Reviewer's report

Title: Pretreatment of Gymnema sylvestre revealed the protection against acetic acid-induced ulcerative colitis in rats

Version: 2 Date: 14 January 2014

Reviewer: Sarfaraz Ahmad

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript entitled “Pretreatment of Gymnema sylvestre revealed the protection against acetic acid-induced ulcerative colitis in rats”, which describes the role of the herbal plant Gymnema sylvestre (GS) leaves extract (gymnemic acids) on acetic acid-induced ulcerative colitis in rats.

This is a straightforward manuscript. The experimental approach and interpretation of the results are appropriate. The manuscript is well written. A few minor comments for incorporation and corrections are noted below;

1. Corrections in Figure 7: Scale bar is missing in all histopathological sections (figure 7A-F). Also make sure that there are no differences in object magnification (figure 7D and 7E). In figure 7E, the colon cells are looking much larger as compared to the figure 7D. GS leaves extract at the dose 100 mg/kg (figure 7D) shows much better reparative epithelial changes and ulcer healing than the dose 200 mg/kg (figure 7E).

2. Correction in Methods: Authors have written in the plant extract preparation section that the dried powder of GS leave extract was suspended in CMC solution and administered orally at the of 100, 200 and 400 mg/kg body weight to fasted rats. But in the experimental design paragraph, you have mentioned that the treatment doses were 50, 100 and 200 mg/kg/day by gavage. This discrepancy should be corrected in the revised manuscript.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

NO TO ALL OF THE ABOVE

"I declare that I have no competing interests"