Reviewer’s report

Title: Antinociceptive and cytotoxic activities of an epiphytic medicinal orchid: Vanda tessellata Roxb.

Version: 1 Date: 13 July 2014

Reviewer: Mohammed Rahmatullah

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. The ethnomedicinal information on Vanda tessellata is inadequate. A number of ethnomedicinal reports on the plant is available, which have not been cited and which may give an adequate ethnomedicinal basis for pharmacological activity studies with this species.
2. One week for methanol and aqueous extraction of leaves appear to be too much. How did the authors prevent degradation or rotting of leaves in water when the extraction was carried out for 7 days? How much water and how much methanol were used for extraction? What was the final weight of the extracts? Why did the authors want to remove color by repeated filtration? The color could be due to an active ingredient. Did the authors carry out any preliminary phytochemical analysis of both extracts?
3. In the Discussion part, how did the authors know that flavonoids were present in the extract(s)? They indicate flavonoids as possible bioactive compounds and give Reference numbers 25-28.
4. In short, the Methods and Discussion section should be re-written to give the readers an adequate understanding. A preliminary phytochemical analysis of the extracts should also be carried out.

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.