Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 1 Date: 10 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Francisco Oliveira

Reviewer's report:

The article by Jun Wang et al. ("Protective effect of ethyl acetate fraction from Semen sojae germinatum, the processed sprout of Chinese black soybean, on rat experimental osteoarthritis") is well written, methodology is relevant and it is a good contribution to the knowledge of the anti-inflammatory activities of SSG on model of rheumatoid arthritis.

The manuscript, however, has some issues that need to be addressed by the authors:

Background Section
1) The authors must include the botanical family of the plant species mentioned (Line 50).

Methods - Animals and groups Sections
1) According to the methodology, female rats were used in the study. So, did you have a control of the estrous cycle of the female rats? Is it possible that the estrous cycle of rats can affect the anti-inflammatory response? (Line 21).

Discussion Section
1) According to previous studies, daidzin and genistein (isoflavone compounds) are present in SSG (Bangladesh J Pharmacol 2013; 8: 365-370). However, the authors refer only to genistein as the probable substance responsible for the anti-inflammatory action observed in SSG (line 09).

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.

Yes
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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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