Author's response to reviews

Title: Toxicology and Teratology of the Active ingredients of Professional Therapy MuscleCare Products during Pregnancy and Lactation

Authors:

Abdulaziz M. S. Alsaad (abdelaziz.alsaad@mail.utoronto.ca)
Colleen Fox (colleenfox_19@hotmail.com)
Gideon Koren (gkoren@sickkids.ca)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
We would like to thank reviewers for their helpful comments.

1) Upon reassessment, we also have some concerns regarding your submission. Specifically, in order to publish a study such as yours, we would need to be convinced that the assessment performed has been done in a systematic fashion. However, the lack of a Methods section does not currently allow us to assess this. We must therefore ask you to include a full Methods section in your manuscript. The description of your methodology contained within this should be sufficiently detailed so that other researchers could repeat your study, if they so desired.

Thank you. We have added a section for search method under section number 4.

“Search method

A professional librarian with expertise in the areas of systematic reviews carried out literature searches using Web of Science, EMBASE, Medline, and Micromedix. The terms used in systematic search were the names of PTMC ingredients and “reproductive effect” with no language restrictions. Studies were selected based reporting toxicological, developmental, and reproductive effects of PTMC ingredients. We excluded all studies that did not mention safety of these ingredients.”

Associate Editor comments:
The authors have now been asked at both the original review and following my last review to address the issue of the format of their reference list. While the authors say they have corrected the errors what they have actually done is just attend to the examples I provided rather than reviewing the list to ensure it conforms to the format provided in the journal instructions. Specifically there are the following issues:

1) Journal names are in lower case and in full - should be in abbreviated form and capitals used for each word.

Thank you. We have reviewed all references to meet the requirements as suggested.

2) et al. is used to shorten the authors list however this is inconsistent with ref 17 after 10 authors, ref 23 & 24 after 3 authors and other author lists not shortened.

We have revised the references to be consistent in using “et al.”

3) for books place & publisher are in the wrong order.

We have reviewed all references to meet the requirements as suggested.

4) ref 40 is a published abstract but not noted as such

Ref 40 has been corrected.