Author's response to reviews

Title: Daucus carota pentane-based fractions arrest the cell cycle and increase apoptosis in MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

On behalf of my co-authors, I would like to express my appreciation of the reviewers’ comments on our manuscript (MS: 7878794731214650) entitled ‘Daucus carota pentane-based fractions arrest the cell cycle and increase apoptosis in MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells’ submitted to BMC Complementary and Alternative medicine. We have addressed those remaining concerns and we hope that the Editors and the Reviewers will be satisfied with our response. Please find attached a second revised version of the original manuscript.

With my sincere regards,

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**Reviewer 1:**
The authors have modified the revised manuscript as suggested therefore the manuscript should be accepted for the publication.

**Reviewer 2:**

Manuscript titled “Daucus carota pentane-based fractions arrest the cell cycle and increase apoptosis in MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells” aims at analyzing cytotoxicity and cell death related marker protein expression in breast cancer cells after administration of Daucus carota pentane based fractions. While this manuscript will contribute to the literature, several points need further clarification are listed below:

1. **Specify the DMSO concentration used for DCOE treatment in the method section.**
   Figure Legend-4 describes that 0.5% DMSO was used for treatment of MDA-MB-231 cells. It seems too much DMSO for cytotoxicity studies.
   We already have a control group (untreated group) that is comparable to that of the DMSO treated group. In addition, several other studies such as Yanagihara et al. Cancer res. 1993, El Hadri et al. An. R. Acad. Nac. Farm. 2010, Cui et al Toxicol. Letters 2005 and Da Violante et al Biol. Pharm. Bull. 2002 and many others have used 0.5% DMSO in their studies without any sign of cytotoxicity.

2. **Figure-3A: Quantitation for each quadrant should be provided with mean ± SEM.**
   We modified the figure to include the quantitation for each quadrant.

3. **Figure-4 is unclear. Higher magnification images should be provided to clearly demonstrate apoptotic morphology.**
   This was done. The figure was magnified to reflect apoptotic nuclear fragmentation.