Reviewer's report

Title: Exploring new Pharmacology and toxicological screening and safety evaluation of Nidrakar Bati from South East Asia Region

Version: 2 Date: 13 January 2015

Reviewer: Jiefeng Cui

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript presented by Zaman A et al. completely evaluates the biological activities of mice administrated with herbal formulation of NKB in aspects of metabolic, analgesic and inflammatory, anxiolytic activities and psychopharmacological, neuropharmacological and toxicological effects. The study design is straightforward and data presented in the manuscript is convincing. It shows some interesting findings. However, final conclusion is obscure especially in effect concentration, safety concentration and toxic concentration. Some essential issues with the manuscript need to be improved before a decision for acceptance.

1. Based on which evidence, high, medium and low doses of NKB were defined as 400, 200 and 100mg/kg in the study. Additionally, about the dose of reference drug used in animal experiment such as diazepam (2mg/kg), Diclofenac (25, 50, 100mg/kg), Dexamethasone, etc the authors also should provide the related experiment evidences or references.

2. In the description of methods, anxiolytic activity assay and psychopharmacological effect assay are different methods, and there are some differences between anxiolytic activity assay and psychopharmacological effect assay, so there seem better if the figures in the manuscript are presented according to function analysis sequence. Except that, the legends for all figures in the manuscript are too brief, please add the detailed description, especially the content on significant differences between different groups for the reader to understand easily.

3. Since it was mentioned in the text that “NKB is produced using many medicinal plants in many doses”, “The formulation of NKB is varied from region to region”, there is no evidence that the NKB you researched could be generalized to NKBs with other formulations. Is the NKB studied the most popular one in the market so that it can represent the efficacy of the whole NKB family? Is it better to revise your title and make it more specific like “Exploring new Pharmacology and toxicological screening and safety evaluation of one widely used formulation of Nidrakar Bati from South East Asia Region”.

4. Some error in spelling need to be checked. Also several mistakes like second personal pronouns “you” and “your” which attenuate the objectivity.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.