Author's response to reviews

Title: The antibacterial, phytochemicals and antioxidants evaluation of the root extracts of Hydnora africana Thunb. used as antidysenteric in Eastern Cape Province, South Africa.

Authors:
Olubunmi A Wintola (olubunmiwintola@yahoo.com)
Anthony J Afolayan (Aafolayan@ufh.ac.za)

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Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer comments 1
- Pg 3 line 51: 'traditional healers' have been changed to "native medical practitioners"
- Pg line 57: font size of "4" has been checked and corrected.
- Pg 5 line 105: The full name of the person who identified the plant have been provided'
- Pg 6 line 128: names of the extraction solvents have been inserted.
- Pg 16 line 361: The statement or the sentences have been checked and corrected.
- Pg 16 line 366: the abbreviated form of Pseudomonas 'Ps' has been corrected to "P".

Abstracts and conclusion: wild claims and statements have been corrected. Please see the comprehensive list of the spelling and grammatical corrections which have been made in the manuscript

Discussions: the discussion section have been made into one and separated sections have been harmonized together.
- Phytochemical on pg 18 line 397-441 have been deleted as a sub heading
- Antioxidants on pg 20 line 443- 485 has also been deleted.
- Ferric- reducing power assay pg 20, line 450
- Nitric oxide pg 21, line 461
- DPPH assay pg 21, line 469
- ABTS assay pg 22, line 476

Reviewer comments 2
- The unnecessary information in the manuscript have been deleted and the typo-grammatical errors have been corrected.
• The source and type of microorganism have been mentioned. [line 119-128]
• Concentration of ciprofloxacin has been corrected throughout the text (0.0125 mg/ml) (6 and p12).
• The but-1-ol on (p9) have been changed to butanol.
• The "three plant extracts" mentioned have been changed to "three extracts tested" (p12).
• The use of methanol in traditional medicine preparation is a wrong statement (p12).
• In p16, I found mistakes in writing and contradictory statement and non relevant discussion.
• Pg 15-16, line 345- 349, contradictory statement and non relevant discussion like "while solvent extracts were selected because water and methanol are widely used in the preparation of traditional medicine. Acetone has been adjudged to be the best extractant of plant extract for bioassay because it extracts a broad spectrum of components (polar and non-polar), miscible with all other solvents, highly volatile and exhibit low level of toxicity to biological organisms in various assays [28]" have been replaced with "while solvent choices was made based on the dependency of biologically active compound on the solvent used in the extraction procedure. Although traditional healers use primarily water, plant extracts from organic solvents have been found to give more consistent antimicrobial activity compared to water extract. [Pg 16 line 358-363]
• Page 16 line, 362-365 has been deleted because, it was a repetition of the sentence in line 367- 371
• In p17 para 1: speculation statement has been deleted and replaced.
• para 2: a vague statement have been removed and rewritten,
• last para: All error in grammar, spelling and non-relevant information have been replaced.
• Page 17 line 374- 377 have been deleted
• Pg 17 line 378- 382 have been deleted
• line 383 - 387 have been re-casted
• Fig 1: Error in writing of phytochemicals name have been corrected

Below is a comprehensive list of the spelling and grammatical corrections which have been made in the manuscript

Abstract
• Pg 2 Line 28 "medicine have increased" has been replaced with "medicine has increased" and globally was removed.
• Page 2 line 30 is frequently due has been replaced with "may be due"
• Page 2 line 33 "concentration were" has been replaced with "concentration was"
Background

- Page 2 line 42 "Hydnora africana is not the only antidysenteric plant" has been replaced with "Hydnora africana is one of the antidysenteric plants"

Discussion

- Pages 17-19 lines 363-403 have been recasted to Pages 16-18 line 354-394

References

Four references were added to the text and reference lists:


Nine references were removed from the text and reference lists


