Author’s response to reviews

Title: Zhenqing Recipe attenuates non-alcoholic fatty liver disease by regulating the SIK1/CRTC2 signaling in experimental diabetic rats

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1. At present, we do not feel that there is sufficient evidence presented in your Background section to justify the testing of Zhenqing Recipe in an animal model of fatty liver disease. 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

Response: Thank you for your critical comments and we totally agree with your suggestion which might be of great help to improve the quality of our manuscript. Accordingly, we have included related references in the Background section (Page 4-5, Lines 95-101).

2. Please state in the methods section whether the specimen was released or euthanized. If euthanized, 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.

Response: Thank you for your professional suggestion. Accordingly, we have clarified specific euthanasia method in the Methods section (Page 8, Lines 175-182).

3. We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works. 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.

Response: Thank you for your careful review and valuable suggestions. According to your suggestion, we have reformulated the sections of text in question in the corresponding sections of the revised version, respectively.
4. In the interest of full transparency, please include the full, uncropped western blots in the supplementary material. Failure to do so may prevent us from moving ahead with your manuscript. Response: Thank you for your careful review and valuable suggestions. As suggested, we have included the full, uncropped western blots in the supplementary material.