Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of Rhodiola Crenulata on Mice Hearts under Severe Sleep Apnea

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor:

Thank you for considering our manuscript as revision for publication in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The revised manuscript (MS: 3994058501578427) in our opinion has been much improved as results of the Reviewer's comments and suggestions. As requested, we answered the Reviewer's comments point by point. We hope that we have adequately addressed all of the concerns of the Reviewers.

Sincerely,

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Response to Reviewer’s Comments

We would like to thank the Reviewer#1 for the time spent on the manuscript. The comments were very helpful and pointed out our weakness. We hope that the revised version has adequately addressed all of your concerns and that the manuscript is now acceptable.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

Comment 1: The histopathological images in Fig. 1A showed visible tissue difference in hypoxia+saline mice. However, the TUNEL assay results in Fig. 1B did not show much apoptosis. The image of hypoxia+saline mice barely showed any apoptotic cells (only one visible apoptotic cell). So, the images did not represent the results well and should be replaced by the better ones.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We changed the other representative image.

Comment 2: In Fig. 2A, the exposure for tubulin was too dark. Since it was used as the denominator to normalize the level of FAS and FADD, overexposure could alter the relative levels.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We changed the image.
Comment 3: The overall quality of the Western blot images in the figures are relatively low. Since the quantitative results were obtained from the scanning of these images, better representative images should be used in the figures. The low quality of the Western blot image will affect the quantification.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. The imagine quality of PDF file may be low. We had change better representative images.

Response to Reviewer’s Comments

We would like to thank the Reviewer#2 for the time spent on the manuscript. The comments were very helpful and pointed out our several improvements. We hope
that the revised version has adequately addressed all of your concerns and that the manuscript is now acceptable.

Comment 1: In Results, from Fig.1 to Fig 5 in the quantification results such as TUNEL positive-cells should be mention about 4% (hypoxia group) than others lower

(1%) in Rhodiola Crenulata (RC) 40 treatment groups for more clear.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We added the data to the manuscript

Comment 2: The some compounds should be defined such as RC90 and RC270 in Materials and Methods.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We added the definition to the manuscript

Comment 3: In the results (in Fig. 4), by western blot analysis to probe caspase-9, -8 and -3 cleaved forms that should be label in Fig. 4A.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We added the label in Fig. 4A.
Comment 4: In unit using should be checked such as “Rhodiola Crenulata at 90mg/Kg and 270 mg/Kg have protective effects on” that may consider as 90 mg/Kg and 270 mg/Kg for more consistent throughout this manuscript.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. We changed Rhodiola Crenulata at 90 mg/Kg and 270 mg/Kg in the manuscript for more constancy.