Author’s response to reviews

Title: Protective effect of ethyl acetate fraction from Semen sojae germinatum, the processed sprout of Chinese black soybean, on rat experimental osteoarthritis

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor:

We have revised the manuscript (BCAM-D-19-00114) according to your suggestions and comments from reviewers. Please see the responses under following. We hope that the manuscript can fit the quality of the journal this time. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Yours sincerely,

Bingshu HE

• Anesthesia and euthanasia
Thank you for indicating "At 24 h after the last administration, all rats were sacrificed using anesthesia with 2% pentobarbital sodium at the dose of 60 mg/kg”
However, please clearly state in the Methods section all of the euthanasia methods used in this study and any concentrations and doses, if applicable.
Thank you very much for your review and pertinent suggestions. We state in the Methods section as follow: In all experiments, the rats were euthanized by cervical dislocation under intraperitoneal anesthesia using 2% pentobarbital sodium at the dose of 60 mg/kg.
• Plant identification
Please indicate the source of the SSG used in this study. Please provide details in your Methods section on who undertook the formal identification of the plant material used in your study. Please also confirm whether a voucher specimen of this material has been deposited in a publicly available herbarium, and include this information in your manuscript. A deposition number should be included, if available.

According to your kindly reminder, we have added the statement of Plant identification as “Dried SSG were purchased in May 2017 at the Beijing Tongxintang Co., Ltd. China. The material was identified by Dr. Song Liu who is an expert in the area of pharmacognosy. A voucher specimen was deposited at the herbarium of Department of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, Wuhan University of Science and Technology under number 77910.”

• Sample collection
Please indicate where the plants used in this study were obtained from. Collection of plant material must comply with institutional, national, or international guidelines. If your plant material was cultivated or wild, please include a statement indicating these guidelines were followed. Please also indicate if any permissions or licenses were obtained, if applicable.

Thank you very much for your review and pertinent suggestions. According to your kindly reminder, we have mentioned that “Dried SSG were purchased at the Beijing Tongxintang Co., Ltd. China.” In China, the dried SSG can be directly purchased as a Chinese herbal medicine.

• Clean manuscript
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. Figures and additional files should remain uploaded as separate files.

Thank you very much for your review and pertinent suggestions. We have checked and uploaded the manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours.