Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effects of Procyanidin on Cardiomyocyte Apoptosis after Myocardial Ischemia Reperfusion in Rats

Authors:
Dan Liu (lijunchang0802@126.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Prof. Saverio Muscoli,

Thank you very much for your valuable comments on our previous manuscript entitled "Effects of Procyanidin on Cardiomyocyte Apoptosis after Myocardial Ischemia Reperfusion in Rats" (BCAR-D-17-00433). The responsible and constructive comments really pointed out the direction for us. I am very sorry so late to reply to you due to having been on a business trip. When I went back to hospital, we tried our best to revise our manuscript immediately and re-submitted the manuscript as a letter which has been suggested by the editors and reviewers of BMC Cardiovascular Disorders. We appreciate that our manuscript can be reviewed and hopefully wait for your advice once again.

Editor Comments:

The paper is well written and very interesting for the topic proposed.

Please also attach the image with ROS dihydroethidium fluorescent probe and argues in a more appropriate way the part on oxidative stress that is crucial for the understanding of the paper

Response to the Editor’s comment: We are very sorry that we haven’t taken satisfactory image with ROS dihydroethidium fluorescent probe. This is the study limitations of our manuscript. We appreciate for your warm suggestion earnestly. We have further read more literatures and then explained more in details about ROS in Discussion Part (red color in the revised manuscript).

Reviewer #1:

2. The language is ok but there are some grammatical and typographical mistakes in the text. For examples: Page 6, line 19: "ischemic" would be better than "ischemia". Page 7, lines 40-41: "Myocardial apoptosis appeared to..." The construction of the sentence isn't very clear.

Response to comment 2: We are very sorry for our incorrect writing. We have changed "ischemia" into "ischemic", and changed “Myocardial apoptosis appeared to accelerate the development of necrosis might determine the degree of myocardial injury.” into “Myocardial apoptosis accelerates the development of necrosis which might determine the degree of myocardial injury”. Besides, considering the reviewer’s suggestion, we have consulted a native speaker and edited our manuscript (red color in the revised manuscript).

3. In the conclusion section it should be defined that the effect of procyanidin has been shown on rats and it can't be assumed that it is the same in human.

Response to comment 3: We agree with the reviewer’s suggestion. We have defined that the effect of procyanidin has been shown on rats.

We appreciate for your warm work earnestly, and hope that the corrections will meet your approval.

Reviewer 2:

1. Please explain more in details which ROS were taken into consideration and clarify better the methods used to study the pro-apoptotic genes.
Response to comment 1: Thank you very much for your constructive suggestion. We are greatly inspired. We appreciate for your warm suggestion earnestly. We have further read more literatures and then explained more in details about ROS in Discussion Part (red color in the revised manuscript).

2. Please explain the methods used for the control group (did the rats were under anesthesia before blood samples were taken?)

Response to comment 2: In order to exclude the effects of other factors, the rats were under anesthesia before blood samples were taken.

3. Do you have also data on the troponin level other then CK-MB both in the control group and the ischaemic groups?

Response to comment 3: We are very sorry we don’t have data on the troponin level other then CK-MB both in the control group and the ischaemic groups.

We appreciate for your warm work earnestly, and hope that the corrections will meet with approval.

Besides, we have carefully read the Editorial Policies and revised our manuscript as necessary.

We appreciate for Editors/Reviewers’ warm work earnestly, and hope that the corrections will meet with approval. The manuscript has been seen and approved by all authors. It is our original unpublished work and it has not been submitted to any other journal for reviewing except the BMC Cardiovascular Disorders. Besides, we appended the resume of corresponding author and decision Letter of the previous manuscript below. Thank you for considering this work and look forward to your response.

Best wishes

Sincerely yours,

Dan Liu