Author’s response to reviews

Title: Antinociceptive activity of petroleum ether fraction obtained from methanolic extract of Clinacanthus nutans leaves involves the activation of opioid receptors and NO-mediated/cGMP-independent pathway

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RESPOND TO EDITOR’S COMMENTS

BCAM-D-18-01581R2

Antinociceptive activity of petroleum ether fraction obtained from methanolic extract of Clinacanthus nutans leaves involves the activation of opioid receptors and NO-mediated/cGMP-independent pathway

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BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Editor Comments:
1. At present, we do not feel that there is sufficient evidence presented in your Background section to justify the testing of Clinacanthus nutans Lindau leaves in an animal mode. We would therefore ask you to expand this section to include as much referenced evidence as possible to explain why you
would expect this treatment to have an effect in this model. This evidence should come from previous in vitro or animal work. Please note that we are unable to accept traditional medical use as sufficient justification for animal studies.

RESPOND:
The authors have added new information to justify the present study. Please see Page 5 (Section: Background; Line: 128-154).

2. Please clarify your euthanasia methods, including whether animals were anaesthetised and/or unconscious, injection dosages if applicable, methods used and rationale etc. Please try to be as detailed as possible.

RESPOND:
The authors have added new information regarding the euthanization method in the manuscript. Please see Page 7 (Subsection: Experimental Animals; Line 196-201).

3. Please include a conclusion heading in your manuscript.

RESPOND:
The authors have added a Conclusion heading in the manuscript. Please see Page 21 (Line 511).

4. We note you have used Harvard style referencing. The BMC Series uses Vancouver style. All references, including URLs, must be numbered consecutively, in square brackets, in the order in which they are cited in the text, followed by any in tables or legends. The reference numbers must be finalized and the reference list fully formatted before submission.

RESPOND:
The authors have revised the references in the text and in the Reference List to follow the Vancouver style adopted by the journal. Please see Pages 22-26.

5. We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

https://www.hindawi.com/journals/prm/2018/9536406/


https://www.hindawi.com/journals/ecam/2012/890361/

This overlap exists throughout your manuscript.

While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

Please be informed that we cannot proceed with handling your manuscript before this issue is resolved, and the sections of text in question have been reformulated.

RESPOND:
The authors have try their best to re-write the manuscript wherever possible to avoid textual overlap
with other previously published works as highlighted by the editor.

6. In the Funding section, please also describe the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

RESPOND:
The authors have added the role of funding as requested. Please see Page 21 (Line 549).

7. Please include a statement regarding the contributions of all authors under the “Authors’ Contribution” section of the Declarations. Please represent author’s names using their full initials, not their name. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

RESPOND:
The authors have added a statement regarding the contributions of all authors as requested by the Editor. Please see Page 22 (Line 553-561).

8. 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. Additional files should remain uploaded as separate files. Please ensure that all figures, tables and additional/supplementary files are cited within the text.

RESPOND:
The authors have prepared the manuscript as a single, final, clean version as requested by the Editor. As requested, all changes made were also not colored but can be referred to based on the text line provided.

Reviewer reports:

RESPOND:
No comment from the reviewer to respond to.