic anhydride using DCC.



Scheme 4–4: Mechanism of amidation of compound 2 with activated lipoic anhydride.

Subsequently, compound **3** was alkylated with an excess amount of  $CH_3I$  in DMF at room temperature for an hour, resulting in **P-Lp** in 87% yield. **P-Lp** was then metalated with  $MnCl_2 \cdot 4H_2O$  in DMF in the presence of TEA at room temperature for 4 h, affording **Mn-P-Lp** in 90%.

MALDI-TOF mass spectra of compounds 1 and 2 exhibited their molecular ion peaks at m/z 662.218 and 633.785, respectively. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of these free base porphyrins showed characteristic peaks of their inner protons at  $\delta$  –2.84 to –2.89 ppm with multiplet signals of the protons on pyrrole, pyridine and phenyl rings at  $\delta$  7.07–9.07 ppm. A signal of the phenyl protons of 2 slightly shifted from 8.37–8.66 ppm to 7.08–7.98 ppm, when compared with those of 1, possibly because of mesomeric effect from an amino to the phenyl ring in 2. However, no clear signal of amino protons of compound 2 was observed. Then, compound 1 was alkylated with iodomethane to get TMNPyP. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of TMNPyP exhibited its molecular ion peaks at m/z 707.287. According to its <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum, TMNPyP exhibited a characteristic singlet signal of methyl protons at  $\delta$  4.72 ppm. Multiplet protons signals of the pyrrole, pyridine and phenyl rings slightly shifted from 8.17–9.07 ppm to 8.52–9.48 ppm, compared with those of compound 1, because of inductive effect from the pyridinium rings.

Formation of the compound **3** was confirmed by the presence of a molecular ion peak in its HR-ESI mass spectrum at m/z 821.2817. According to its <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum, compound **3** exhibited a characteristic singlet signal of an amide proton at  $\delta$  7.61 ppm. Multiplet protons signals of the pyrrole, pyridine and phenyl rings slightly shifted from 7.08–9.05 ppm to 7.96–9.04 ppm, compared with compound **2**, because of inductive and mesomeric effects from the amide group. Aromatic protons exhibited  $\delta$  at 7.61–9.04 ppm. Moreover, multiplet signals indicating aliphatic protons of the lipoyl group were observed at  $\delta$  1.78–3.76 ppm. Based on <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, aromatic carbons exhibited signals at  $\delta$  117.04–150.10 ppm. A peak of carbonyl carbon of the amide group was found at  $\delta$  171.39 ppm, while those of the lipoyl group appeared at  $\delta$  25.3– 56.5 ppm.

Then, the resulting compound **3** was alkylated with iodomethane, followed by metallation of the resulting P-Lp with  $MnCl_2 \cdot 4H_2O$  to get Mn-P-Lp. Formation of P-Lp was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum, UV-visible and fluorescent spectra. A methyl groups on the pyridinium rings gave a singlet peak at  $\delta$  3.84 ppm, while multiplet protons signals of the pyrrole, pyridine and phenyl rings were found at 7.26-8.60 ppm. A singlet signal indicating the amide proton was obviously shifted from 7.61 to 9.53 ppm because of inductive effect from the pyridinium rings. Based on <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, aromatic carbons exhibited signals at  $\delta$  114.38– 156.61 ppm. A peak of carbonyl carbon of the amide group was found at  $\delta$  171.72 ppm, while those of the lipoyl group appeared at  $\delta$  25.01 –56.19 ppm and methyl carbons was found at  $\delta$  47.94 ppm. A molecular ion peak of P-Lp in a MALDI-TOF mass spectrum was found at m/z 866.170. Absorbtion peaks of P-Lp were observed at 428, 519, 555, 648 nm, while the emission ones were observed at 657, 719 nm. Successful formation of Mn-P-Lp was confirmed by MALDI-TOF mass spectrum, UVvisible and fluorescent spectra. Maximum absorbtion of Mn-P-Lp was shifted from 428 to 469 nm, compared with that of P-Lp and a molecular ion peak of Mn-P-Lp in its MALDI-TOF mass spectrum was found at m/z 918.405. Moreover, another ion peak of Mn-P-Lp was found at m/z 1082.458, corresponding to [(M+ $\alpha$ -CCA)<sup>+</sup>] ion.

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4.2 Biological studies

## 4.2.1 Cytotoxicity

Cytotoxicity of P-Lp, Mn-P-Lp and TMNPyP was determined by cell viability assay.<sup>68</sup> These porphyrins were evaluated for its effect on the viability of HDFa and HaCaT cells compared to a control group, Dulbecco's modified eagle's medium (DMEM), and a parent natural compound, lipoic acid. For this purpose, HDFa and HaCaT cells were incubated in 96-well plates in solutions of these compounds at concentration of 25, 50, 100 and 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h. PrestoBlue<sup>TM</sup> solutions was then added and the cells were incubated for additional 30 min. Finally, absorbance of the compounds of interest were measured on a microplate reader at 560 and 590 nm to

obtain percentage of viable cells in each treatment group which was calculated by comparison to that of the control group as shown in **Figure 4–1**.





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Figure 4–1(a) shows that the cell viability of the HaCaT cells did not significantly change after being treated with lipoic acid at 25–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, compared with the control group, while at the concentration of 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of lipoic acid, enhancement of the cell viability became significant (p < 0.01). These results indicated that lipoic acid exhibited low cytotoxicity and slightly proliferation of the HaCaT cells at high concentration.

As shown in **Figure 4–1(b)**, the concentration of **TMNPyP** at 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> exhibited significant increase in the cell viability (p < 0.001), compared with DMEM, while at the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> significant decrease in the cell viability was detected. At the concentration of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, dramatical decrease in the cell viability was biserved. Therefore, according to these results, **TMNPyP** exhibited

cytotoxicity with an half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC<sub>50</sub>) value of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

As of **P-Lp**, the cell viability of the HaCaT cells was found to significantly decrease when being treated with **P-Lp** at the concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. The concentrations of 50, 100 and 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> caused drastic decrease in the cell viability of the HaCaT cells. These results indicated that **P-Lp** exhibited cytotoxicity with IC<sub>50</sub> value of 50–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

The cell viability of the HaCaT cells after being treated with **Mn-P-Lp** at 25, 50 and 100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> did not significantly change, but obviously decreased when the concentration was 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, compared with those treated with DMEM, indicating that the IC<sub>50</sub> of **Mn-P-Lp** was in the range of 25–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

The effect of the introduction of the porphyrin unit on the cell viability of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of lipoic acid and those of P-Lp. Lipoic acid exhibited the  $IC_{50}$  of >150 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while P-Lp showed the  $IC_{50}$  of 50–100 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that the presence of the porphyrin unit adversely affect the cell viability of this type of cells. In addition, the effect of the introduction of the lipoic acid on the cell viability of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of TMNPyP and those of P-Lp. TMNPyP exhibited the IC<sub>50</sub> of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while **P-Lp** showed the IC<sub>50</sub> of 50–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that the appearance of the lipoic acid slightly decrease the cell viability of this type of cells. Moreover, the effect of the introduction of the Mnchelation of the porphyrin unit on the cell viability of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of P-Lp and those of Mn-P-Lp. P-Lp exhibited the IC<sub>50</sub> of 50–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while Mn-P-Lp showed the IC<sub>50</sub> of >150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that the presence of the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit slightly improve the cell viability of this type of cells, which is consistent with the previous finding that Mn is an important metal for human health, being necessary for metabolism.<sup>69</sup>

In case of the HDFa cells, the cytotoxicity of lipoic acid, TMNPyP, P-Lp and Mn-P-Lp was determined by the cell viability assay as shown in Figure 4–2.



**Figure 4–2**: The cell viability upon the treatment of the HDFa cells with (a) lipoic acid, (b) **TMNPyP**, (c) **P-Lp**, (d) **Mn-P-Lp** at 25, 50, 100, 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> ("\*\*\*" indicates p < 0.001, "\*\*" indicates p < 0.01 and "\*" indicates p < 0.05).

Figure 4–2(a) shows that the cell viability of the HDFa cells did not significantly change after being treated with lipoic acid at 25–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, compared with the control group, while at the concentration of 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of lipoic acid, enhancement of viable cell became significant (p < 0.05). These results indicated that lipoic acid exhibited low cytotoxicity and slightly proliferation of the HDFa cells at high concentration.

As shown in **Figure 4–2(b)**, the cell viability of the HDFa cells did not significantly change after being treated with **TMNPyP** at 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, compared with DMEM, while at the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> significant decrease in the cell viability

(p < 0.01) was detected. At the concentration of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, dramatical decrease in the cell viability was observed. These results indicated that **TMNPyP** exhibited cytotoxicity with the IC<sub>50</sub> value of 50–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

As of **P-Lp**, the cell viability of the HDFa cells was found to significantly decrease when being treated with **P-Lp** at the concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. The concentrations of 50, 100 and 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> caused drastic decrease in the cell viability of the HDFa cells. These results indicated that **P-Lp** exhibited cytotoxicity with the IC<sub>50</sub> value of 25–50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

The cell viability of the HDFa cells after being treated with Mn-P-Lp at 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> did not significantly change, but obviously decreased when the concentration was 50, 100 and 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, compared with those treated with DMEM, indicating that the IC<sub>50</sub> of Mn-P-Lp was in the range of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>.

The effect of the introduction of the porphyrin unit on the cell viability of the HDFa cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of lipoic acid and those of P-Lp. Lipoic acid exhibited the  $IC_{50}$  of >150 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while P-Lp showed the  $IC_{50}$  of 25–50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that the presence of the porphyrin unit adversely affect the cell viability of this type of cells. In addition, the effect of the appearance of the lipoic acid on the cell viability of the HDFa cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of TMNPyP and those of P-Lp. TMNPyP exhibited the IC<sub>50</sub> of 50–100  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while **P-Lp** showed the IC<sub>50</sub> of 25–50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that **P-Lp** has more cytotoxicity than **TMNPyP** in the HDFa cells. Consequently, the appearance of lipoic acid obviously decrease the cell viability of the HDFa cells. Moreover, the effect of the introduction of the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit on the cell viability of the HDFa cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of P-Lp and those of Mn-P-Lp. P-Lp exhibited the IC<sub>50</sub> of 25–50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, while **Mn-P-Lp** showed the IC<sub>50</sub> of 100–150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>. These results indicated that the presence of the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit slightly increase the cell viability of this type of cells.<sup>69</sup>

According to above-mentioned  $IC_{50}$  results, the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of all compounds of interest was chosen for the ROS generation assay in both types of cells.

#### 4.2.2 Reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation

The antioxidant activity of each compound was determined by the ROS generation assay,<sup>70</sup> using 2',7'-dichlorofluoreceine-diacetate (H<sub>2</sub>DCF-DA). In this study, DMEM, lipoic acid, **TMNPyP**, **P-Lp** and **Mn-P-Lp** at concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> were added into cells for pre-treatment with the HaCaT and HDFa cells. Then, these cells were treated with H<sub>2</sub>DCFDA in the dark and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Fluorescence was measured using a microplate reader at 485 nm and 528 nm. The %ROS generation was calculated by comparison to that of the control group after treated with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

#### 4.2.2.1 ROS generation in the HaCaT cells

The %ROS generation observed for the HaCaT cells treated with lipoic acid at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in **Figure 4–3**.





For the case where the HaCaT cells were treated only with lipoic acid at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure), decrease in the ROS

generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. When the cells were treated with  $H_2O_2$  for 10–60 min, the decrease in the ROS generation was not pronounced (p > 0.05). The same results were obtained when the concentration of 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>of lipoic acid was used. These results indicated that the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells was not dose-dependent, and lipoic acid seemed to exhibit antioxidative activity and dose-dependent has no effect in the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells.

The %ROS generation observed for the HaCaT cells treated with TMNPyP at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in Figure 4–4.



**Figure 4–4**: The ROS generation observed in the HaCaT cells upon the treatment with DMEM and **TMNPyP** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

For the case where the HaCaT cells were treated only with TMNPyP at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure), decrease in the ROS generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. When the cells were treated with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min, the decrease in ROS generation was not pronounced (p > 0.05). The same results were obtained when the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of TMNPyP was used. These results indicated that the ROS generation in

the HaCaT was not dose-dependent, and **TMNPyP** seemed to exhibit antioxidative activity without significant dose-dependency in the HaCaT cells.

The %ROS generation observed for the HaCaT cells treated with P-Lp at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in Figure 4–5.





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For the case where the HaCaT cells were treated only with **P-Lp** at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure) as well as where the cells were treated with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min, no change in ROS generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. The same results were obtained when the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of **P-Lp** was used. These results indicated that the ROS generation in the HaCaT was not affected by the presence of **P-Lp**, and no antioxidative activity of **P-Lp** exhibited in the HaCaT cells.

The %ROS generation observed for the HaCaT cells treated with Mn-P-Lp at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in Figure 4–6.



**Figure 4–6**: The ROS generation observed in the HaCaT cells upon the treatment with DMEM and **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

In the absence of  $H_2O_2$  with the concentration of Mn-P-Lp of 25 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>, the significant increase in the ROS generation, compared with the control batch was observed. After the cells were treated with  $H_2O_2$  for 10 and 20 min, The ROS generation was gradually decreased after 30 min. However, at 60 min of the  $H_2O_2$  exposure, the %ROS generation observed in the cells was significantly decreased, but, however, to the level which is still higher than that observed for the control batch. These results indicated that the presence of Mn-P-Lp may induce the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells, but seemed to be able to scavenge ROS from an external source like  $H_2O_2$  addition.<sup>71</sup> Similar results were obtained when 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> of Mn-P-Lp was used, indicating that ROS generation in this cell type caused by Mn-P-Lp was not dosedependent.

The effect of the introduction of the porphyrin unit on the ROS generation of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of lipoic acid and those of **P-Lp**. Compared with the case of lipoic acid, the treatment of the cells with the concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of **P-Lp** caused no difference in the ROS generation at 0–20 min of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure, but at 30–60 min, higher level of the ROS generation was observed. However, at the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, the treatment of the cells with both lipoic acid and **P-Lp** did not significantly different from each other in the ROS generation. These results indicated that the presence of porphyrin unit slightly induce the ROS generation (**Figure 4–7**).



**Figure 4–7**: The ROS generation observed in the HaCaT cells upon the treatment with lipic acid and **P-Lp** at the concentration of (a)  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

(a)

The effect of the introduction of lipoic acid on the ROS generation of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of TMNPyP and P-Lp. Both before and after the exposure to  $H_2O_2$ , the treatment of the HaCaT cells with TMNPyP and P-Lp at the concentration of 25 and 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> caused no difference in the ROS generation. These results indicated that the attachment of a lipolyl unit on the porphyrin did not significantly affect the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells (Figure 4–8).



**Figure 4–8**: The ROS generation observed in the HaCaT cells upon the treatment with **TMNPyP** and **P-Lp** at the concentration of (a) 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

The effect of the introduction of the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit on the ROS generation of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of **P-Lp** and those of **Mn-P-Lp**. After the exposure to  $H_2O_2$  for 0–20 min, the treatment of the HaCaT cells with **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> increased the ROS generation more than that with **P-Lp**, but at 30–60 min after the  $H_2O_2$  exposure, the ROS generation level affected by the treatment of **Mn-P-Lp** was found to decrease to the level where no significant difference in the ROS generation was observed between these two cases. Similar results were obtained when 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> of **P-Lp** and **Mn-P-Lp** was used (**Figure 4–9**).



**Figure 4–9**: ROS generation observed in the HaCaT cells upon the treatment of **P-Lp** and **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of (a) 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min ("\*" indicates p < 0.05).

Following a previous report,<sup>72</sup> where Mn(II)-porphyrin unit was conjugated with catalase to form a catalyst that could reduce superoxide anion radicals to  $H_2O_2$  by the function of Mn<sup>2+</sup> and could reduce  $H_2O_2$  further to water under the catalysis of catalase. In the similar manner, the Mn(II)-porphyrin in Mn-P-Lp is expected to reduce the superoxide anion radicals and its lipoyl group is expected to convert the resulting  $H_2O_2$  to water. Lipoic acid has an important role in inducing elevation of glutathione in the cell<sup>73</sup> that involves the conversion of  $H_2O_2$  to water.<sup>74</sup> However, our results indicated that the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit caused the increase in the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells. This is likely to be because the rate of the  $H_2O_2$  production from the reduction of the superoxide anion radicals by the Mn<sup>2+</sup> in Mn-P-LP is higher than the conversion rate of the resulting  $H_2O_2$  to water by dual function of lipoyl moiety in Mn-P-Lp and glutathione in the cells. Therefore, the accumulation of  $H_2O_2$  in the HaCaT cells occurred, resulting in the increase of the ROS generation.

#### 4.2.2.2 ROS generation in the HDFa cells

For the case where the HDFa cells were treated only with lipoic acid at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0 min to 60 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure), no change in the ROS generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. When the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of lipoic acid was used, the %ROS generation seemed to decrease. There results indicated that lipoic acid seemed to exhibit antioxidative activity without significant dose-dependency in the HDFa cells (**Figure 4–10**).



Time of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure / min

**Figure 4–10**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of DMEM and lipoic acid at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

The %ROS generation observed for the HDFa cells treated with **TMNPyP** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in **Figure 4–11**.



**Figure 4–11**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of DMEM and **TMNPyP** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

For the case where the HDFa cells were treated only with TMNPyP at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0–60 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure), no change in the ROS generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. The same results were obtained when the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of TMNPyP was used. These results indicated that TMNPyP exhibited no antioxidative activity in the HDFa cells, and the ROS generation in the HDFa cells caused by TMNPyP was not dose-dependent.

The %ROS generation observed for the HDFa cells treated with P-Lp at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in Figure 4–12.



**Figure 4–12**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of DMEM and **P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

For the case where the HDFa cells were treated only with P-Lp at concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> (at 0–60 min of the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure), no change in the ROS generation, compared with the control experiment, was observed. The same results were obtained when the concentration of 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of P-Lp was used. These results indicated that P-Lp exhibited no antioxidative activity in the HDFa cells, and the ROS generation in the HDFa cells caused by P-Lp was not dose-dependent.

The %ROS generation observed for the HDFa cells treated with Mn-P-Lp at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup>, and then with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 10–60 min is shown in Figure 4–13.



**Figure 4–13**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of DMEM and **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min ("\*\*\*" indicates p < 0.001, "\*\*" indicates p < 0.01 and "\*" indicates p < 0.05).

In the absence of  $H_2O_2$  with the concentration of Mn-P-Lp of 25 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>, the significant increase in the ROS generation, compared with the control batch, was observed. After the cells were treated with  $H_2O_2$  for 10–30 min, the ROS generation obviously decreased at 40–60 min of the  $H_2O_2$  exposure. However, at 60 min of the  $H_2O_2$  exposure, the %ROS generation observed in the cells was significantly decreased, but, however, to the level which is still higher than that observed for the control batch. These results indicated that the presence of Mn-P-Lp may induce the ROS generation in the HDFa cells, but seemed to be able to scavenge ROS from the external source like  $H_2O_2$  addition.<sup>71</sup> Similar results were obtained when 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> of Mn-P-Lp was used, indicating that ROS generation in this cell type caused by Mn-P-Lp was not dosedependent.

The effect of the introduction of the porphyrin unit on the ROS generation of the HDFa cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of lipoic acid and those of **P-Lp**. Compared with the case of lipoic acid, the treatment of the cells with the concentration of 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of **P-Lp** caused increase in the ROS generation at 0–10 min of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> exposure, but at 20–60 min, no difference of the ROS generation was

observed. However, at the concentration of 50 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup>, the treatment of the cells with both lipoic acid and **P-Lp** did not significantly different from each other in the ROS generation. These results indicated that the presence of porphyrin unit slightly induce the ROS generation (**Figure 4–14**).



**Figure 4–14**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of lipoic acid and **P-Lp** at the concentration of (a) 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min ("\*" indicates p < 0.05).

The effect of the introduction of lipoic acid on the ROS generation of the HaCaT cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of **TMNPyP** and **P-Lp**. Both before and after the exposure to  $H_2O_2$ , the treatment of the HDFa cells with **TMNPyP** and **P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 and 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> caused no difference in the ROS

generation. These results indicated that the attachment lipoyl unit on the porphyrin did not a significantly affect the ROS generation in the HDFa cells (Figure 4–15).

(a)



**Figure 4–15**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of TMNPyP and P-Lp at the concentration of (a) 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min.

The effect of the introduction of the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit on the ROS generation of the HDFa cells can be determined by the comparison of the results of **P-Lp** and those of **Mn-P-Lp**. After the exposure to  $H_2O_2$  for 0–30 min, the treatment of the HDFa cells with **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of 25 µg·mL<sup>-1</sup> increase the ROS generation more than that with **P-Lp**, but at 40–60 min after the  $H_2O_2$  exposure, the ROS generation level affected by the treatment of **Mn-P-Lp** was found to decrease to the level where has significant difference in the ROS generation was observed between

these two cases. Similar results were obtained when 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> of **P-Lp** and **Mn-P-Lp** was used (Figure 4–16).



**Figure 4–16**: The ROS generation observed in the HDFa cells upon the treatment of **P-Lp** and **Mn-P-Lp** at the concentration of (a) 25  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 50  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> for 24 h, followed by the treatment with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> for 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 min ("\*\*" indicates p < 0.01 and "\*" indicates p < 0.05).

These results indicated that the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit caused the increase in the ROS generation in the HaCaT cells, in the similar manner as mentioned for the HaCaT cells in Section 4.2.2.1.

#### 4.2.3 Mitochondria-targeting evaluation

In this studies, the mitochondria targeting activity was determined by cell imaging using a LSM 800 confocal microscope. The HaCaT cells were chosen because this type of cells is human skin cells which has rapid cell division. Nuclei of the HaCaT cells were stained with Hoechst 33342 dye to indicate position of cells as seen in the blue region in **Figure 4–17**. After JC-1 was loaded into cells and allowed to diffuse into mitochondria. Normally, permeability of various compounds into the mitochondria affects to mitochondrial membrane potential ( $\Delta \Psi$ M). At high  $\Delta \Psi$ m, JC-1 spontaneously forms the *J*-aggregates with intense red fluorescence and at low





The result demonstrated that the treated cells with only DMEM (control) mainly exhibited green fluorescence with red fluorescence at some parts, indicating

that DMEM was slightly accumulated in mitochondria (Figure 4–17(a)). For the cells treated with lipoic acid, the majority of the area exhibited green fluorescence, also indicating that lipoic acid was slightly accumulated in mitochondria (Figure 4–17(b)). In Figure 4–17(c), it can be clearly seen that the cells treated with P-Lp showed more red fluorescence, compared with those treated with lipoic acid. This result indicated that P-Lp can be more accumulated in the mitochondria than lipoic acid, which is likely to be because of the presence of the porphyrin unit in P-Lp. This is attributed to an effect of positive charges on the porphyrin ring which can attach to negative charges of mitochondrial inner membrane which is consistent with the previous report<sup>75</sup>. Figure 4–17(d) shows that the cells treated with Mn-P-Lp mainly exhibited red fluorescence in similar extent to that observed in the cells treated with P-Lp. This result indicated that Mn-P-Lp can be accumulated in the mitochondria in the comparable level with P-Lp and, therefore, the Mn-chelation of the porphyrin unit did not significantly affect the mitochondria-targeting ability of P-Lp.



## CHAPTER V

#### CONCLUSION

An asymmetric water-soluble porphyrin having pyridinium and lipoic acid-bared meso-substituents was successfully synthesized from amidation reaction between porphyrin unit and lipoic anhydride, followed by Mn-metallation with MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O. The resulting compounds were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, and UV-visible and fluorescence spectrophotometry. All compounds exhibited characteristic absorption peaks at around 418 to 469 nm, and emission ones at around 652 to 673 nm upon the excitation at their maximum absorption. In biological studies of the compounds of interest (lipoic acid, TMNPyP, P-Lp and Mn-P-Lp), the effects on the introduction of the porphyrin unit, and the presence of lipoic acid and Mn-chelation on the porphyrin unit on cell viability and antioxidant activity in HaCaT and HDFa cells were determined by cytotoxicity assay and the ROS generation assay, respectively. The results showed that the introduction of the porphyrin unit caused decrease in the IC<sub>50</sub> value from > 150  $\mu$ g·mL<sup>-1</sup> when the cells was treated with lipoic acid to  $25-100 \ \mu g \cdot m L^{-1}$  when they were treated with P-Lp, while did not affect antioxidative activity in the both kinds of cells. The presence of lipoic acid and the Mn-chelation on the porphyrin unit resulted in increase in the cell viability, but no significant change in the antioxidative activity in those cells were observed. In mitochondria-targeting evaluation, the target porphyrin derivative exhibited accumulation specifically in the mitochondria. The results suggested that the specificity to mitochondria is attributed to the introduction of the pyridiniumcontaining porphyrin unit.

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Figure A-3: Absorption spectrum of compound 1 in DMF.



Figure A-4: Emission spectrum of compound 1 in DMF.







Figure A-6: MALDI-TOF-MS of compound 2.



Figure A-7: Absorption spectrum of compound 2 in DMF.



Figure A-8: Emission spectrum of compound 2 in DMF.









Figure A-11: Absorption spectrum of TMPyP in DMF.



Figure A-12: Emission spectrum of TMPyP in DMF.











Figure A-14: HR-ESI mass spectrum of compound 3.



Figure A-16: Absorption spectrum of compound 3 in DMF.



Figure A-17: Emission spectrum of compound 3 in DMF.







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	17	631,2359	16389	18.8	24.3	0.0939	5736			Chemic	P-L al Formula:	-P CspHagN=OS- <sup>3</sup>	
	18	646.2553	25030	28.7	59.8	0.1032	6265			E	Exact Mass:	865.3454	
	19	647.2614	13654	15.7	32.3	0.1041	6220			Mol	ecular Weig	ht: 866.1374	
	20	757.3367	11929	13.7	29.7	0.1136	6665						
	21	835.3034	19273	22.1	48.1	0.1447	5772						
	22	850 3242	11563	13.3	28.5	0.1435	5827						
	23	851.3187	14528	23.3	36.0	0.1401	56143						
	25	865.3463	87163	100.0	220.3	0.1409	6143						
	26	866.3489	54451	62.5	137.2	0.1417	6114						
	27	867.3442	27485	31.5	68.8	0.1585	5471						
	28	868.3379	10930	12.5	26.8	0.1522	5706						
	29	881.3593	11714	13.4	28.7	0.1588	5551						

Figure A-20: HR-ESI mass spectrum of P-Lp.



Figure A-21: Absorption spectrum of P-Lp in  $H_2O$ .



Figure A-22: Calibration curve for quantitative determination of P-Lp in H\_2O ( $\lambda_{\text{abs}}$  = 428 nm).



Figure A-23: Emission spectrum of P-Lp in  $H_2O$ .









Figure A-25: Absorption spectrum of Mn-P-Lp in H<sub>2</sub>O.



Figure A-26: Calibration curve for quantitative determination of Mn-P-Lp in H\_2O ( $\lambda_{\text{abs}}$  = 469 nm).



Figure A-27: Emission spectrum of Mn-P-Lp in H<sub>2</sub>O.



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## VITA

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