Title: Spica Prunellae Promotes Cancer Cell Apoptosis, Inhibits Cell Proliferation and Tumor Angiogenesis in A Mouse Model of Colorectal Cancer via Suppression of STAT3 Pathway

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Reviewers:

Thank you very much for your valuable comments and suggestion on our manuscript (MS: 7861677988933350). Here we made the point-to-point responses as following, and revised our manuscript accordingly.

1. Please include an Authors' Contributions section in your manuscript. This section was included in your original submission, but appears to have been removed in your most recent revisions.
   √ We added the following Authors' Contributions section in the revised manuscript:

   **Authors' contributions**

   WL participated in the project design, carried out most of the experiments, contributed to the data interpretation, and wrote the initial drafts of the manuscript. LZ and QZ contributed to the *in vivo* tumor xenograft study and the *in vitro* MTT assay. JZ and ZC contributed to RT-PCR, immunohistochemistry assay and Western Blot. JZ and SL contributed to HPLC analysis. WX contributed to preparation of ethanol extract from *Spica Prunellae*. JP contributed to the conception and design of the entire study and the final editing of the manuscript. All authors have read and approved the manuscript for publication.

2. Please provide details in your manuscript on the source of the Spica Prunellae used in your study, as well has who formally identified it. In addition, could you please confirm whether a voucher specimen of the plant material has been deposited in a publicly available herbarium, and also include this information in your manuscript. A deposition number should be quoted if you have one.
   √ We revised the manuscript as following:

   Authentic plant material was purchased from Guo Yi Tang Chinese Herbal medicine store (Fujian, China). The original herb was collected in Hunan Province, China, and was identified as *Spica Prunellae* by Professor Chengzi Yang at Department of Pharmacology, Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (FJTCM), China. Voucher specimen was deposited at the Herbarium of the Department of Pharmacology, FJTCM.

3. In addition, since the first author made more contributions in the manuscript revisions, we changed the authorship in the revised version without co-first authors in it.

We hope that these revisions are satisfactory and that the revised version will be acceptable for publication in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Thanks again for your work concerning my paper.
Wish you all the best!

Sincerely yours,

Jun Peng, PhD