Reviewer's report

**Title**: Gastroduodenal cytoprotective and anti-Helicobacter pylori herbal formula HZJW: safety and efficacy assessment

**Version**: 1  **Date**: 5 February 2013

**Reviewer**: Humberto Astiazaran-Garcia

**Reviewer's report**: 

Question posed by the authors is well defined, with sufficient background information to justify the study. The title could be changed to accurately convey what was found.

Gastroduodenal cytoprotective and anti-Helicobacter pylori... what? Action, effect, potential? of...herbal formula HZJW: safety and assessment

Title change proposal according to the results and info generated from the study:

Anti-helicobacter and gastroprotective potential of herbal formula HZJW: safety and efficacy assessment

The methods are appropriately described, even though sometimes it gets confusing because of the different rodent models used; the discussions could have been more extended, as it is a very vast paper with a lot of methods and parameters being evaluated, to only discuss 5 pages out of 30 approx. There are some references missing and the limitations of the work are not clearly stated. Something important I found, is the disorganization on the Figure’s section, as in the text one figure is referred to one designated number and in the section correspondent to “Figures” has another designation; also, there are results not discussed or mentioned, and footnotes are missing in some figures. The section of results should be re-arranged in a way that permits an easier digestion of all the info being generated.

I think it is an article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests. It needs some language corrections before being published and I propose to accept it after minor essential revisions which the authors can be trusted to make.

pdf included with text notes.

**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, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'