Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of Anti-kinetic effect of Lantana camara L. var. acuelata constituents on Neostigmine-induced Gastrointestinal transit in mice

Version: 1 Date: 3 May 2005

Reviewer: Samson Amos

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The plant Lantana camara is known for its toxicity. The authors rightly pointed out that one of the untoward effect of the extract is decrease in GIT motily, which has been reported in the literature. I do not understand the rationale behind this present studies.
2. The authors did not carry out any simple toxicity studies to establish "safe doses" to use. I get very worried that the authors used 1000 mg/kg of a plant extract reputed for its toxicity in mice considering the body mass of a mouse. Ordinarily, this high doses can even cause intestinal plug when administered intraperitoneally.
3. The authors focused on the anti-diarrhoeal effects of this plant extract, yet they did not carry out any study in this present manuscript on diarrhoea related in-vivo studies, like the castor oil induced diarrhoea and fluid accumulation. The use of GI transit cannot be accepted as the only way of establishing an anti-diarrhoeal effect.
4. Furthermore, it will be needful for the authors to carry out in vitro studies using either rabbit or guinea pig ileum to tease out probable mechanism(s) of action using both standard pharmacological agonists and antagonists.
5. Finally, I will not recommend the publication of the manuscript in its present form.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interest