Author's response to reviews

Title: Antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant activity of Olea africana against pathogenic yeast and nosocomial pathogens

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Version: 4  Date: 7 August 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report

Title: Antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant activity of Olea africana against pathogenic yeast and nosocomial pathogens

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2015

Reviewer: Jean-de-Dieu TAMOKOU

Reviewer's report:

Title: Antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant activity of Olea africana against pathogenic yeast and nosocomial pathogens.

The manuscript aims to evaluate the in vitro antioxidant and antimicrobial activities of Olea africana leaf extracts against nosocomial and yeast pathogens.

Well, I just thought antimicrobial covers both antibacterial and antifungal so the title needs to be clear which one are covered. Corrected

Specific suggestions are as follows:

1) Abstract: Background: Provide the context of the study rather than the aim of the study.
Corrected

2) The aim of the study should be revised in the abstract and introduction sections according to the title of the manuscript.
Corrected

3) The keywords should be revised by adding “leaf extracts” and “total activity”.
Keywords added

4) I find the discussion somewhat lacking and does not allow the authors to state that: “We have also reported that this species have potential to be used as traditional medicine and furthermore it can be developed into antimicrobial drugs.” So the last sentence of the introduction section should be deleted.
The statement is not deleted. We are saying the extracts can be developed further into antimicrobial drugs. We fully understand that other tests must be done before it can be drugs but the work done gave promising results to come to that statement.

5) Extraction procedure section: Not written clearly. Provide the dryness/filtration conditions and stability of the extract.
It is revised

6) Author should explain why he used only reference bacterial strains and clinical isolates of yeasts.
That is explained

7) Please provide the origin of isolates of Candida albicans and Cryptococcus neoformans.

We have included that the isolates were obtained from the medical school. The origin I don’t think will be easy for us to get that information

8) The phytochemical analysis and the antimicrobial assay should be summarized with appropriate references.

The section is summarized

9) To avoid repetition, the author should combine the Quantitative antibacterial/antifungal activity assay by MIC and also the Qualitative antibacterial/antifungal assay by Bioautography.

The sections are combined as suggested

10) Please discuss the results of the phytochemical analysis.

The results are included

11) To demonstrate the potential applications of the studied plant extracts as drug sources, activities of extracts needs to be compared with other plant extracts (if any) which were reported having antibacterial/antifungal activity. The authors need to scientifically present and discuss this section.

The section is revised

12) Please correct the typological errors throughout the manuscript.

I have corrected errors and gave manuscript to senior colleague to proofread and I acknowledged him.

13) Authors’ contributions: The author mentioned that “MMD carried out the experiments and analysed the data.” However, MMD is not listed as co-author of the manuscript! Who is MMD? Equal authorship?

That is mistake, MMD is included as co-author

14) Please ensure that your tables and figures are correctly formatted in accordance with the formatting guidelines of the Journal.

It is corrected

(http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmccomplementalternmed/authors/instructions/researcharticle#Specifically, tables should be included at the end of your manuscript file.

Additionally, tables should also have a title (above the table) that summarizes the
whole table; it should be no longer than 15 words. Figure legends should not be uploaded with figures, and should instead be included as a list at the end of your manuscript.

15) The references are not in the correct format of the journal.
References are formatted

Best wishes,
Jean-De-Dieu TAMOKOU, Ph.D

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
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 declare that I have no competing interests

Reviewer’s report
Title: Antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant activity of Olea africana against pathogenic yeast and nosocomial pathogens
Version: 2 Date: 2 June 2015
Reviewer: Thankappan Sarasam Rejiniemon

Reviewer’s report:
Minor essential Revisions
Kindly do the following

1. Add the bioautography & antioxidant activity result values to the result part ofAbstract.

Due to number of words to be used in abstract not all results are included in abstract. We decided to include only our key results.

2. Quote the following latest references in introduction and discussion parts.
   ii) In Vitro Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antibiofilm, Antioxidant, and Anticancer Properties of Isosteviol Isolated from Endangered Medicinal Plant Pittosporum


tetraspermum
ii) In-vitro antibacterial, antifungal, antioxidant and functional properties of
Bacillus amyloliquefaciens.
Suggested references are not used. All the used references are latest and relevant.
It is not clear why we must use the suggested one.

3. Use proper abbreviations for units (mL, µL & degree celsius) as per the
journal format.
Units are changed as per suggestion

4. Change the word phytochemical analyses to phytochemical analysis.
The word is changed
5. Correct the expansion of DPPH in session 2.5
Expansion is corrected

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
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 declare that I have no competing interests