Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of antimalarial activity of leaves of Acokanthera schimperi and Croton macrostachyus against Plasmodium berghei in Swiss albino mice

Version: 2
Date: 26 March 2014

Reviewer: OUATTARA P LAMOUSSA PAUL

Reviewer's report:

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISION:

Background
1. First paragraph, third line: update the data on malaria burden. The authors can find data more recent on the website of WHO

2. Last paragraph and fifth line: the authors should give the kind of Plasmodium falciparum strain used. Was it chloroquino sensitive or not. The authors should specify also the place where the study was carried out.

Results
“Antimalarial aactivities” address this error in the title.

Where are the data on WBC and Haemoglobin?

Why the authors did not show all the hematologic parameters such as the WBC, the rate of haemoglobin. They could in a table shown these data even if there is no difference with the control group

The authors should give the conditions of breeding of the mice: temperature, relative humidity, cycle of lighting, access to food and water...

The authors should give the mark and the country of the apparatuses used for the experiments

The authors should give the formula to calculate PVC

The authors must improve the manner of presenting the formulas of the % suppression; % parasitaemia by using the mathematical tools in Word

Level of interest

A similar work was already completed in the same country on Croton macrostachyus by using the same strain of mice. So, this present study on this plant practically does not bring of new information on this plant. Study title was “In vivo antimalarial activity of the crude leaf extract and solvent fractions of Croton macrostachyus Hocsht. (Euphorbiaceae) against Plasmodium berghei in mice”. Reference is “Bantie et al. BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine 2014, 14:79 http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6882/14/79"
General comments

Why authors did used only chloroquine phosphate as positive control, because nowadays in several country this drug is remove in malaria policy control. They could also use artemisinine also.