Reviewer's report

Title: Long-term therapeutic effects of Radix Dipsaci, Pyrola Herb and Cynomorium Songaricum on bone metabolism of ovariectomized rats

Version: 1 Date: 24 November 2011

Reviewer: Jules Clement Nguedia Assob

Reviewer's report:

1. Under Methodology- Animal Experimental procedures: Authors should better define what they mean by sham group. Next to the last paragraph of that same page the author should correct the sentence as follows: 'The rats of E2 group received diethylsilbestrol at....' instead of 'The rats of E2 group were received diethylsilbestrol at...'

2. under results. on paragraph "effects of RDD, PHD and CSD on mRNA expression of RANKL and OPG" the last sentence of the first paragraph should be revised and completed.

3. under discussion : on the second page of discussion, the next to the last sentence should be corrected as follows: 'When RANK is activated by RANKL, a signaling cascade is initiated...' instead of 'When RANK was activated by RANKL, a signaling cascade is initiated...'

4. the last sentence on the second page of discussion 'The importance of this pathway in bone metabolism is demonstrated by the facts that pharmacologic blockade of ...' Change Blockade by blockage

5. First sentence of the third page of discussion 'of RANK or RANKL causes osteopetrosis,6 and that loss-of-function...' please specify the place of number 6. Is it a reference? in that case place it in bracket, if not remove it!

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'