Author’s response to reviews

Title: Immunomodulatory effect of water soluble extract separated from mycelium of Phellinus linteus on experimental atopic dermatitis

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
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The BioMed Central Editorial Team

Re: MS: 9985955336339504 Decision Letter

Dear Editor

Thank you for your help in reviewing the above manuscript, “Immunomodulatory effect of water soluble extract separated from mycelium of Phellinus linteus on experimental atopic dermatitis” by Ji Sun Hwang et al., for the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine. By following reviewer’ comments we have carefully revised our manuscript.

Point-by-point response to reviewer’ comment is also attached. We hope that this revised manuscript is now suitable for publication in the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Sincerely yours,
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A point-by-point response to reviewer’s comment

Reviewer: Naoki Inagaki

Comment #1
In results shown in figures 1A, 5A, 5B, 5C, and supplementary figures 1A and 1B, control value seems to be 1 + 0 (no error bar). If so, Student’s t-test cannot be applied for evaluation of such data.

Response #1:
As pointed out by reviewer, control value was set at 1 without error bar since we compared the results of each individual value with control group set at 1 and then averaged the results of each set. By following reviewer’s comment, we re-analyzed the results and changed the graph based on newly calculated statistical analysis by student’s t-test. In the revised manuscript we have introduced error bars in the control group of each figure. Here are the details how we performed Statistical analysis.

1. To analyze the statistical significance for Figures 5A, 5B, 5C & Supplementary figure 1A, 1B, we performed following steps.
   a) To analyze the qRT-PCR data (Fig. 5 and Supplementary Fig. 1), we averaged the ΔΔ(ct) value of three individual set (1st, 2nd, 3rd set) from each treatment group (Cont, WA, Cera).
   b) To make relative value, each set of ΔΔ (ct) value of control group was divided with ΔΔ (ct) value of each target molecules. For example, in the case of WA treated group, we divided the each set of ΔΔ (ct) value of target molecule of WA group with that of control group’s ΔΔ (ct) value. Control value was set at 1.
   c) Then we averaged the relative values in each experiment with STDEV.
   d) Finally, we analyzed statistics with student’s t-test between the groups.

2. To analyze the statistical significance for Figures 1A, we performed following steps.
a) We averaged the value of each set (1st, 2nd, 3rd set).
b) Each value of samples treated with different concentration of PL was divided with control (no PL treatment). Control value was set at 100%.
c) Then we averaged the relative values in each experiment with STDEV.
e) Finally, we analyzed statistics with student's t-test between the groups.