Reviewer's report

Title: In Vitro Antibacterial and Antibiotic-potentiation Activities of the Methanol Extracts from Beilschmiedia acuta, Clausena anisata, Newbouldia laevis and Polyscias fulva against Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria

Version: 2
Date: 21 September 2015
Reviewer: Prasanta K. Bag

Reviewer's report:

BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine
MS: 1350824632162186
Research article
Title: In Vitro Antibacterial and Antibiotic-potentiation Activities of the Methanol Extracts from Beilschmiedia acuta, Clausena anisata, Newbouldia laevis and Polyscias fulva against Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria

The authors have corrected/justified most of the comments made by this reviewer. However, I have yet the following comments, which should be corrected/demonstrated.

Comments:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. Lines 208-210. “The overall activity of the tested extracts could also be considered as interesting as a previous study highlighted the low cytotoxicity of extracts from Polyscias fulva as well as from Beilschmiedia acuta on normal AML12 hepatocytes [10].”

Since the preparation of extracts will differ from one study to another, the present study must demonstrate the cytotoxicity test of these plants extract on some normal cells. Reference is not sufficient.

Minor Essential Revisions:

2. Abstract, methods, “--the the minimum bactericidal---.” and “association with the of the most active ones--.” Should be corrected.

3. Line 174-175. “Various classes of phytochemicals were previously detected in the extracts of the four tested plants [10] and this may explain their antibacterial activity.” At least some compounds/phytochemicals’ name found in these plants must be indicated here, which are associated with the antimicrobial activity. Or please refer the Table where the presence of phytochemicals in these plants have been indicated (Change also the Table number following their appearance in the text.)
4. Line 190. “---the genus Beilschmiedia has previous been documented---.”
‘previous’ should be replaced with ‘previously’.

5. Line 210-211. “In addition, these extracts also displayed the good anticancer effects on several cancer cell lines [10].” This line should be deleted.

6. Lines 89-91. “The plants were identified at the National Herbarium (Yaounde, Cameroon), where voucher specimens were deposited under the reference numbers (Table 1).” However, these are shown in Table 2. Please correct it and change the order of Tables as referred in the text.

7. In the text, Table 2 has not been cited. Please correct it.

**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.