Reviewer's report

Title: An experimental study on providing a scientific evidence for seven-time alcohol-steaming of Rhei Rhizoma when clinically used

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Reviewer: Tai-Long Pan

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The manuscript by Yeomoon Sim et al. performs the seven-time alcohol steaming process to attenuate RR-caused hepatotoxicity. The manuscript raises several interesting issues while there are some defects in the present study.

1. First of all, the toxicity of RR should be mainly caused by its purgative effect rather hepatotoxicity. Therefore, I suggest the authors might also evaluate the dysfunction of kidney.
2. If the alcohol steaming process would interfere the pharmaceutical effects?
3. The MTT assays should be determined at 24 or 48 hour to evaluate the cell viability under RR treatment.
4. The detailed information for animal experiments should be provided.
5. The long-term drug toxicity (more than 90 days) should be also evaluated.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No.