Reviewer’s report

Title: A phenolic ester from Aglaia loheri leaves reveals cytotoxicity towards sensitive and multidrug-resistant cancer cells

Version: 1 Date: 16 January 2013

Reviewer: Yuyang Jiang

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The authors obtained a phenolic ester, termed Maldi531.5[M+H]+, from Aglaia loheri leaves, which was evaluated for its in vitro cytotoxicity against leukemia cells and their multi-drug resistant (MDR) sublines. The extracts can reduce the mitochondrial membrane potential and lead cancer cells apoptosis. I recommend that this manuscript is suitable to be published in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine. However, there are several comments.

1. The English is not clear and concise. There are a number of grammatical errors Please revise the manuscript carefully.
2. Cytochrome c is an intermediate in apoptosis. The release of cytochrome c from mitochondria should be detected.
3. In table 1, HCT116 cancer cells were selected to evaluate the cytotoxicity of the extracts from Aglaia loheri leaves. Later, Maldi531.5[M+H]+, one of the isolated parts were tested against CCRF-CEM cancer cells. Why author select these cancer cells? What about the extracts against normal cell lines?

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.