Author's response to reviews

Title: Angelica Sinensis Promotes Myotube Hypertrophy Through the PI3K/Akt/mTOR Pathway

Authors:

Tzu-Shao Yeh (her-email@yahoo.com.tw)
Jen-Fang Liu (liujenfa@tmu.edu.tw)
Cheng-Chen Hsu (hcc47223@tmu.edu.tw)
Mei-Chich Hsu (meichich@kmu.edu.tw)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Point-by-Point Response (MS: 1738474713109464)

We are highly thankful to the Editor and the Referees for their critical evaluation and constructive comments on our manuscript. According to the reviewers’ suggestion we have done our best to revise the manuscript and the whole article has been checked again by a professional English editor. The modified parts are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript. We are pleased to follow the referee’s suggestions and criticisms.
Reviewer's report
Title: Angelica sinensis promotes myotube hypertrophy through PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway
Version: 4 Date: 10 February 2014

Referee 1: David Cameron-Smith
Reviewer's report:
The authors have extensively revised the manuscript in accordance with the issues raised. The revisions themselves are poorly written, especially in the discussion. Please make minor amendments to both shorten the length of some of the unnecessarily long sentences.
Please be mindful to make the following mandatory changes;
1. Use the term recently published for articles from 2001 (reference 8).
2. The sentence; However, it is need the downstream signaling factors to support - does not make sense.

Response: The authors thank reviewer for the valuable comments. Following the reviewer’s advice, we have deleted that no scientific word (lines 350-351) and re-word the sentence from lines 356 to 359 in the revised manuscript. We have invited a professional language editing service to help this manuscript edited for English grammar and sentence comprehension and clarity.

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Reviewer's report

Title: Angelica sinensis promotes myotube hypertrophy through PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway

Version: 4 Date: 1 February 2014

**Referee 2: Matthew Alexander**

**Reviewer's report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions: The authors of the Yeh et al., Manuscript have provided additional data and editing of their manuscript in the latest version that was submitted. I am satisfied with their response to my critique about identifying the essential downstream and upstream signaling factors of the PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathway. I will look forward to reading their findings in a future study/manuscript.

My second major critique was in regards to understanding (English grammar) of some of the sentences of the manuscript. The authors have significantly improved most of the English of the manuscript; however, there are a few notable areas that should be edited prior to publication.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Page 10, lines 158-159 The term “most satisfactory” is used twice, in reference to specific time points when the myotubes were treated with AS. Is this a reference to the highest-level (i.e. of phospho-AKT and mTOR) or most well described in the literature? The authors should rephrase these terms.

   **Response:** We have revised lines 160-162 in the revised manuscript.

2. Page 19; There is a run on sentence starting with “This study” and continuing through “; However”. These are two separate thoughts/sentences and should be split and re-written for clarity.

   **Response:** We thank reviewer’s comment. Following the reviewer’s advice, we have revised in the manuscript (point 1, lines 324-330; point 2, lines 332-342).

3. Page 20: The sentence “Negative regulates” and “observed; However” again is two separate sentences that should be re-written and split-up for clarity. Something like “The negative regulation of skeletal muscle hypertrophy through the p70S6 pathway is a possible reason for the increased (note: “highlands” is not a good descriptive word) phosphorylated mTOR at the Ser2448 site between 30 and 60 min was observed. However, the downstream signaling factors are required to sustain AKT/mTOR signaling”. This is just a suggestion, the authors are free to re-word the sentence as they see fit.

   **Response:** The authors thank the reviewer for the valuable comments. We have
revised lines 356-359 in the revised manuscript.

There are a few other instances of English grammar issues throughout the manuscript that I will leave up to the editors at BMC. Following the English grammar edits, I have no additional critiques, and will recommend acceptance of the manuscript.

**Response:** We appreciate reviewer’s suggestion. We have invited a professional language editing service to help this manuscript edited for English grammar and sentence comprehension and clarity.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field  
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published  
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.
Reviewer's report
Title: Angelica sinensis promotes myotube hypertrophy through PI3K/Akt/mTOR pathway
Version: 4 Date: 10 February 2014

Reviewer: Manuel Estrada
Reviewer's report:
This manuscript offers an interesting mechanism for the action of the hypertrophic effects of Angelica sinensis extracts on C2C12 myotube via PI3K-Akt-mTOR signaling. The text and data are now logically presented. The revised manuscript includes reorganized figures, supplementary material as well as further clarifying of issues raised on my first report. In my opinion, the revised manuscript is acceptable for its publication on BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Response: The authors thank the reviewer’s comments and help for our manuscript better reading.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
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