Author's response to reviews

Title: Healing Potential of Picrorhiza kurroa (Scrophulariaceae) rhizomes against indomethacin-induced gastric ulceration: an experimental evaluation

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Emma Parkin,

Thank you for accepting the manuscript. I thank the reviewers for their valuable comments, which have improved quality of the manuscript. With due respect to both the reviewers, we have modified the manuscript. Hope these will satisfy you. The item-wise changes included in the manuscript are shown below.

Thanks and regards.

S. Chattopadhyay

**Modifications**

**Referee 1:**
1. The abstract has been shortened.
2. Our results (figure 1) showed considerable natural healing on the 5th day after indomethacin administration. Consequently, starting the treatment on the 3rd day, would not provide much information on the efficacy of PK. Hence we did not do it.
3. The effect of PK and omeprazole on gastric acid secretion has been shown.
4. I fully agree with the learned reviewer’s comment on the PG status in rats. However, in most of these studies, the rats were sacrificed within a few hours after indomethacin administration. We have conducted these studies over a few days, which might account for our observations. Similar results have also been reported by us very recently (Eur. J. Pharmacol.). To substantiate the claim, we have now included the data of the levels of COX enzymes. These data also correlated well with that of PGE$_2$ level.
5. Various growth factors are responsible for would healing. In view of the reviewer’s comment, we have carried out new experiments and provided the data for VEGF also.
6. In view of these two more figures (fig. 2 and 6), and one Table (table 2)

**Referee 2:**
1. The title has been changed to "Healing potential of Picrorhiza kurroa (Scrophulariaceae) rhizomes against indomethacin-induced gastric ulceration: a mechanistic exploration."
2. A Statistical Analyses section has been included in the manuscript
3. The age of the mice has been included.
4. Results of different doses of indomethacin have been included to justify the used dose in this study.