Author’s response to reviews

Title: Herbal compound 861 prevents hepatic fibrosis by inhibiting the TGF-β1/Smad/SnoN pathway in bile duct-ligated rats

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Editor Comments:
1. Please clarify how the rats were sacrificed and include this in the Methods section.
Response: The rats were sacrificed dislocation of the cervical spine after anesthetized by intraperitoneal injection of sodium pentobarbital. (Methods section, line 17-20, page 5)

2. Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.
Response: We have stated “Not Applicable” in this section. (Declarations section, line 2, page 15)

3. Please clarify the role of the Funding body in this study in the Funding section.
Response: We have clarified the role of the Funding body in this study in the Funding section. (Declarations section, line 11, page 15)
4. Please represent authors' names using their initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.
Response: We have replaced authors' names with their initials. (Declarations section, line 14, page 15)

5. Please clarify in the Methods section exactly what was done to the rats who underwent the sham operation.
Response: As requested, we have clarified the procedure of sham operation in the Methods section. (Methods section, line 11-13, page 5)

6. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.
Response: We have uploaded a clean version of manuscript and separate figures as requested.