

CRI Success Story



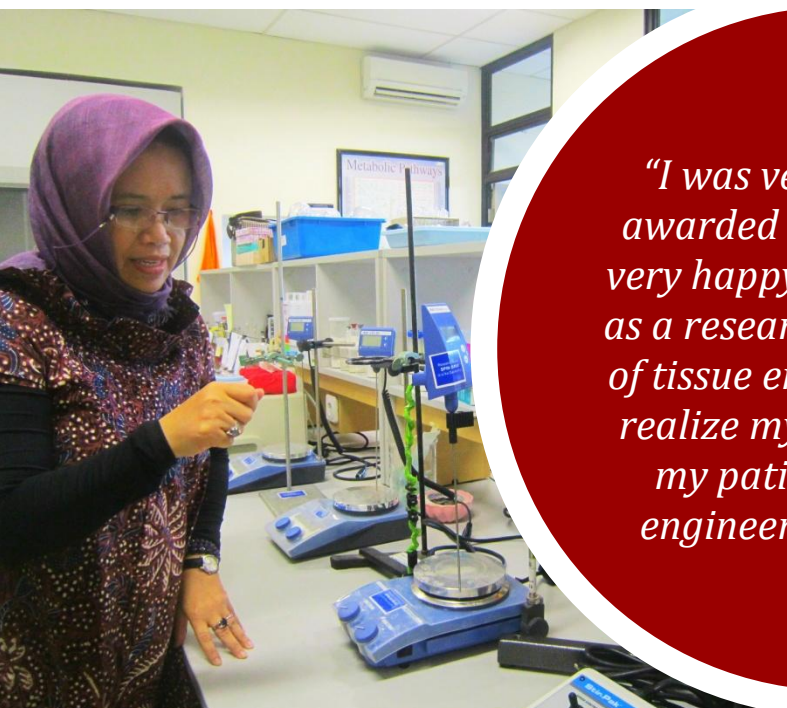
Dr. Ika Dewi Ana

Associate Professor in Dental Biomedical Sciences,
Field of Tissue Engineering
Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), Indonesia

"CRI helps our research to transform"

After a long journey of working in apatite synthesis, Dr. Ika Dewi Ana applied for AUN/SEED-Net's Collaborative Research Program with Industry (CRI) in 2011. Along with Professor Kunio Yoshikawa from Kyushu University who was her PhD supervisor, and her colleague Dr. Rudi Wigianto who owns a not-so-big implant company in Indonesia, Dr. Ika was able to continue and expand the research areas related to her field – tissue engineering.

Before CRI, she had already found the suitable method and formula to fabricate carbonate apatite bone graft and published these findings in some journals. However after being granted CRI, she was then, in her words, "forced" to link the latest development of their research with the steps needed to make it used for industries. She was beginning on the path to commercialization.



"I was very lucky to be awarded CRI grant. I am very happy because finally as a researcher in the area of tissue engineering I can realize my dream to help my patients by tissue engineering research."

"The CRI scheme was really beneficial for our group," said Dr. Ika. "Besides "forcing" me to follow commercialization steps, the CRI scheme is the best scheme to improve our research capacity because we can propose to provide research instrumentations we need."

Upon finalizing the research, Dr. Ika presented the research product profile to some pharmaceutical industries introduced by UGM. It was in December 2012 when PT Kimia Farma Tbk. agreed to commercialize the apatite bone graft.

"This would not happen without CRI..."

Finally, nowadays the business startup company for "Gama-CHA" bone graft has been granted production certificate and distribution certificate, meanwhile PT Kimia Farma Tbk. has already initiated product orders for bone graft distribution all over Indonesia.

In August 2014, the Ministry of State Owned Companies (in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture and Ministry of Health) will launch their product as the first ever commercialized tissue engineering product in Indonesia.

Some industries also approached them to do joint works to modify the first generation "Gama-CHA" for other purposes, such as for vaccine adjuvant and cell therapy.

Special thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ika Dewi Ana for sharing her CRI success story.



AUN/SEED-Net

