Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of Korean Red Ginseng (Panax Ginseng Meyer) on Bisphenol A Exposure and Gynecologic Complaints: Single blind, randomized clinical trial of efficacy and safety

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor in Chief, BMC Complementary & Alternative Medicine,

I would like to resubmit our manuscript entitled, “Effects of Korean Red Ginseng (Panax Ginseng Meyer) on Bisphenol A Exposure and Gynecologic Complaints” as a full-length research article to your journal. At first, we registered our finished trial and obtained the registration #, KCT0000920. Please let me answer with a point-by-point description of the changes made:

- At present, we do not feel that there is sufficient evidence presented in your Background section to justify the testing of Red Ginseng in humans. We would therefore ask you to expand this section to include as much referenced evidence to explain why you would expect this treatment to have an effect upon gynecological complaints. This evidence should come from previous in vitro or animal work. Please note that we are unable to accept traditional medical use as sufficient justification for human studies.
A) Following the comments, I provide more animal (in vivo), in vitro and human studies, which suggest the rationale of the present study (middle of page 3 ~ head of page 4: references #11-14)

- Please include details in your Methods section on how the sample size necessary to ensure the statistical significance of your study was calculated.
A) This study is the very first study for ‘KRG and BPA or gynecological end points for human. Thus, it belongs to a pilot study. We referred our previous study [ref#2], which showed significant antioxidative effects of KRG on the similar population (age and sex) with those of the present study. Thus, the sample size of the present study was not from the statistical calculation with consideration power or type I or II errors (middle of page 7).

- Please include information on the inclusion and exclusion criteria that were applied to participants in your study in your methods section.
A) We recruited the females who experienced menstrual pain or irregularity (inclusion) and excluded people who took a medicine for diseases (middle of page 6 and appendix 1)
- Please ensure that your Abstract is formatted in accordance with our formatting guidelines (http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmccomplementalternmed/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-abstract). In particular, we would ask you to include more information in both the Background and Conclusions sections of your Abstract.

A) We revised at page 2.

- Please ensure that your manuscript conforms to the CONSORT guidelines for the reporting of clinical trials (http://www.consort-statement.org/). Please also provide us with completed copies of the CONSORT flowchart and checklist for your study. We would suggest that you include the flowchart as a figure, and upload the checklist as an additional file alongside your manuscript.

A) Following the site, we provide appendix 1 and 2 for flow and checklist, respectively. This manuscript is an unpublished work, and it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. All authors are aware of and agree to the contents of the paper. There are no conflicts of interest. We sincerely hope that you find our work worthy of publication, and we look forward to receiving your favorable reply.

Yours sincerely,
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