Author's response to reviews

Title: Vasorelaxant effect of Prunus yedoensis Matsum bark

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Version: 2 Date: 22 November 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Revise letter

2012-11-22

To the Editorial Officer:

*BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*

- Thank you for your advices, we changed manuscript as you indicated.

**Referee 1**

1. There are only MEPY treated data in Figure 1. It is necessary to insert control data (not treated MEPY).
   - We inserted the control data in figure 1-A. And inserted “Control groups were not treated with MEPY” in page 14-figure 1 legend.

2. Page 3, line 1 – “PE (1 μM) or KCl (60mM)” should read as “PE (1 μM) or KCl (60 mM)”.
   - We corrected as you indicated.

3. Page 5, line 6 – “dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)” should read as “DMSO”.
   - We corrected as you indicated.

4. Page 5, line 13 – “37 °C” should read as “37°C”.
   - We corrected as you indicated.

5. Page 5, line 21 – “37 °C” should read as “37°C”.
   - We corrected as you indicated.

6. Page 12, line 2 – “MEPY (200 μg/ml)” should read as “MEPY (200 μg/ml)”.
   - We corrected as you indicated.

7. Page 12, line 3 – “PE (1 μM)” should read as “PE (1 μM)”.
We corrected as you indicated.


This reference is complete book. Thus according to the journal guidelines, we corrected as “Ahn DK: Illustrated book of Korean medicinal herbs. Seoul: Kyohak publishing; 1998.”


This reference is also complete book. Thus according to the journal guidelines, we corrected as “Kim JG: Illustrated Natural Drugs Encyclopedia (color edition), vol. 1. Seoul: Namsandang; 1997.”

10. Page 13, 14, References – All the “page-page” should read as “page–page”.

We corrected as you indicated.

11. Page 15, – “(n = 5-7). *P < 0.05, **P<0.01” should read as “(n = 5–7). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01”.

We corrected as you indicated.

Referee 2

Major comments,
1. The figure legend in this manuscript is too simple to understand. It should contain enough information about the experimental details.

We corrected as you indicated.

Figure 1 legend

Figure 1 Concentration-dependent relaxant effects of MEPY on PE (1 μM)-pre-contracted aortic rings with [(E+)] or without [(E-)] endothelium (A). Control groups
were not treated with MEPY. The relaxant traces of aortic ring with [(E+)] (B) or without [(E-)] endothelium (C). Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 8). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. E (-).

Corrected as

Figure 1 Concentration-dependent relaxant effects of MEPY on phenylephrine (PE, 1 μM)-pre-contracted rat aortic rings with [(E+)] or without [(E-)] endothelium (A) in Krebs-Henseleit solution. Control groups were not treated with MEPY. The MEPY induced-relaxant traces of aortic rings with [(E+)] (B) or without [(E-)] endothelium (C). The relaxant effects of MEPY on isolated rat aortic rings were calculated as a percentage of the contraction in response to PE. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 8). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. MEPY E (-).

Corrected as

Figure 2 Concentration-dependent relaxant effects of MEPY on PE (1 μM)-pre-contracted aortic rings in the presence or absence (control) of l-NAME (10 μM), MB (10 μM), or ODQ (10 μM). Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 6–8). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. control.

Corrected as

Figure 2 Relaxation responses induced by MEPY in endothelium-intact rat aortic rings pre-contracted with phenylephrine (PE, 1 μM) in the presence or absence (control) of Nω-Nitro-L-arginine methyl ester (l-NAME, 10 μM), methylene blue (MB, 10 μM), or 1-H-[1,2,4]-oxidazolo-[4,3-α]-quinoxalin-1-one (ODQ, 10 μM) in Krebs-Henseleit solution. The relaxant effects of MEPY on isolated rat aortic rings were calculated as a percentage of the contraction in response to PE. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 6–8). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. control.

Corrected as

Figure 3 Relaxation responses induced by MEPY in PE (1 μM)-pre-contracted aortic rings in the presence or absence (control) of indomethacin (1 μM) or atropine (1 μM). Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 4–8).

Corrected as

Figure 3 Relaxation responses induced by MEPY in endothelium-intact rat aortic rings pre-contracted with phenylephrine (PE, 1 μM) in the presence or absence (control) of indomethacin (1 μM) or atropine (1 μM) in Krebs-Henseleit solution. The relaxant effects of MEPY on isolated rat aortic rings were calculated as a percentage...
of the contraction in response to PE. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 4–8).

Figure 4 legend

Figure 4 Relaxation responses induced by MEPY in endothelium-intact aortic rings pre-contracted with PE (1 μM) in the presence of glibenclamide (10 μM), TEA (5 mM), or 4-AP (1 mM). Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 6–8).

Corrected as

Figure 4 Relaxation responses induced by MEPY in endothelium-intact rat aortic rings pre-contrasted with phenylephrine (PE, 1 μM) in the presence or absence (control) of glibenclamide (10 μM), tetraethylammonium (TEA, 5 mM), or 4-aminopyridine (4-AP, 1 mM) in Krebs-Henseleit solution. The relaxant effects of MEPY on isolated rat aortic rings were calculated as a percentage of the contraction in response to PE. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 6–8).

Figure 5 legend

Figure 5 Inhibitory effect of MEPY (200 μg/ml) on the contraction induced by extracellular Ca²⁺ in endothelium-denuded rat thoracic aorta rings pre-contrasted by PE (1 μM) (A) or KCl (60 mM) (B) in Ca²⁺-free K-H solution. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 5–7). *P < 0.05, **P<0.01 vs. control.

Corrected as

Figure 5 Inhibitory effect of MEPY (200 μg/ml) on the contraction induced by extracellular Ca²⁺ addition (0.3–10 mM) in endothelium-denuded rat aortic rings pre-contrasted by phenylephrine (PE, 1 μM) (A) or KCl (60 mM) (B) in Ca²⁺-free Krebs-Henseleit solution. Values are expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 5–7). *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01 vs. control.

2. In background, author should describe more extensively why PY was selected (for example: the detailed method and results of in vitro screening study etc.).

We corrected as you indicated.

Page 4, Background “While conducting an in vitro screening study of various medicinal plants, PY bark was found to exhibit distinct vasorelaxant activity.”

To

“While conducting an in vitro screening study of various medicinal plants of vasorelaxant effect on the isolated rat thoracic aorta rings using organ chamber technique, PY bark was found to exhibit distinct vasorelaxant activity.”
Minor corrections

1. In this manuscript, the botanical name should be corrected. The accepted name of this plant is Prunus yedoensis Matsum. according to Tropicos and The Global Compositae checklist. Thus it is need to correct the botanical name in the title and background.

   ➔ We corrected as you indicated.

2. Please carefully check the references style according to the journal guidelines. (http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmccomplementalternmed/authors/instructions/researcharticlene#3. The expression of weights and measures are mixed in this manuscript. (ex. μM, μM). Please check carefully.

   ➔ We corrected reference 3. This reference is complete book. Thus according to the journal guidelines, we corrected as “Ahn DK: Illustrated book of Korean medicinal herbs. Seoul: Kyohak publishing; 1998.”

   ➔ Reference 4 is also complete book. Thus according to the journal guidelines, we corrected as “Kim JG: Illustrated Natural Drugs Encyclopedia (color edition), vol. 1. Seoul: Namsandang; 1997.”

Sincerely,

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