Reviewer's report

**Title:** In vitro cytocidal effects of the essential oil from Croton cajucara (red sacaca) and its major constituent 7-hydroxycalamenene against Leishmania chagasi

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 10 June 2013

**Reviewer:** Ramzi Mothana

**Reviewer's report:**

Dear editor,

It is my pleasure to have the opportunity to act as a referee again for the journal “BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine”.

This manuscript describes the evaluation of anti-leishmanial activity of the essential oil isolated from Croton cajucara as well as of one of the isolated sesquiterpene compounds (7-hydroxycalamenene). The authors used several interesting methods. I think this strengthened the paper and perhaps let it acceptable.

In general, the paper is of a good quality and can be accepted for publication after revision. Generally the paper is well written and addresses an important interesting issue (anti-parasitic including anti-leishmanial activities). Nevertheless, there are few points of the manuscript that need revision before acceptance. The authors are requested to consider some few minor points listed below.

1- Background/line 3: the authors started with ref. 3. This should be corrected and started with ref. 1.

2- Methods/page1, the subheading Plant material ..... : I suggest to add the word extraction to the subheading.

3- Methods, page 2 (GC and GC-MS paragraph): I suggest separating this part into two sections with two subheadings namely GC-analysis and GC-MS analysis. Exchange the word material in several lines with the word oil or essential oil.

4- What does the author mean with the last line in this section (Material purity was over 80% and how did you measure it???)

5- Results: Exocitic should be exocytic

6- Conclusion: antimicrobial should be anti-leishmanial or anti-parasitic.

7- References: There are few mistakes in the references 6, 8, 10, 23.

8- Table 1: antileishmanial instead of antimicrobial, Cytotoxicity should be cytotoxicity.

**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