Author’s response to reviews

Title: Preconditioning somatothermal stimulation on Qimen (LR14) reduces hepatic ischemia/reperfusion injury in rats

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Version: 2 Date: 20 December 2013

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear chief editor:

Thank you very much for your e-mail dated Nov 23, 2013 concerning the reviewers’ comments on our revised manuscript “Preconditioning somatothermal stimulation on Qimen (LR14) reduces hepatic ischemia/reperfusion injury in rats” (MS: 3065581021023332). We appreciate the comments from you and the reviewers. The following is our point-by-point response to the comments. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Cheng-chu Hsieh

Reference 1:
Reviewer: CJ Wang
Reviewer's report:

1. In conclusions#“Our findings showed that LSTS was beneficial for the improvement on recovery from the I/R injury”#seems to be “Our findings showed that LSTS on LR14 was beneficial for the improvement on recovery from the I/R injury”, because the point is very important in TCM, the effect might be different if use the same method on different point. 2. The authors should explain why LSTS is applied only to the right Qimen (LR14), why not left Qimen, because left Qimen is also important in improving the function of liver in TCM.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
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
Our answer:

We refer to the previous paper (Lin YH, Chiu JH, Tung HH, Tsou MT, Lui WY,
Wu CW: Preconditioning somatothermal stimulation on right seventh intercostal nerve territory increases hepatic heat shock protein 70 and protects the liver from ischemia-reperfusion injury in rats. J Surg Res 2001, 99 (2): 328-334.). They found the LSTS on right side decreased the hepatic ischemia-reperfusion injury. So we initially selected the right Qimen (LR14) in the article. However, the left Qimen may also important in improving the function of liver in TCM.

Reference 2:
Reviewer: Jae Youl Cho
Reviewer's report:
Minor essential revision Hsieh et al have intended to test on the effects of local somatothermal stimulation preconditioning on the right Qimen (LR14) on hepatic I/R injury in rats. Using the conditions, they found that local somatothermal stimulation (LSTS) was beneficial for the improvement on recovery from the I/R injury. Based on these studies, they proposed that LSTS might provide an easy and inexpensive application for patients who have suffered from I/R of the liver especially in the process of hepatotomy and hepatic transplantation. This is good story and enough to be published in this Journal. However, still this manuscript needs to be language edited by commercial company.

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 declare that I have no competing interests.
Our answer:
The manuscript has been modified to professionals and the revised version has been uploaded to the website.

Sincerely yours,
Cheng-chu Hsieh