Reviewer's report

Title: Sericin cream reduces pruritis in hemodialysis patients

Version: 2 Date: 30 May 2012

Reviewer: Chrysoula Pipili

Reviewer's report:

the study of Pornanong Aramwit et al adds information to the current knowledge about uremic pruritus of patients receiving hemodialysis. However, major compulsory revisions are recommended before publication be decided
The study is not well balanced and methodology and discussion are not clearly written. All the paper needs editing
Title- pruritus instead of pruritis. Correction should be made along the paper
Abstract
Structural errors on the first sentence in methodology
Main body
Background -Too long the background. Not a place for the all these studies, explaining the possible mechanisms of sericin action
Methodology
It not cleary stated the number of patients included into two groups. What were the biochemical parameters of patients including in the study?(serum phosphorus, hematocrit?)Did patients present any rash?
Materials and methods
Why is useful to know the preparation of silk sericin and sericin cream preparation. Please define
Methods
The study design, the study treatment, the measurement and outcome are not clear. Probably the text would be more intelligible if all the study steps and the forms firstly mentioned and analysed
Results
Not understandable the table 2 and the figure legends. What represent the numbers in the cells on table?
Discussion
Not adequately supported and well understood. Information should be focus on patients on hemodialysis and not interchangeable about patients on CKD. The work upon which, authors are building, both published and unpublished, is not acknowledged. Is there any explanation about the sericin possible action mechanism?
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.