Reviewer's report

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

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Reviewer: Fabiana C Vilela

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Comments to the Author

With their manuscript “Antinociceptive effect of ethanolic extract of Selaginella convolute in mice” de Sá and colleagues address report an important area of investigation traditional use of Selaginella convoluta. The authors evaluate the effects of ethanolic extract of Selaginella convolute in mice. The study has an interesting approach and some elements of novelty, however I have a few concerns that should be addressed.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. In the abstract and results sessions, the authors say that Sc-EtOH did not show effect in the hot plate test, but the extract increase the latency time at doses of 200 and 400 mg/Kg after 60 and 90 minutes, respectively. Please clarify this point.

2. Why were the animals deprived of food 12 h prior to the experiments if the administration was i.p.?

3. Why in the writhing test is performer 30 min after treatment and formalin test in 60 min after treatment?

4. In discussion, the authors should discuss about a possible anti inflammatory action of extract because the extract act on second phase of formalin test. Please, discuss this point.

5. The authors consider that the extract had no effect on the hot plate test. It is not contradictory to the extract decreases the licking time on first phase of the formalin test and not acts upon in the hot plate test? Please clarify this point.

6. How the authors explain the dose of 200 mg/Kg increased the latency time on time 60 min and the dose of 400 mg/Kg had no effect?

7. How can the authors claim that the extract has antinociceptive action if they do not exclude a possible action of the extract on locomotor activity of animals? Authors should perform the open field test.

8. The authors do not think the very high doses of extract to be administered i.p.? Normally, these doses are used for oral treatments. Please discuss this point.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.