Author's response to reviews

Title: The Hypocholesterolemic Activity of Thai Glutinous Rice (Oryza sativa L. var. Niaw San-pah-tawng) Fermented by Monascus purpureus in High-Fat Cholesterol Diet Fed Rats

Authors:

Anurak Bunnoy (anurak.bunnoy@gmail.com)
Saisamorn Lumyong (scboi009@chainqmai.ac.th)
Siriwadee Chomdej (siriwadee@yahoo.com)
Supap Saenphet (bigsu.cmu@gmail.com)
Kanokporn Saenphet (stit.lilo123@gmail.com)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editor,

We are pleased to submit an original research article entitled “The Hypocholesterolemic Activity of Thai Glutinous Rice (Oryza sativa L. var. Niaw San-pah-tawng) Fermented by Monascus purpureus in High-Fat Cholesterol Diet Fed Rats” by Anurak Bunnoy, Saisamorn Lumyong, Siriwadee Chomdej, Supap Saenphet and Kanokporn Saenphet to be considered for publication as a research article in Journal of BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

In this manuscript, we would like to show that:

• We produced Thai red yeast rice (RYR) from Thai glutinous rice fermented by Monascus purpureus CMU 002U.

• Thai RYR extract exhibited the hypocholesterolemic potential by lowering the concentrations of serum total cholesterol, LDL-C, atherosclerotic index, LDL-C/HDL-C ratio and hepatic lipid levels in hypercholesterolemic rats.

• The mechanism underlying the hypocholesterolemic effect of the extract is due to the increase of hepatic LDL receptor and HMG-CoA reductase expression as well as the decrease of CYP7A1 expression.

• Thai RYR alleviated hepatic injuries of rats caused by high fat and cholesterol diet.

We believe that these findings will interest the readers of your journal and this manuscript is appropriate for publication by the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine because it is relevant to human diseases associated with hyperlipidemia.

We declare that this manuscript is original, has not been published before and is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere. The manuscript has been read and approved by all named authors.

The name of suggested reviewers are as follows:

1. Assistant Professor Dr. Watee Kongbuntad
   Email: wateenaka@gmail.com
   Faculty of Science, Maejo University. Chiang Mai, Thailand

2. Professor Dr. Aranya Manosroi
   Email: a.manosroi@gmail.com
   Faculty of Pharmacy, Chiang Mai University. Chiang Mai, Thailand
Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have received this e-mail, please acknowledge it. We hope you find our manuscript suitable for publication and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Assist. Prof. Dr. Kanokporn Saenphet

Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Chiang Mai University, 239 Huay Kaew Road, Tumbol Suthep, Muang District, Chiang Mai, 50200, Thailand.
Phone: +66-86-605-0743, Fax: +66-53-892259