Reviewer's report

Title: Huangqi decoction inhibits apoptosis and fibrosis, but promotes inflammation in dimethylnitrosamine-induced liver fibrosis in rats

Version: 2 Date: 23 December 2011

Reviewer: Mainen Moshi

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. Generally the manuscript requires a substantial amount of editing
   - The introduction section a good amount of language improvement e.g.
     Sentence No. 2 : using et al as part of the sentence is not acceptable. Sentence No. 3 is hanging, and not in good flow with the previous and next sentence. Similarly page 4 there are a number of areas which need to be improved; For example on line 6, the sentence " We previously reported that .............HQD exerted significant therapeutic effects for treating liver cirrhosis induced by DMN in rats at the cirrhosis stage [8]". it is clear that the words I have left out are not needed. Similarly the last sentence of this paragraph after Reference [9] should either be improved or removed.

Under Materials and Methods

1. Section 2.2 should be Section 2.1 and Section 2.1 to be 2.2.
2. The first sentence of the current Section 2.1 Should be sentence No. 3 of the paragraph and the sentence should not begin with a number.

Under Section 3: Results

- Sentence No. 1 and 2 of paragraph 2 should be merged and edited to give meaning.

On page 14 under Discussion:

The last sentence on page 14: Replace the word "Researcher" with "It has been ...." and at the end of the sentence a reference is required.

References:

Please re-check the way references are written. Some journals are written in full while some are written in abbreviations form?

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Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.