Author’s response to reviews

Title:A preliminary report on oral glucose tolerance and antinociceptive activity tests conducted with methanol extract of Xanthosoma violaceum aerial parts

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Version:3 Date:13 August 2014

Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer comments and answers

Reviewer 1
   Done.
   Done.
   Done.

Reviewer 2
1. Introduction, delete section.
   Done.
2. Introduce Reference Numbers.
   Done.

Reviewer 3
1. The report is very preliminary, and does not present (except in plant any novelty and sound finding. The methods used to justify the pharmacological properties are inadequate, and authors have to justify strongly, the reason for selection of these methods.

As mentioned in the title, this is a preliminary work. Searches are continually going on for finding out new antidiabetic and antinociceptive agents from plants; from that viewpoint, since previous scientific reports are not present for this plant, it is expected that this preliminary report will spur scientific interests in this plant. Also the pharmacological activity studies methods used are proven methods and have been used by numerous authors as demonstrated in the
scientific literature. Also please see References 9-12 for previous work done by the authors with these methods, and two of which have been published by BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

2. Please justify the selection anti-hyperglycemic and antinociceptive to be reported in single research article? (Is there any correlation between these two pharmacological properties.)

This has been justified in the Background section, where these two pharmacological properties were investigated based on reported phytocomponents in leaves of the plant.

3. The isolation and compounds from close plant family is supportive reference, however it can not explain the pharmacological properties of current plant. Please prove the presence of enough ratio of phytochemical in plant, and their potential effect.

We are not trying to explain the pharmacological properties of the plant based on supportive reference(s) from close plant family. We are making the point that the reported phytochemical constituents in leaves of the plant and the groups of phytochemicals as observed in our preliminary phytochemical screening can account for the observed pharmacological effects. Adequate references have been given to make this point.

4. Please justify the reason for selection of glibenclamide as reference compound.

Glibenclamide is a standard reference compound used in these sorts of oral glucose tolerance test/antihyperglycemic studies. Please see References 9-12. Many more references in standard journals can be provided if necessary.

5. The article is not well written and coherent, esp in introduction and discussion. This comment is vague and the authors would appreciate knowing where the lack of coherency lies. The other three reviewers did not report incoherency in this article.

6. Plant extraction procedure need to be describe fully.

Done.

7. The ethical approval reference No. for animal work is need.

Provided.

8. We and Wc (page 5) is not fully define.

Definitions follow the equations.

9. MEXV in not described in table 2.

Done in Table title.

Reviewer 4.

No corrections suggested by the reviewer.