Reviewer’s report

Title: The protective effects of ginsenoside Rg1 against hypertension target-organ damage in spontaneously hypertensive rats

Version: 1 Date: 30 August 2011

Reviewer: Dusanka Kitic

Reviewer’s report:

The questions posed by the authors are well defined. The general idea of the experiment is really interesting and current.

The methods are appropriate and mostly well described.

So that we can better understand their methods could the authors please answer a few questions and clarify some parts of experiment design:

- Why they used those two concentrations of Rg1?
- Why did they treat only the SHR groups with Rg1?
- It will be interesting to see what is happening with the cardiovascular system of the WKY group of rats.
- In the part concerning the methods (Measurement of blood pressure and heart rate in conscious rats) only Systolic blood pressure (SBP) and heart rate (HR) are mentioned, but in Table 1 we can see the data for Diastolic pressure (DBP), I assume that this is an oversight. Also, according to Table 1 the Heart index is expressed in mg/g, why in mg. The rat heart weight can be expressed in g.

3. The data is sound.
4. The manuscript is adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition.
5. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data.
6. The limitations of the work are clearly stated.
7. Yes, they are.
8. The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found in the experiment.
9. Only, the writing is not acceptable. The authors are nonnative English speakers, so they must give the paper to some linguist expert to improve their work.

In my opinion after these corrections and an adequate explanation to my observation this paper could be published. So, I suggest a minor revision of the
paper.