Reviewer’s report

Title: In vivo effects of Pain Relieving Plaster on closed soft tissue injury in rabbit ears

Version: 3 Date: 8 February 2008

Reviewer: maria B witte

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The paper investigates the effect of a pain relieving traditional herbal medication on soft tissue injury in a rabbit ear model. The local application for 30 min. of the traditional medicine reduces edema formation after 2 and 3 days as well as redness and area swelling. The effect was unaffect by local temperature. The effect could partially be explained by a reduction in blood velocity shortly after injury.

The paper is well written and statistically adequately analyzed.

It investigates traditional herbal medicine that has been used for a long time without ever having been investigated experimentally. Therefore it deserves interest.

Minor concern regarding language (page 7 in the results): the statement "no interaction of time x group difference was founded" is not misunderstandable.

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.