Author's response to reviews

Title: Acute reduction of serum 8-iso-PGF2-alpha and advanced oxidation protein products in vivo by a polyphenol-rich beverage; a pilot clinical study with phytochemical and in vitro antioxidant characterization.

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Version: 2 Date: 5 May 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
May 4, 2011

Dear Nutrition Journal,

We very much appreciate the reviewer comments that were received with regard to our manuscript (MS: 1416185091521221 Acute reduction of serum 8-iso-PGF2-alpha and advanced oxidation protein products in vivo by a polyphenol-rich beverage; a pilot clinical study with phytochemical and in vitro antioxidant characterization).

We have addressed these comments in the accompanying draft of the manuscript, with all changes marked in red. Additionally, we have added a point-by-point response to the reviewer concerns, which is provided below.

Please let us know if there is anything more that we can do or if you have additional recommendations. We look forward to the final approval of this manuscript for publication in Nutrition Journal.

Best Regards,

Boris Nemzer

Reviewer #1 Comments:

1. Abstract must be edited to be a stronger stand-alone description of the study. It must contain a better description of the number of subjects in each group and sub-group analysis. We have added the total number of study subjects as well as the number in the post-hoc analysis to the abstract, and have also added more descriptive details in the abstract results section. All changes are shown in red.

2. The discussion must include a comment on the fact that for some test parameters, the starting (baseline) averages between placebo and test product groups seemed large and possibly statistically significant. We have clarified that 8-iso-PGF2-alpha levels varied widely at T0 in both experimental groups, and that baseline HORAC levels differed significantly as well. The changes were added to the last paragraph of the discussion section, as is shown in red.

Clarification that the authors may wish to add to the discussion: For the sake of future reference, a cross-over study design may yield higher significance in some of the antioxidant parameters:
- Subjects arrive after 12-hour fasting, first blood draw 7AM, then only water for another r4 hours. The metabolic stress developing after over 16 hours of fasting may be highly individual. If people had been tested twice: Once on placebo, and once on active test product, then each person's changes after consumption could
be analyzed using 'within-subject' analysis, and the overall changes between the
two test days analyzed for the whole group.
- It is possible that this may have provided stronger and more significant data on
the HORAC. We think that this is an excellent suggestion and have added
wording to reflect this in the discussion section, as is shown in red.