

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work could have never been possible without the continual help, supervision, support, and guidance of many people. It is their inspiration and encouragement which helped me pass through the difficult days.

I am deeply indebted to my advisor, Professor Kesara Na-Bangchang, Pharmacology and Toxicology Unit, Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Thammasat University, Pathumthani, Thailand, for her invaluable guidance, initiative idea, and constructive criticisms, and for the knowledge and experience which she has generously shared with me throughout my study.

My deep gratitude is expressed to Professor Walther H. Wernsdorfer, Institute for Specific Prophylaxis and Tropical Medicine, University of Vienna, Austria; Dr. Ronnatrai Ruengweerayut, Maesot Hospital; Dr. Kanungnit Congpuong, Ministry of Public Health; and Dr. Veerachai Eursitthichai, Thammasat University for their valuable comments and suggestions.

I am deeply indebted to Professor Juntra Karbwang for her invaluable advice, initiative idea, and constructive criticisms, and for the knowledge and experience which she has generously shared with me throughout my study.

My deep gratitude is expressed to Mr. Steven Wayling and the UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, for the valuable information and for the financial support throughout my study for the Ph.D. degree in Clinical Pharmacology.

My sincere thanks are given to the staff of the Pharmacology and Toxicology Unit for their help and co-operation during the time I worked in the laboratory.

My grateful appreciation is extended to Dr. Matthew J. Cheesman from the Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences for the proofreading of the manuscripts.

I am deeply indebted to Professor Dr. Truong Van Viet, the Director of Cho Ray Hospital, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for his invaluable support, guidance, and for the knowledge and experience which he has warmly shared with me throughout my study.

I am deeply indebted to Professor Trinh Kim Anh, the former Director of Cho Ray Hospital for his invaluable support and constructive criticisms, and for the knowledge and experience which he has warmly shared with me throughout my study.

My deep thanks are provided to Dr. Huynh Van Thien, the Director of Bao Loc Hospital, Bao Loc District, Lam Dong Province and staff; Dr. Mieu Tieu Chong, the Director of Bac Binh Hospital and staff; Dr. Nguyen Van Thang, the Head of Mepu Village Health Post, Duc Linh District, Binh Thuan Province; Dr. Nguyen Van Binh, the Head of 11<sup>th</sup> Rubber Plantation Health Post, Binh Phuoc Province, Vietnam for their assistance in studies conducted in the hospitals, as well as those in the field.

My special thanks are provided to Dr. Phan Thi Danh, the Head of the Biochemistry Department, Cho Ray Hospital and staff for their help during the study.

My heartfelt gratitude is due to my parents and family for their inspiration and support. They always realise and emphasise the importance of education.

My deepest acknowledgements and love are expressed to my husband Dr. Le Ngoc Hung and my beloved son Le Ngoc An, for their spirit, care, and encouragement throughout the whole time of my work and my study.