Author's response to reviews

Title: Induction of lung lesions in Wistar rats by 4-(methyl nitrosamino)-1-(3-pyridyl)-1-butanone and its inhibition by aspirin and phenethyl isothiocyanate

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Thank you for consideration of our manuscript for publication in your journal. We have carefully checked our manuscript for any typing or content errors and reviewed the above manuscript according to editor’s comments.

The changes made are list as following:

1. Figure legends - The image file should not include the legend, title (e.g. Figure 1... etc.) or figure number. The legend and title should be part of the manuscript file after the reference list. The figures are numbered automatically in the order in which they are uploaded.

2. Figures - It is important for the final layout of the manuscript that the figures are cropped as closely as possible to minimize white space around the image. All of the figures were cropped as closely as possible and the legend and title were deleted.

3. Page 10
“In normal rat lung tissue, bronchial mucosa epithelial cells and smooth muscle cells stained positively for COX-2. Some basal cells in normal bronchial epithelium expressed p63 and PCNA; only 2 specimens showed no reaction for p63.”

The sentences in manuscript now appear as:
In normal rat lung tissue, bronchial mucosa epithelial cells and smooth muscle cells stained positively for COX-2. Some basal cells in normal bronchial epithelium expressed p63 and PCNA. In the control group only 2 specimens showed no reaction for p63, the mean (SD) scores for COX-2 and PCNA are 0.68 (0.33) and 1.16 (0.53), respectively.

4. Page 11
“The mean (SD) PCNA indices were 18.57 (2.60) and 24.25 (3.351).”

The sentence in manuscript now appears as:
The mean (SD) PCNA indices were 18.57 (2.60) and 24.25 (3.34).

5. Page 15
“Studies have demonstrated that COX-2 protein and mRNA expression was significantly lower in NSCLC than in adenocarcinoma [26, 28-30].”

The sentence in manuscript now appears as:
Studies have demonstrated that COX-2 protein and mRNA expression was significantly lower in squamous cell carcinoma than in adenocarcinoma [26, 28-30].

6. Page 29 Table 1
“*p<0.05 when compared with negative control group.”

The sentence in manuscript now appears as:
*p<0.05 when compared with negative control group by Fisher’s exact probability test.

7. Page 30 Table 2
“**p<0.05 when compared with negative group.
**p<0.01 when compared with negative group.”
♦ p<0.05 when compared with positive group.
♣ ♣ p<0.01 when compared with positive group”

The sentences in manuscript now appear as:
* p<0.05 when compared with negative control group.
** p<0.01 when compared with negative control group.
♦ p<0.05 when compared with positive control group.
♣ ♣ p<0.01 when compared with positive control group.