Title: Hypotensive effect of Gentiana floribunda is mediated through Ca++ antagonism pathway

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Author's response to reviews:

To,
Editor-in-Chief
“BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine”

Dear Editor,

I am pleased to submit our revised article entitled “Hypotensive effect of Gentiana floribunda is mediated through Ca++ antagonism pathway” for publication in “BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine”. The answers to the editor and reviewers comments are provided, as below. We feel that the manuscript after incorporating reviewer’s valuable suggestions has been considerably improved and we look forward to see it in print.

With kindest regards

Sincerely,

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Answer to comments

Thanks for recommending our article for acceptance, subjected to some revision. The responses to comments are given below.

Editor:

As instructed, the article has now been thoroughly checked and reviewed for the editorial corrections by native English speaker, Dr. Philip Kopf, Department of
Pharmacology and Toxicology, Medical College of Wisconsin, WI, USA. The revised manuscript is strictly formatted according to style of targeted journal, BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Reviewer#1:
We highly appreciate the encouraging remarks and critical review of manuscript by the referee. All comments of reviewer are properly addressed as follows.

Minor Essential Revisions
# About 1.5 kg of the whole plant powdered material was subjected to subsequent extraction processes, obtaining 0.25 kg (250 g) of the crude extract of Gentiana floribunda (Gf.Cr). The % yield of Gf.Cr was calculated as: 0.25 kg/1.5 kg=0.167x100=16.7%.

# In agreement with referee, the title of article has been revised as “Hypotensive effect of Gentiana floribunda is mediated through Ca++ antagonism pathway. i.e. “antihypertensive” has been replaced by “hypotensive”.

# The relevant literature references mentioned by reviewer are incorporated in the revised article background and bibliography sections.

Discretionary Revisions
The focus of our studies is to determine the pharmacologically effects of medicinal plants. The extract quantitatively chemical constituent’s characterization could not perform, as we are lacking the chemistry advance techniques for this purpose in our laboratory. However, we noted the referee valuable suggestion of herb standardization for the future studies. Moreover, we are thankful for highlighting the importance of the present research.

Reviewer#2:
Report
Thanks for appreciating the research work and recommending the article for publications.

Queries
1. As directed, the preliminary toxicity study of the understudy plant extract was carried out and the results are incorporated in the revised article.

2. In the in-vivo blood pressure (BP) measuring technique, the plant crude extract was administered intravenously (IV) through right jugular vein. It is a well established method, being widely applied to evaluate effect of the plant material on BP [1-3].

3. Previous studies showed that hypotensive effects of various medicinal plants are reported, administered only through IV route and subsequent vascular investigations [4-8], as conducted in present study. This research work was carried out at the University of Malaya, Malaysia during the visit of principal author, Dr. Arif-ullah Khan, as Post-Doctorate Research Fellow. Now, after availing the granted study leave period, author has back to the parent institute (Kohat University of Science and Technology, Pakistan), where the cardiovascular pharmacology experiments setup is not established. Furthermore,
due to limited availability, the extract quantity has been finished. So the intraperitoneal injection protocol cannot be followed, but we noted the reviewer suggestion for the future studies.

4. The plant extract cannot be investigated to measure the ECG changes, as don’t have the ECG facility at our lab. We will utilize the reviewer useful idea in further research.

References


