Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness of three medicinal plants in diabetic pregnancy: modulation of T cell proliferation

Version: 1 Date: 6 November 2012

Reviewer: Gustavo Volpato

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Major Compulsory Revisions
The objective of this study is not clear. The authors aim to investigate three different plants in diabetic pregnancy, but the most part of the results is about others parameters that are not fully linked to Diabetes mellitus. There are two tables and a figure about phytochemical analysis of these plants (fatty acids and chemical compounds, and vitamin C concentrations). After this, there is a figure about antioxidant effect of the different extracts of these plants, but it is not so clear if it was done in samples of pregnant animals. The figure about the glycemic levels is the unique parameter in pregnancy. In the last figure (T cell proliferation) is the most important data of this manuscript, since it shows in the title, but this test was done in human blood. Was it made in diabetic person? Was it made during pregnancy?

You should review which methodologies are important to this study, since your tables/figures are not in the properly order to understand your objective.

Essential Minor Revisions
1) In the five paragraph of the introduction, the authors say that experimental studies cause macrossomia. Many studies showed that gestational diabetes causes fetal growth restriction. It is important to verify the type of diabetes induction. I suggest explore more about it in this paragraph.
2) In the conclusion, the authors recommend these plants for the treatment of diabetes in pregnancy, but it is dangerous to show this kind of conclusion. In this manuscript it was not made any test of security in the gestational period or reproductive toxicology. I think this part should be changed.

Discretionary Revisions
1) In the last paragraph of the material and methods section, remove the software item used in the study. The result of the analysis must be the same regardless of the program used, or even if the calculations are done without any software. Therefore, I believe that this information is irrelevant.

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:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests