Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of antihyperglycemic and antinociceptive activity of Xanthium indicum stem extract in Swiss albino mice

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Version: 2 Date: 29 August 2013

Author's response to reviews:

August 29, 2013
Chief Editor
BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Dear Sir:
Please find attached the revised manuscript, which has been revised as per the comments of the reviewers. All authors thank the reviewers for their valuable comments. Answers to the reviewers’ comments are provided below.

Reviewer's report
Title:
Evaluation of antihyperglycemic and antinociceptive activity of Xanthium indicum stem extract in Swiss albino mice
Version: 1
Date: 26 August 2013
Reviewer:
Ramesh Chandra Agrawal
Reviewer's report:
This plant may be also validated in pre diabetic mice which can be induced by administration of allaxan at the dose of 150 mg/kg body weight as available in the literature.
Answer. The authors agree and will conduct such studies in the future with either alloxan or streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats. However, oral glucose tolerance test, as the authors have done, is also a standard test for measurement of anti-hyperglycemic activity of an extract or pure compound.

Level of interest:
An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English:
Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
Answer. The second reviewer has found the quality of English to be 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

Reviewer's report
Title:
Evaluation of antihyperglycemic and antinociceptive activity of Xanthium indicum stem extract in Swiss albino mice
Version: 1
Date: 26 August 2013
Reviewer:
Nima D Namsa
Reviewer's report:
Dear Editor-in-Chief
The results provided in this manuscript appear to be scientifically sound but the findings are too preliminary. The manuscript can be accepted with the minor essential revisions. However, the acceptance of manuscript under full-length article or short communication should be decided by the Editor. I have reviewed the manuscript and the comments are as follows:
Minor Essential Revisions
Background
Q1. Do you have any literature reference on the traditional use of plant? Is this information based on any survey that the authors have conducted?
Answer. Reference has been provided in the revised text.
Methods
Q2. Was the 5 min sufficient for bio-availability of acetic acid? Reference followed for statistical calculation should be added.
Answer. 5 min time is usually given. Reference provided in the text.
Answer. Reference given for statistical calculation.
Results and discussion
Q3. The authors fail to discuss more about their results obtained in anti-nociceptive activity which is potent as compared to aspirin (Table 2).  
Answer. More discussion has now been made.
Q4. Though anti-nociceptive activity of leaf has been reported previously. However, the authors claimed that the first report of stem extract on anti-hyperglycemic and anti-nociceptive potentials. What is the new results they have obtained using stem extract as compared to leaf of this plant be discussed.  
Answer. Discussion has now been done in the text.
Q5. A suitable code should be used for indicating Group 3-6 animals instead of repeated used of X. indicum (Table 1 and 2).  
Answer. Since the identification of the various Groups have been already mentioned in the text under Methods, they are now given in both Tables as just Group numbers.
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: 
Nil

We hope that the revised manuscript can now be considered for publication.
Thanking you,
Professor Dr. Mohammed Rahmatullah