Author’s response to reviews

Title: Water extract of Semecarpus parvifolia Thw. leaves inhibits cell proliferation and induces apoptosis on HEP-2 cells

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Author’s response to reviews:

Necessary changes in the manuscript have been done

1-Could you please attach a phytochemical fingerprint of your plant material

At the time of the study we were more focused on the antiproliferative activity of the plant extract since no investigations have been carried out with this plant. We are in the process of scientific investigations on efficacy in vitro for decoctions and their components used in cancer therapy by traditional doctors for two reasons. One is to minimize the use of ineffective treatments and the second is for finding effective drug leads for cancer therapy.

No phytochemical fingerprint of the plant material is currently available. Total polyphenol content was determined in all lyophilized samples as a standardization procedure.

2- Extracts of which part of the plant is used in multi-herbal preparations?

As mentioned in the manuscript the gum of the bark, seeds, leaves are used in the treatment of cancer. The present study we wanted to investigate the leaves of the plant.
3-What type of extract (aqueous/ethanol/aq.-ethanol) is used in these multi-herbal preparations?

In the polyherbal preparations, usually aqueous extracts are used for treatment of patients. It is very common in Ayurveda and traditional systems of medicine.

4-could you please explain why you did not use a standardized extract?

The leaves were collected from the premises of the Ayurveda Research Institute as instructed by a physician and authenticated by the principle scientist at the same premises. Each lyophilized powder was evaluated for its polyphenol content as a standardization to get the results for antiproliferative activity accurate and reproducible.

5-what are the other components of the mentioned poly-herbal drug?

Included in the revised manuscript

Most of the Traditional doctors use personalized medicine which the combination is decided on the patient’s condition and the type of cancer.