Reviewer’s report

Title: Study of the protective effect on intestinal mucosa of the hydrosoluble fiber Plantago ovata husk

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Reviewer: richard uwiera

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Major compulsory revisions:
To identify possible mechanism of protection speculated by the authors in the discussion section, other experiments should be considered.

1) An in vitro study to examine whether fiber binds to acetylsalicylic acid (inorganic acid) and prevents intestinal injury. This is a possible mechanism as the fiber and acetylsalicylic acid were administer at a similar time within the same cannula

2) Add histological sections with Periodic acid–Schiff (PAS) staining to determining whether intestinal mucus layer is affected by the treatments. Examination of MUC genes could also be assed to determine whether acetylsalicylic acid and/or fiber effects mucous production through altered gene expression.

3) Measuring important pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory cytokines levels (ie mRNA) within the intestinal tissue should also be included.

4) Figure1-High magnification images for histologically is unconvincing for epithelial injury or mitigation with fiber treatment. The lower magnification (figure 1d) provides better evidence for injury. In as such, Figure 1 should include low and high magnification images of the intestinal mucosa and importantly both treatment and control images should be presented in parallel allowing better visualization of the tissue changes.

Minor essential revisions:

1) Figure1: Length measurement bar(s) need to be added to Figure 1.

2) A more current list of references should be added, as the most recent references in the manuscript were from 2012.

3) Histologic terminology: replace the word chorion with epithelium as this term is a more accurate representation of the tissue.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests