

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The contents of ATP in erythrocyte of monkeys infected with P. knowlesi and a study on the trapping of red blood cell in the normal monkeys and the P. knowlesi-infected monkeys were determined using the luciferase enzyme and the liquid scintillation counter. The results showed that there was an increased ATP content in P. knowlesi-infected monkeys. No relationship between red blood cell ATP content and the parasitaemia was demonstrated.

⁵¹Cr-labelled P. knowlesi infected red blood cells and ⁵⁹Fe-labelled normal red blood cells were used to study the trapping effect in the normal and the P. knowlesi-infected monkeys. The infected red blood cells were found to travel with the same rate as the normal red blood cells, but the radioactivity of the former was less than of the latter. This indicated that the infected red blood cells were trapped in the cerebral vessel of the normal and the infected monkeys. This finding confirmed the previous reports that the infected red blood cells had less deformability than the normal red blood cells.