Title: Newer insights into the mechanism of antidiarrhoeal activity of Psidium guajava L. leaves in infectious diarrhoea.

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Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer’s report

Title: Newer insights into the mechanism of antidiarrhoeal activity of Psidium guajava L. leaves.

Version: 1 Date: 3 June 2010

Reviewer: Jamil A Shilpi

Reviewer's report:
The manuscript can be published with some minor revisions.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely
related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.

Review report:
This paper deals with a detailed study to find the underlying mechanism of the antidiarrhoeal activity of the decoction of Psidium guajava L. leaves in infectious diarrhoea. Although a number of works previously reported the antidiarrhoeal activity of Psidium guajava, this paper focuses specifically its role on some diarrhea causing pathogens as well as on their mechanism of causing diarrhea. The authors have followed established methods in their work.
This piece of work is worthwhile to publish with some minor revisions.

Discretionary Revisions
Since this work entirely deals with the mechanisms involved in infectious diarrhea, the title can be changed to make it more specific.

The title of the manuscript has been changed. The title of the revised manuscript reads as Newer insights into the mechanism of action of Psidium guajava L. leaves in infectious diarrhoea.

Minor essential revisions:
1. Background: Last paragraph, 2nd line: ‘colonization on intestinal’ instead of ‘colonization of intestinal’.
This change has been incorporated in the revised version
2. Methods: First paragraph, last line: ‘4 oC’ instead of 4 0C. The letter ‘o’ should be used to write degree instead of numerical zero and this should be considered throughout the manuscript.
0C has been changed to oC (letter ‘o’ instead of numerical zero) throughout the manuscript.
3. Discussion: First paragraph, line number 7: 'colonization in the gut' instead of 'colonization of the gut'
This change has been incorporated in the revised version
4. 6th paragraph, line 2: ‘both the protocols’ instead of ‘both the protocol’
This correction has been done in the revised version.
5. 6th paragraph, line 7 and 8: 'S. flexneri as compared to E. coli E134' instead of 'S. flexneri as against E. coli E134'

This correction has been done in the revised version.

6. Reference 5: Coma instead of semicolon after the year of publication.

This correction has been done in the revised version.

Major Compulsory Revisions
b) Background, Last paragraph, last line: ‘Does quercetin attributed for antidiarrhoeal activity?
Moreover, ‘quercetin a marker for standardization of’ what? Is it a marker for standardization of antidiarrhoeal activity? Reference is required to cite both of the statements.

To address these comments the text has been appropriately modified and appropriate references have been cited in the revised version. The revised text now reads as ‘The activity of the crude extract was compared with that of quercetin to ascertain its role in the observed biological activity. Quercetin is a major flavonoid present in P. guajava leaves and has been previously reported to have antidiarrhoeal activity [17]. Quercetin has also been used as a marker for standardization of crude aqueous leaf extract [19].

Reviewer’s report
Title: Newer insights into the mechanism of antidiarrhoeal activity of Psidium guajava L. leaves.

Version: 1 Date: 10 June 2010

Reviewer: Raffaele Capasso

Reviewer’s report:
I have only minor comments.

1) The Authors should indicate the EC50 values

The EC50 values for the assays have been incorporated in the Results section of the revised version wherever applicable.

2) The extract should contain a type of standardization (e.g. fingerprint).

The HPTLC fingerprint of the extract with quercetin as a phytochemical reference standard has been provided as Fig. 1 whereas the HPLC of the crude extract has also been provided as a supplementary data.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.