Author's response to reviews

Title: Influence of antioxidant (L- ascorbic acid) on tolbutamide induced hypoglycaemia/antihyperglycaemia in normal and diabetic rats

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Editorial suggestion to change from BMC complementary and alternative medicine to BMC endocrine disorders – Accepted.

Further Study - Not needed

**Major compulsory revision:**

**Q1.** In this study authors have discussed albino rats of either sex are used and there are lot of possibilities for sex related differences to occur in response to diabetes induction and subsequent treatment, due to hormonal influences. Authors should explain why they used animals of different sexes and not the same, what were the variations observed.

**Ans.** Literature reports indicated that there was no sex dependent variation in the occurrence of diabetes. It was found to be 1:1 ratio in males / females. Hence rats of either sex were used.


**Minor revision:**

**Q1.** In introduction, authors have discussed survey, which seems out of place and in introduction second para, line 6, starting with “Earlier Reports” is unclear and has to be modified.

**Ans:** In introduction the authors discussed about scurvy (a vitamin c deficiency disorder) but not “survey”. Earlier reports discussed about the occurrence of scurvy and low levels of ascorbic acid.

**Q2.** The dose fixation for ascorbic acid is not clear. Authors were given 40mg/kg body weight for normal rats. They should rationalize why same 40mg/kg was not given to normal rats. The last line “L-ascorbic acid dose”. In the induction of diabetes” is not explanatory.

**Ans:** The authors fixed the dose of L-ascorbic acid based on degree of hypoglycaemic response. The dose of a drug that changes blood glucose by about 40% was selected to find the influence of interacting drug. In normal rats 60 mg/kg was found to be sufficient and in diabetic rats 40 mg/kg found to be sufficient.

**Q3.** Authors have given the mode of alloxan administration again in discussion, which can be deleted and mode of administration of L-ascorbic acid and tolbutamide should be included in ‘materials and methods’ rather than in included in ‘discussion’.

**Ans:** Mode of alloxan administration was deleted from discussion and mode of administration of L-ascorbic acid and tolbutamide was included in ‘materials and methods’.