Author's response to reviews

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

Authors:
   Md E Haque (mdezazulhaque@yahoo.com)
   Shahnaz Rahman (shahnaz_mishu@hotmail.com)
   Mohammed Rahmatullah (rahamatm@hotmail.com)

Version: 3  Date: 18 October 2013

Author's response to reviews:

Dear Sir:

Please find below the reviewer's comments and replies.

Reviewer's comments and replies

Abstract results section
Q1. The methanol extract of stems showed dose-dependent and statistically significant antihyperglycemic activity at doses of 50, 100, 200 and 400 mg per kg body weight. Please indicate p-value for statistical comparison.

Results and discussion section
Q2. At doses of 50, 100, 200 and 400 mg extract per kg body weight, the percent reductions in blood glucose levels were, respectively, 25.9, 26.5, 28.2, and 31.2. This should be re-write as At doses.... Glucose levels were 25.9, 26.5, 28.2, and 31.2, respectively.
A2. Percent reduction is correct and has been calculated taking glucose level in control mice as 100%. However, as per the comment of the reviewer, the sentence has been modified accordingly.
Q3. In antinociceptive activity tests, the extract at the afore-mentioned four doses. The authors should mention four doses instead of the afore-mentioned four doses for clear understanding of the scientific readers.
Q4. Thus, the stem extract proved to be more potent than the leaf extract, and should be the plant part of choice in folk medicines of Bangladesh. The authors should discuss/compare the differential profiling of bioactive components that might explain the potent antinociceptive activity of X. indicum stem.
A4. Discussion done.

Conclusion section
Q5. A cheap, efficacious and readily available medicine for alleviation of pain would be highly beneficial to the poor..... millions of people suffer from some sort of pain on a daily basis. The conclusions drawn from this preliminary report is too lengthy and they (authors) should restrict conclusions based their experimental observation and speculations be omitted in the next revision.

A5. Conclusion part has been shortened.

Tables
In order to represent tables in a simplified way, the authors can use attractive code words for indicating X. indicum stem extract treated animals instead of group 3-6. The question was raised in my previous comments also but the authors fail to revise so. Q5. A suitable code should be used for indication Group 3-6 animals instead of repeated used of X. indicum (table 1 and 2). The manuscript requires grammatical corrections also.

A suitable code has been introduced.

All changes made in the manuscript have been highlighted in red. The authors join together to thank the reviewers for their valuable comments and so enriching the manuscript.

Thanking you.
Professor Dr. Mohammed Rahmatullah