Reviewer's report

Title: Antidepressant-like Activity of Turmerone in Behavioral Despair Tests in Mice

Version: 1 Date: 19 August 2013

Reviewer: Ming Tsuen Hsieh

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is an interesting animal analgesic and anti-inflammatory study. These results are sufficient to attract the readership in BMC CAM, especially for researchers and physicians dealing with inflammatory disease. This animal study is acceptable for publication of BMC CAM.

After reviewing this manuscript, there are some changes that need to be made in regards to this study.

1. The manuscript contains inappropriate apostrophes and some misused abbreviations in key sections, which made it difficult to fully understand upon first read. For examples,

   (1) Chemical and reagents section, line 2: The p.o. administration …..should use the full name “oral” to substitute “p.o.”.

   (2) Chemical and reagents section, lines 9-10: The sentence « Sodium dihydrogen phosphate monohydrate (NaH2PO4•H2O) was purchased from J.T. Baker (Phillipsburg, PA, USA)” lost a “.”.

   (3) Determination of monoamines and their metabolites levels ...... section : The sentence “ The levels of monoamines (NE, DA and 5-HT) and their metabolites (MHPG, DOPAC, 5-HIAA) ...... ”. The word “three” should be “four”.

   (4) Measurements of monoamine oxidase activity section:

      [1] Secondary paragraph, line 2: The 10 vol. should be typed 10 volume.

      [2] The abbreviation of monoamine oxidase A should be MAO-A.

   (5) Discussion, secondary paragraph : The forced swimming and tail suspension tests are behavioral despair tests useful for probing the pathological mechanism of depression and for the evaluation of antidepressant drugs [30]. The forced swimming and tail suspension tests could use FST and TST.

   (6) Discussion, fourth paragraph, line 10 : As shown in Table 1, 2, 3 and 4, ....should be changed to As shown in Tables 1-4, ..... 

   (7) Authors’ contributions section : WY, Wu should be LY, Wu.

   (8) This manuscript should give the page number.

2. For the striatal dissections, do these dissections include the nucleus accumbens or are they focused on the dorsal striatum? I believe some readers would be interested in that information.
**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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' below.