Reviewer’s report

Title: Effect of Electroacupuncture Stimulation at Zusanli Acupoint (ST36) on Gastric Motility: Possible through PKC and MAPK Signal Transduction Pathways

Version: 1 Date: 16 October 2013

Reviewer: Jiande Chen

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Methods:
Fourth paragraph: Electrogastrography should be applied before and after the stimulation, whereas the authors applied the electrogastrography only after the stimulation. Is the baseline of average peak amplitude and frequency comparable between the three groups?

Fifth paragraph: The authors should provide more details on how rats were selected for real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) analysis (What kind results of electrogastrography on the control group, non-acupoint group and EA group would be selected?)

Result:
First paragraph: How did the author judge the types of gastric motor patterns?

Fourth paragraph, Line 241: “increased” should be replaced by “decreased”?
Stimulation with EA decreased CaD and CaP protein expression in ST36 promoting group according to Figure 1A, B.

- Minor Essential Revisions

Discussion:
Third paragraph: EA stimulation at ST36 had dual effects on gastric motility; were these effects facilitative or inhibitory. The results were interesting. The authors should discuss this issue more and discuss possible mechanisms. Why EA stimulation with same parameter had different effects?

Fourth paragraph, line 304: delete word "pathological"

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field