Author's response to reviews

Title: Antinociceptive effect of ethanolic extract of Selaginella convoluta in mice

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Version: 3 Date: 29 June 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Title of paper: Antinociceptive effect of ethanolic extract of Selaginella convoluta in mice

Manuscript number: 6620641616587942 (Research Article)

Dear Editor,

Here are my thoughts about changes in the article, in order to improve the quality of it for publication. All changes made in the work are highlighted in blue.

Referee # 2

Major Compulsory Revisions:
I have reviewed the revised manuscript and found that the authors have made significant amendments in their revised manuscript. However there few issues the authors have yet to address:

1) How was the doses of the extract used determined?
In the acute toxicity evaluation of Sc-EtOH, behavioral and physiological alterations were not observed neither animal’s death in the doses of 2.0 g/kg intraperitoneally and 5.0 g/kg orally, respectively, indicating low toxicity of the extract. Normally we use these doses in our experiments. The results have shown that animals do not show signs of toxicity at these doses, even by i.p. route.

2) In the formalin test:
a. Were the extracts administered 60 min before formalin?
In this experiment was used the methodology described by Koster et al. (1959). In the formalin test, the extract is administered via i.p. and the formalin by subplantar via 60 min before formalin, in the paw of the animal.

3) I’am bit sceptical on the hot plate results particulaly for latency time measured
at 120min. Perhaps the authors should conduct another statistical analysis on the results.

In all experiments, the data were expressed as mean ± S.E.M. and the statistical significance was determined using an analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Dunnett’s test. In 120 min there was no statistical significance of experimental groups compared to controls.

4) As suggested by other reviewer, I totally agreed that the authors need to conduct additional experiment on the effect of the extract on motor performance (rota rod test or open field test) to rule out sedative effect of the extract.

The rota-rod test was performed. The results are presented in the manuscript.

After these considerations, the editor may consider the article for publication.

Best regards.

Dr. Jackson Roberto Guedes da Silva Almeida
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