Reviewer's report

Title: Analgesic principle from Curcuma aeruginosa

Version: Date: 8 March 2015

Reviewer: Patricia Fernandes

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Major Compulsory Revisions:
- there are some typographical errors that must be corrected.
- which is the amount of pure substance found in the extracts? this should be the dose used for pure substance and not a dose of 20 and 40 mg/kg. it means that germacrone is 10% of the crude extract?? At this high dose, it is expected to observe some effect.
- Authors must show, and discuss, the results obtained with doses equivalent to the amount of germacrone found in extracts. Without this data it is improper to indicate that the effect of the extract is due to this substance
- tables should be changed by graphs. It is better to observe the effect than in table.
- formalin-induced licking and contortions models are not models of analgesia. Both are models of ANTINOCICEPTION. In animals we observe antinociceptive activity. This must be changed all over the Ms.

Minor Essential Revisions
- why authors used two different anti-inflammatory drugs as controls in contortion and formalin-induced licking response?
- the references used to contortions and formalin-induced licking are not the original ones. Authors should add the original ones. Theses references were the first to padronize the method. after them several other papers did modifications. and these modifications can be cited.
- doses of 200 and 400 mg/kg are too high and do not correlate with the popular use. two doses are not enough to demonstrate a dose response curve. why authors did not show another dose (i.e., 100 or 500 mg/kg)?
- the effect of extract in contortion model was low. only 37.5% inhibition to 200 mg/kg. this dose is 20 fold higher than the positive control group

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

Any competing interest