Author's response to reviews

Title: Anticancer activity of a dichloromethane sub-fraction of Strobilanthes crispus on human breast and prostate cancer cells in vitro

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dr. Melissa Norton  
Editor-in-Chief,  
*BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*  

24 July 2010  

Dear Dr. Norton,  

Thank you for inviting us to re-submit our manuscript entitled “Anticancer activity of a dichloromethane sub-fraction of *Strobilanthes crispus* on human breast and prostate cancer cells *in vitro*” to be considered for publication in *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*.  

Minor changes have been highlighted in the text (Methods section) in red, and a slightly modified Figure 2 is included based on the comments by Reviewer 1. The image files are formatted according to the editorial requirements. We have also edited Figure 9 due to minor mistakes in the percentages and marker settings. We hope that our submission now meets the high standard that you require.  

We confirm that the manuscript has not been published before and is not under consideration by another journal, and that the submission is approved by all authors. We also declare that we do not have any actual or potential conflict of interest, except for financial support for the work, which is stated in the Acknowledgment section of the manuscript.  

Thank you  

Sincerely,  

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Author’s response to reviews

Specific comment:

Figure 2: This figure should be completed to present the whole scope of the 
flowchart in the real performance, i.e. not only showing SC/D-F1, -F2, -F3, 
…..-F15 only.

As suggested by the same reviewer in his previous comment, Figure 2 describes the 
extraction and fractionation process. However, based on the new comments by the 
same reviewer, we have now edited this figure to include the downstream activities 
following the fractionation process. In addition, this change will also help clarify the 
role of TLC below.

Figure 2: The question is raised as how could you get sufficient amount of 
samples only by TLC separation to perform the cell culture experiment?

As stated in the text (Methods section), the TLC preparation was carried out only to 
evaluate the fractionated eluents. Eluents which contain similar chemical profiles 
were pooled and labeled SC/D-F1, -F2, etc. The cell culture work was carried out 
using these fractionated eluents. Figure 2 and the text (indicated in red) has been 
slightly modified to avoid this confusion.