Reviewer's report

Title: Edible Bird's Nest Extract As Chondro-protective agent for Human Chondrocytes Isolated from Osteoarthritic Knee

Version: 2 Date: 18 August 2012

Reviewer: Melainie Cameron

Reviewer's report:

I query the import of a study with only 6 participants. I appreciate that this study is not a clinical trial, and that there may be considerable difficulties in having high numbers of participants consent to providing live cartilage samples.

Minor revisions

Bird's nest and birds' nest are used interchangeably throughout the manuscript. Please select either the singular or the plural form and use it consistently.

Write abbreviations in full at first use (see abstract). The abbreviation will suffice thereafter (eg: HMG, COX-2, SOX-9)

The penultimate sentence on p. 5 should read "The structural rigidity of...".

Discretionary revisions

The writing will be cleaner if you delete unnecessary phrases such as "It is well known that...", and simply state the thing that is well known (see page 4).

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.