Author's response to reviews

Title: BACE1 inhibitory activity of fungal endophytic extracts from Malaysian medicinal plants

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Version: 3 Date: 26 May 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
25 May 2011

Ms Iratxe Puebla
BioMed Central Editorial Team

Dear Ms Iratxe Puebla,

Re: BACE1 inhibitory activity of fungal endophytic extracts from Malaysian medicinal plants

Thank you for the email concerning the above manuscript. Reviewer 1 was happy with the amended manuscript but Reviewer 2’s comment concerning in vitro cell based assays and isolation of novel compounds is major. The suggestions are further developments of our research, which is in progress and will be the subject of future publications. Our response to Reviewer 2 is as the following:

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<tr>
<th>Comment/Quest</th>
<th>Response</th>
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<td>2. The authors should demonstrate the influence of HAB16R13 extract upon amyloid beta production in cultured cell to further identify the value of the HAB16R13 extract in vitro or isolate some novel small molecular compounds of the HAB16R13 extract to provide more information for potential anti-AD drug discovery and design</td>
<td>Our paper refers to BACE 1 inhibitory activity solely and importance of such a finding from a novel source is worthy of express publication. Other aspects such as inhibition of beta amyloid production and neuroinflammatory properties are in progress and will be the subject of further papers.</td>
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<td>4. Considering the four extracts from HAB16R13, HAB16R18, HAB16R14 and HAB8R24 exhibited almost the same IC50 (BACE1) is there any possibility that the fungus belong to the same strain which produce the same active compounds?</td>
<td>We initially thought that all 5 fungi were of the same strain but realized that although the BACE 1 inhibitory activity was similar but found that they showed different pattern when tested for neuroinflammation activities. Work on this is still in progress.</td>
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We hope the responses to the comments of the referee 2 are to the satisfaction of the Editorial Board and the paper is accepted for publication.
Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

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