Author's response to reviews

Title: Quality Assessment and Anti-obesity activity of Stellaria media (Linn.) Vill.

Authors:

neeru vasudeva Dr. (neeruvasudeva@gmail.com)
surendra kumar sharma Dr. (prof.sharmask@gmail.com)
neerja rani Dr. (neerjayadav82@gmail.com)

Version: 4 Date: 13 August 2012

Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer's report
Title: Quality Assessment and Anti-obesity activity of Stellaria media (Linn.) Vill.
Version: 2 Date: 5 April 2012
Reviewer: Watcho Pierre
Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
Although some corrections have been partially made in the second draft submitted, an important question remained unanswered which is of great scientific value. It concerns the onset of obesity in this paper.

As mentioned by the authors at the beginning of the Introduction (see reference 1), obesity could be defined as the excessive accumulation of body fat that may impair health. It is obvious that this increase in body weight can be due genetically or through special diet (high fat diet) resulting in hyperphagia. However findings obtained from the present study still showed some doubtful data.

The authors found that after 2 weeks of HFD, there was an increase in body weight gain without any change in food intake in all experimental groups. Without using genetically obese animals, how could they explain this discrepancy? How can obesity be developed without hyperphagia in such animals?

Reply: Any change in food applies to the quantity of food intake. The obesity
induced in mice was due to the quality of food i.e high fat diet. The composition of which has been mentioned in the methodology. The diet of normal rats has also been mentioned in the methodology. This statement is in accordance with the lines mentioned in the introduction i.e increase in body weight can be due genetically or through special diet (high fat diet).

Reviewer's report

Title: Quality Assessment and Anti-obesity activity of Stellaria media (Linn.) Vill.
Version: 2 Date: 7 April 2012
Reviewer: kamal amin

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions.
The author perform some of the requested changes.
But there are important point needs to be clarified:

1 We still argue about the food consumption between control and HFD group and the incidence of obesity, the author reported in page that there is difference in food intake while the data in table 1 not significantly different in food intake or body gain between control and HFD group.

Reply: The was difference in quality of food i.e High fat diet, however no change in quantity of diet as reported in table.

2 The author answer that: The mice were obese as indicated by significant increase in body weight.

While in table 1 normal body gain 2.81 and HFD 6.21 have no star of significant.

Reply: May Be a typographical error. Necessary corrections may be done.

3 Page 12 the author answer and highlight yellow that: The mean food consumption per week per mice was different between the control and high-fat-diet groups throughout the whole experimental period.). This not confirmed by the data in table 1.

Reply: There was difference in mean food consumption but the difference was not statistically significant.

Dear Sir,
Please find the below attached reply of comments of authors.

Reply to comments

Que Table 2 the symbols of significance need to be added
Ans Needful done

Que The amount of food eaten per day should be expressed in units of energy rather than weight. This will make it clearer to readers that the mice on the high fat diet were in fact eating more than mice on the normal chow diet
Ans Necessary correction is done in Table 1. The average food taken is converted in kcal from gram.

Que The dosing paradigm of the agent of interest is not given. A 400 and 900 dose are mentioned, but are these doses given every day for the 6 week experimental period, or are they given only once? Are these doses given in the food, or in the drinking water, or injected? This need to be included in the methods and possibly also in the legends.
Ans The LJ was given orally to mice. The doses were given every day for the 6 week experimental period. Necessary correction is also made in method also.

Please reply me for the decision as soon as possible.

Thanks
Dr. Neeru Vasudeva