Reviewer’s report

Title: Safety evaluation of the Nigerian herbal preparation DAS-77

Version: 2 Date: 17 February 2012

Reviewer: chang gue Son

Reviewer’s report:

the following issues should be considered seriously.

1. The authors should be explained more information of DAS-77. For example, extract type, a ratio of two plants, and a yield of extract…..

2. Animal methods should be described in more detail. Albino rat type (strain)?

3. Authors explained “The animals were daily treated p.o. with DAS-77 at doses of 80, 400, and 2000 mg/kg.” Is it possible for 2000 mg/kg dose? I would like to know that high dose is no problem to soluble in water.

4. The authors divided the main study and reversible study, but I cannot understand. Why did authors divided.

5. Tables and figure could be improved to read and understand.

6. The authors explained that ‘the LD50 when DAS-77 was administrated intra peritoneal was estimated to be 1122.0 mg/kg.” Authors should be provided concrete data about that.

7. In tables, authors expressed not significant in hematological data.

8. Authors should be explained the protein assay of method. It is insufficient fully.

9. It is better additionally explain the antioxidant related enzyme activity in the discussion section. In the Table 9., the activities of CAT, SOD and peroxidase were lower on the 400mg/kg compare with non - drug treatment group. In addition, the unit was not matched all of contents through all of tables which were related antioxidant and oxidant contents. Lastly, please explain the why the author were divided “Reversibility data” and “Main data”. And please rearrange all of result data (it means all of tables). It is too complex to discern the information about this experiment. And then check the significant marks. It will be wandered why the significant marks were not appeared many of results between ‘Normal group’ and ‘Experiment groups’.

10. The number of animal is different to sex dependant. Males were 14 and females were only 6 in this experiment. Why? Has it this drug pharmacotoxicity effects on the males? Please explain this part.
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.