Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of Tualang honey on the healing of anastomotic wound in large bowel anastomosis in rats - A randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 18 August 2015

Reviewer: Jaroslava Halper

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17761 BMC Compl review
The authors describe the effect of honey on healing of colon anastomosis in rats. While the paper is interesting it does need revisions before it would be suitable for publication. The English needs some editing. How did they decide to euthanize all rats on Day 7, and why only one data point was used? Did they attempt to do other types of biomechanical testing (e.g., for elastic modulus)? I assume that histology sections were cut from tested tissues? How many samples were tested for biomechanics and how many for histology and cell counts? The main problems are in the histology and its evaluation. It is not clear what these cells counts of fibroblasts and inflammatory represent. In other words, did they count cell per field (at what magnification), and if yes, how many fields, or several mm2, or a portion of the slide (this should be in Methods)? In all layers of the colon? What inflammatory cells they saw (hard to tell from the provided photo)? And if more than one, what types and they should count how many of each type they found. They should also evaluate the present of newly led collagen or at least of connective tissues, esp. if they mention this neoformation on the bottom of p. 9 (Discussion). Immunohistochemistry for type I and III collagen, or at the very least trichrome and reticulin stains should be provided.

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

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.