Reviewer's report

Title: Antimalarial activity of plumbagin in the in vitro and animal models

Version: 2  Date: 6 December 2013

Reviewer: Sittiporn Pattaradilokrat

Reviewer's report:

Acceptance with Minor Essential Revisions:

This is a fine piece of work, with clear descriptions of Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion. Following corrections to minor errors (listed below), this work will be qualified for acceptance as an original research article in BMC Complementary & Alternative Medicine.

Here is the list of suggested corrections:

Page 4 Line 47-48
“Malaria caused by Plasmodium falciparum is the most virulent and widespread infectious species”
The above sentence is incorrect. Malaria is a disease, not a species. P. falciparum is a human malaria parasite.

Page 5 Line 87
“Blood stage” should be “Blood stages”

Page 10 Line 185
“in both treated and control groups”. Which doses were the treated groups included? 100 mg/Kg only or 100, 200 and 500 mg/Kg. In the result section, the animal died after treated with single dose of 500 mg/Kg. It is likely that the drugs may cause pathologic effects to the cells, such as necrosis.

Inclusion of “original images” as supplemental data would be beneficial for readers. It can show that the drugs exert no histopathologic effects on host organs. Description of cell morphology should be also provided.

Page 12 Line 246-247
Reference 21 was incorrectly cited. This reference never described the bioactivity of Plumbagin.

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, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:  
I hereby declare that no competing interests exists.