Author’s response to reviews

Title: Antimicrobial characteristics of Berberine against Prosthetic Joint Infection-related Staphylococcus aureus of Different Multi-locus Sequence Types.

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Liam Messin

Thank you very much for your edition of our manuscript BCAM-D-18-01496R3. We also are grateful for the reviewers’ detailed comments and suggestions, and we believe that their advice have greatly improved our manuscript. We have carefully considered those comments and made resubmission paper to address the reviewers’ concerns.

The following are our responses to the reviewers’ comments and original manuscript has been modified in line with some of reviewers’ advice.

Yours sincerely

Hao Shen
Editor

Question 1: We ask that you also tone down the conclusion in your abstract, both in the submission system and the manuscript file. Please only use statements which are supported by previously published (and peer-reviewed) scientific work (for instance in vitro, animal studies, clinical studies or observational studies). You are welcome to state that traditional medicine is utilised by a large number of individuals, properly referenced.

Response: We have rewrote the conclusion section with a down tongue supported by the evidence revealed in our study, and submitted it both in submission system and the manuscript file as required.

Question 2: 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.

Response: We have cleaned our manuscript and uploaded the figures in separate clean files.

Reviewer 1

Question 1: There are some minor issues that need to be solved before be accepted for publication. Some spelling errors or missing space like: "by Guo .et ", "32 μg/ml(ST1281 and ST39)", "Robert.et al tested".

Response: We have checked our manuscript and corrected the spelling errors or missing space.

Question 2: For the case of the figure 2A-B should be adjusted absorbance scale (0-0.2).

Response: We have modified figure 2A-B by adjusting the absorbance scale to 0-0.2.

Question 3: Figure 4- a heatmap representation for up-regulated and downregulated genes will be very usefully.

Response: A heat map is usually used for representing the different expression of a relatively small number of key or target genes, which was not found in our study as mentioned in former responses. We created here a heat map including all differentially expressed genes in our study,
however, the result seems not more helpful than Figure 4A-B. We would like to leave it to the respected reviewer and editor to decide whether the heat map should be used or not.