Reviewer's report

Title: Protective effect of topical Cordia verbenacea in a rat periodontitis model: immune-inflammatory, antibacterial and morphometric assays.

Version: 1 Date: 5 June 2012

Reviewer: Marco Botelho

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editors,

The manuscript, “Protective effect of topical Cordia verbenacea in a rat periodontitis model: immune-inflammatory, antibacterial and morphometric assays.”, is acceptable for publication, however, it would need to be revised and improved before acceptance.

I have attached below the comments for your use in understanding this decision. I also hope these comments will be useful in future studies.

This manuscript describes a experimental study where wistar rats were submitted for EPD for 11 days animals received 5mg/Kg of essential oils isolated from C. verbenacea.

The therapies were administered topically 3 times daily for 11 days.

Overall, the study is clearly written, but suffers from what must be described as a "Major flaw".

Without a positive and negative control drug.

the study was designed to asses the efficacy of cordia essential oils however is not quite clear the anti-inflammatory activity without control groups

FORMAT REVIEW:

STUDY DESIGN: Please compare with doxicicline and saline groups

I regret having to send you a temporally negative decision, as I can appreciate the time and effort they have expended in carrying out the study.

We welcome the opportunity to review material in the future.

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: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.