Author's response to reviews

Title: Behavioral and biochemical effects of pharmacopuncture (ST 36 and ST 25) in obese rats

Authors:

Mariana C Pontes (riavet@yahoo.com.br)
Lilian C Heck (lilianheck@gmail.com)
Janice C Coelho (janice.coelho@ufrgs.br)

Version: 4 Date: 17 July 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to Reviewer’s comments (point-by-point)

Reviewer: Seungmin Lee

Major Compulsory Revision
1 - The pharmacopuncture method is an easy process and with more expressive results compared to traditional acupuncture. The concentration utilized is small and induces few collateral effects. The side effects can be considered bearable in comparison with the symptoms of obesity and metabolic syndrome associated with obesity.

2 – We believe it would be relevant to analyze the inflammatory markers in the survey. However, we need more material to be able to perform the analyzes, one important point to be studied in future research.

Minor Essential Revisions
1- In Abstract (line 23): HDP36 and HDP36 changed to HDP36 and HDP25
In Methods (line 112): Tianshu (ST36) changed to Tianshu (ST25)
2 - Results and discussion (line 160): more quickly and conveniently that the original techniques was changed to: more quickly and conveniently than the original techniques.
4 - Behavioral assessment (line 224 Elevated Plus Maze (line): The first two paragraphs have been combined into one.
5 - To increase the reproducibility of this paper, the methods section in this paper was described: where the bee venom was provided by (line 121), how much mL (line 122) was inserted into each acupuncture point to approximately what depth (line 123), and on which side of the body (line 123), definition of a non-acupuncture point (line 114).
6- Animals number (line 82 and 108)

Reviewer: Kim Eun Jung

Major Compulsory Revision
1 - The methods and technical parts are described more fluently (line 108 to 124)

Minor Essential Revisions
1- In Abstract (line 23): HDP36 and HDP36 changed to HDP36 and HDP25
2 - The methods section in this paper was described: which side of the body (line 123),
3 - The methods section: The manufacture process and the concentration ratio of bee venom are described (line 121). The syringe used for bee venom injection (line 123) and the product name (line 121) and needle gauge (line 124) are described.
4 - The content (line 162 to 167) was described in the method section (moved to material and methods (line 102 to 107))
5 - In all Figures the acronyms were altered (DHP must be corrected to HDP)