Author’s response to reviews

Title: An Open Label Pilot Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Spanish Black Radish on the Induction of Phase I and Phase II Enzymes in Healthy Male Subjects

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
November 17, 2014

Editor-in-Chief,

Editors of BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine Journal

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript: “An Open Label Pilot Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Spanish Black Radish on the Induction of Phase I and Phase II Enzymes in Healthy Male Subjects”. We have made every effort to revise the document to meet your requirements.

I am herewith submitting a tracked version of the document as well point-by-point responses to each of the reviewer questions (please see below). Please let us know if you have any other questions or concerns. All authors are in agreement with the changes that have been made to the manuscript.

We thank you again for giving us the opportunity to address your concerns. We appreciate the opportunity to have our paper considered for publication in the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine Journal.

Sincerely,

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Summary

We would like to thank all the reviewers for their constructive feedback and suggestions; they have greatly improved the manuscript. Below are our point by point responses to each query and comment. We have addressed each comment and incorporated all the changes that were requested. The revisions have certainly improved the readability of the manuscript and we are appreciative of the reviewer comments.

Reviewer 1

Abstract

1. In Background, line 2 - Please change “(eg. radishes)” to “such as radishes”).
Answer: “(Eg. Radishes)” has been changed to “(such as radishes)” on page 2 line 20.

2. In Methods, line 4 – Remove “(week 0)”
Answer: On page 2 line 26, “(week 0)” has been removed.

3. In conclusions, line 1 – Change the word “suggest” to “indicate”.
Answer: On page 3 line 40, “suggest” has been changed to “indicate”.

Background

4. In Para 3, line 2 and line 6 – Correct the spelling of “glucuronidation”.
Answer: On page 2 line 26, “(week 0)” has been removed.

5. In Para 5, line 11 – reword to something such as “Ingestion of radishes induces….”
Answer: On page 5 line 98, “Dietary intake of radishes induces…” has been replaced by “Ingestion of radishes induces…”

Methods

6. Study participants, line 4 – delete “and a research ethics board”.
Answer: On page 6 line 118, “and a research ethics board” has been removed.

7. Study design, para 1, line 2 – delete the comma after “and”.
Answer: On page 7 line 142, the comma after “and” has been removed.
8. Study design, para 3, line 4 – requires a space between “3 and weeks”

Answer: On page 8 line 166, a space between “3” and “weeks” has been added.

9. Food Record and Diary, line 5 – Sentence to be deleted as it appears a repeat of prior sentence.

Answer: On page 9 line 188, the sentence that was a repeat of the prior one has been removed.

10. Analysis of Serum Hormones, line 1 – add “serum” prior to testosterone.

Answer: On page 12 line 250, “serum” has been added prior to “total/free testosterone”.

11. Acetaminophen Metabolites in Urine – para 3, line 3 – add space to “figure” and “3C”.

Answer: On page 14 line 310, a space between “figure” and “3C” has been added.

12. Other anthropometric.., para 1, line 5 – add space between “4” and “weeks”.

Answer: On page 16 line 342, a space between “4” and “weeks” has been added.

Discussion

13. Para 1, line 1 – change SBR to “Spanish black radish”.

Answer: On page 16 line 354, “SBR” has been changed to “Spanish black radish”.

14. Para 1, line 14 – space between “kappa” and “B”.

Answer: On page 17 line 368, a space between “kappa” and “B” has been added.

15. Para 3, line 10 – correct the spelling of S-transferase.

Answer: On page 18 line 383, “S-transference” has been corrected to “S-transferase”.

16. Para 3, line 14 – correct spelling of “estradiol”.

Answer: On page 18 line 387, “estrodiol” has been corrected to “estradiol”.

17. Para 4, line 3 – correct spelling of “cruciferous”.

Answer: On page 18 line 395, “crucifereous” has been corrected to “cruciferous”.

18. Para 5, line 2 – remove hyphen between widely and used.

Answer: On page 18 line 402, a hyphen between “widely” and “used” has been removed.
19. Para 5, line 3 – remove hyphen between clinically and relevant.

Answer: On page 18 line 403, the hyphen between “clinically” and “relevant” has been removed.

20. Para 5, line 5 – correct spelling of hepatocytes.

Answer: On page 19 line 405, “hepatotocytes” has been corrected to “hepatocytes”.

21. Para 5, line 12 – include “respectively” at end of sentence.

Answer: On page 19 line 412, “, respectively” has been added to the end of the sentence.

22. Para 6, line 7 – “Corresponded to “an” increase…”

Answer: On page 19 line 421, “their” has been replaced by “an”.

23. Para 7, line 14 – The last 6 lines should be in the Limitations section. Some of the information is stated (repeated) already in Limitations section.

Answer: The last 6 lines of the Discussion have been moved to the Limitations section, and the duplicate information has been removed as well. The Limitations has been revised to read as follows:

“As this was an open label study, the absence of a placebo group for comparison was certainly a limitation. Thus, a randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial is clearly needed to establish the role of SBR in hepatic function. As well, the bioavailability profiles were measured for only 8h. Measurement of the profiles over 24h may have allowed for full documentation of acetaminophen clearance and established the time for plasma values to return to baseline. One limitation of the study was that the bioavailability profiles were measured for only 8h. Measurement of the profiles over 24h may have allowed for full documentation of acetaminophen clearance and established the time for plasma values to return to baseline. Furthermore, inclusion of both males and females would have provided information on gender specific effects of SBR. “

24. List of abbreviations – correct spelling of glutamyl transferase.

Answer: On page 22 line 476, “glutamy transferase” has been replaced by “glutamyl transferase”.

3. Discretionary Revisions

25. Background, para 2, line 4 – Remove “water soluble”.

Answer: On page 3 line 61, “and water soluble” has been removed.
Reviewer 2

1. Page 7 line 142 - delete the comma between "and" & "heart rate" - not necessary

Answer: On page 7 line 142, the comma after “and” has been removed.

2. Page 8 Line 166 - space needed between "3" and "weeks"

Answer: On page 8 line 166, a space between “3” and “weeks” has been added.

3. Line 144. You have already spoken in the previous section about a limitation of the study being lack of a placebo comparison. You should mention it under the subheading Study Limitations. You could, for example, simply add words at the beginning of this section such as 'In addition to the previously mentioned limitation of a lack of comparison group, ....etc etc'

Answer: The last 6 lines of the Discussion have been moved to the Limitations section, and the duplicate information has been removed as well. The Limitations section is currently as follows:

“As this was an open label study, the absence of a placebo group for comparison was certainly a limitation. Thus, a randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial is clearly needed to establish the role of SBR in hepatic function. As well, the bioavailability profiles were measured for only 8h. Measurement of the profiles over 24h may have allowed for full documentation of acetaminophen clearance and established the time for plasma values to return to baseline. One limitation of the study was that the bioavailability profiles were measured for only 8h. Measurement of the profiles over 24h may have allowed for full documentation of acetaminophen clearance and established the time for plasma values to return to baseline. Furthermore, inclusion of both males and females would have provided information on gender specific effects of SBR. “

Other changes

Page 1 Line 14: The contact email address for one of the authors has been changed from “prior.paterson@gmail.com” to “epaterso@uwcarbone.wisc.edu”.