Author’s response to reviews

Title: Suppression of low-density lipoprotein oxidation, vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation and migration by a herbal extract of Radix Astragali, Radix Codonopsis and Cortex Lycii

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Version: 3 Date: 6 December 2010

Author’s response to reviews: see over
6 December 2010

BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Dear Editor,

1952403058440251 - Suppression of low-density lipoprotein oxidation, vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation and migration by a herbal extract of Radix Astragali, Radix Codonopsis and Cortex Lycii
(Second revision)

Thank you very much for your reply dated 26 November, 2010 in which you advised us that you would be willing to consider a revised version of the above manuscript.

Following the reviewers’ comments, we have revised our manuscript again. We are pleased in re-submitting our revised manuscript via manuscript submission website whereas the responses to reviewers are attached as follows.

Thank you very much.

Yours Sincerely,

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For Reviewer 1 (Hsiu-Chung Ou)

Comment: Many of the prior concerns have been resolved, except the most important one: whether the effects of SR10 on suppression PDGF-induced proliferation and migration are acting through ERK-mediated signaling.

Response: Our results of Western blot analysis supported that ERK-mediated pathway is involved in the inhibition of PDGF-induced VSMC proliferation by SR10. The data has been added into the revised manuscript as Fig. 5C and into appropriate paragraphs of Results and Discussion sections.
For Reviewer 2 (Hoyoung Choi)

Comment: The author should give a brief explanation of why the concentrations of SR10 were different in the assays used.

Response: A paragraph “Different concentrations of SR10 were used in different experiments because different cellular models and mode of action are involved. For example, red blood cells were applied to measure the inhibitory effects of SR10 on free radical-induced hemolysis while A7r5 is smooth muscle cell line for the measurement of proliferation and migration.” has been added into Discussion section to explain why the concentrations of SR10 were different in the assays used.

Comment: 1st and 2nd paragraphs need to be reorganized.

Response: The 1st and 2nd paragraphs has been reorganized according to the reviewer’s suggestions.