Reviewers report

Title: Role of limonin in anticancer effects of Evodia rutaecarpa on ovarian cancer cells

Version: 0 Date: 16 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Haji Akber Aisa

Reviewer's report:

Subject Appropriateness of the Manuscript

The topic of this manuscript falls within the scope of BMC Complementary Medicine and Therapies

Recommendation

Consider After Minor Changes

Comments

The study by Jae Ryul Bae et al., investigated the anti-cancer effects of Evodia rutaecarpa (ER) in the ovarian cancer cell line, SKOV-3, and demonstrated that ER has anti-cancer effects as ER treatment led to a significant reduction of the viability of SKOV-3 cells. Moreover, limonin, an ER-derivative, induced apoptosis via activation of the p53 signaling pathway. The study as a whole is interesting, but the authors need to address the following questions before it has been accepted for the publication.

1. In introduction part, line 35, author mentioned that limonin is a known major constituent of limonoids groups compounds mainly found in seeds. Does any plant seed contain limonin, or the author should indicate the source of the plant.

2. In introduction part, line 43, "cancer lines" should be written as "cancer cell lines".

3. In figure 1b and 1c, the concentration of the ER treatment should be displayed as same as in figure legend (µg/mL).

4. If it's possible, insert the concentration of the ER treatment ER (100 µg/mL) in figure 1a and 1d.

5. In the first result section, author evaluated anti-cancer effects of ER extract in SKOV-3 cells. It would be better if the author briefly described the preparation method of the ER extract.
6. In the conclusion, author mentioned limonin contributes to the anti-cancer effect of ER via activation of p53. In this case, author should explain how much limonin dose the extract contains. It could be done by quantification of limonin in ER extract.

7. The manuscript needs careful editing by someone with expertise in technical English paying particular attention to the choice of words, English grammar, spelling and sentence structure so that the goals and results of the study are clear to the reader.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests**
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