Author's response to reviews

Title: Isolation Of Methyl Gamma Linolenate From Spirulina Platensis Using Flash Chromatography And Its Apoptosis Inducing Effect

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Version: 5 Date: 9 June 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
To

The Editor

BMC Complementary and alternative medicine

Sir,

Sub: submission of re-revised manuscript-reg;

We are submitting the re-revised manuscript entitled “Isolation Of Methyl Gamma Linolenate From Spirulina Platensis Using Flash Chromatography And Its Apoptosis Inducing Effect” (MS: 1648520392143735).

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

S.P.Dhanabal
Reviewer: Pilar Vila Donat

It will be interesting that you take in consideration to write the manuscript that: Some studies have shown that GLA can slow or stop the growth of some types of cancer cells in tissue cultures in the laboratory. The same kinds of studies suggest that GLA may help some cancer drugs to work better. However, there is very little evidence as yet that GLA work to prevent or treat cancer in humans. Human studies are under way to evaluate the role of GLA and other essential fatty acids on the growth of cancer.

According to reviewer's opinion all these facts have been included in the introduction. Line no. 95-99.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. Abstract--> Keywords--> line 45-->poly unsaturated fatty acids is too general. Please write "GLA, gamma linolenic acid" instead of poly unsaturated fatty acids. Please remove the term "apoptosis" since you have not demonstrated it.
   All have been corrected. (Line No: 46)
2. Background--> line 88-91 is not well expressed "As......cancer". Please correct it.
   It has been modified. (Line No: 84)
As I said in my previous review the term "gamma linolenic acid (GLA) " are incorrectly written twice consecutively. You should have changed "linolneic" (Line 94) and "linoleneic" (line 96) by "linolenic". In my opinion this is a serious error considering that this is a scientific review and this poly unsaturated acid is the main of the presented work. In line 98 change "More" by "more" please.
   It has been corrected. (Line no: 97)
3. Point 2.2 Algae. Please put "Madurai, Tamilnadu, India" between parenthesis (line 121) and please correct "ºC" (line 121)
   The same has been incorporated. (Line no 117)
4. Point 2.2.5 Please change "gms" by "g" if you want to say "grams" (line 179, 180...). Which means "samplet". May be you should change "samplet" by"sample", I think. (line 179-180)
“g “ has been incorporated and the word samplet is used for a small packet in which the sample will be packed in flash chromatography.

5. Chemical structure of GLA-ME which number of Figure is? Why not is cited?.

All figures and tables must be numbered, titled and cited throughout the text.

The figure no is 1. All the figures and tables are numbered and cited throughout the text.

6. As I suggested before, Fig 1 (a photo of Flash Chromatography is irrelevant and it is not necessary.

   The photo of flash chromatography has been removed.

7. There are two Figures numbered as Figure 1 and Figure 2 and that causes much confusion. You should fix this.

   It has been corrected.
Reviewer: Liming Zhang

Major Compulsory Revisions:
I suggested that "cytotoxic activity" in the title and text was changed into "apoptosis-inducing effect".

  The same has been incorporated. (Line no 2 & Line no 247)

Minor Essential Revisions:
There are some typographical and grammatical errors in the manuscript. I suggested the authors have a native English speaker proofread the manuscript as they prepare a revision. Here are some examples:

Back ground, first paragraph, "...which contain various antioxidants..." -> "...which contains various antioxidants..." (Line no 65)
Back ground, second paragraph, "...are not produced..." -> "...did not produce..." (Line no 79)
Back ground, third paragraph, "..., The medical expenditure..." -> "..., the medical expenditure..." (Line no 84)
Back ground, fourth paragraph, "..., More 99 importance has been given..." -> "..., more 99 importance has been given..." (Line no 95)
Results and discussion, second paragraph, "...apoptosis..." -> "...apoptosis..." (Line no 241)

  All these changes have been incorporated and the grammar mistakes also been corrected.
Reviewer: Angela Malheiros

The manuscript needs revisions as presented below:

1. Background

Line 68 and 72 - The references 1 and 2 needs to be changed because in the literature there are more recent references with this subject.

   New references have been included. (Line no 278 & 281)

Lines 74-77 - Is necessary put other references about the technical to producing gama linolenic acid and ester

   New references have been included. (Line no 76)

2. Methods (important)

Item 2.4 Lines 198 – 200 Date 13C NMR present to carbons are wrong to any carbons. These must be corrected

   The data has been corrected. (Line no 195)

3. Results and discussion

Explain better how the quantified by HPTLC was realized Compare the yield Obtained with other methods. Explore the use of rutin as standard drug to cytotoxicity.

   It has been incorporated. (Line no 240)

figure 1 is not necessary. It is only a photography of the equipment, remove it.

   The photo has been removed.