Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of green tea extracts on oxaliplatin-induced peripheral neuropathy in rats

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Reviewer: Elizabeth K Joseph

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Review Report on:

'Effect of green tea extracts on oxaliplatin-induced peripheral neuropathy in rats'
Jung Soo Lee, Woon Tae Kim, Eun Kyoung Jeon, Hye Sung Won, Young-Seok Cho and Yoon Ho Ko BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research article

This manuscript has its novelty as it brings to the attention of the physicians and patients about the beneficial effect of a simple anti-oxidant. More and more of these types of studies may bring greater awareness to the scientific world and the general public about the effectiveness and possible use of Alternative Medicine.

However, this manuscript requires major revision. Authors need to pay attention to what is done and what they report systematically and accurately. I feel that there is a total lack of scientific clarity and some negligence in editing the paper with accuracy.

I wish to point out a few points as given below:

No vehicle control group: Without control, how to detect the change from a naïve rat to that treated with Oxaliplatin, or oxaliplatin with tea extract:

Here are a few of the inadvertent mistakes the authors have made:

Page 2: Results- Oxaliplatin--------was administered intraperitoneally once daily for 6 weeks:

Page 5: Experimental Design--- Oxaliplatin administered twice per week for 6 weeks (different from what is mentioned above).

Page5: 5th line: We measured----------tests before oxaliplatin administration at 2, 4, and 6 weeks. These measurements can indicate the changes between weeks 2 & 4, or 4 & 6 and the like between the oxaliplatin group and oxaliplatin with tea extract group. How to detect the change that happens between the naïve, oxaliplatin treated and tea extract plus oxaliplatin treated-----?

Page 10: Assessment of sensory threshold: Authors mention that they measured fore paw and hind paw sensitivity, but not shown in results. No reference to any of the methods employed. Authors say measurement done at several seconds
apart (No consistent time interval).

Page 11: Assessment of thermal threshold: before oxaliplatin, thermal thresholds in the two groups were very low (1.2 & 1.1 s), meaning that the intensity of heat applied was very high, leaving no room to detect change. How could anyone detect any difference in sensitivity when the heat applied is too high such that the basal threshold is too low?

My comments refer to the totality of the paper and not only to the behavioral studies.

Declaration: I declare that I have no competing interests in any of the questions asked.

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

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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' below