Author’s response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of peptide-rich root extracts of Calliandria portoriscensis (Jacq.) Benth (Mimosaceae) for in vitro antimicrobial activity and brine shrimp lethality

Authors:

Omonike Ogbole (nikeoa@yahoo.com)
Nkiruka Ndabai (sharedafun2000@gmail.com)
Toluwanimi Akinleye (toluwanimiemmanuel@rocketmail.com)
Alfred Attah (alfattah2000ng@gmail.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Please find below our responses to the reviewers comment

General comments:

Query: Please remove the capital letter from Solvent (page 5 line 16) and Strain (page 6, line 14).
Response: solvent and strain has been put in lowercase.

Query: Please change "hours" to "h" (page 7, line 16) and "mins" to "min" (page 7, line 18).
Response: It has been effected

Query: Please change "the crude methanol crude" to "crude methanol extract" (page 8, line 14).
Response: It has been changed to “crude methanol extract”

Query: Please add µg/mL after 0.33 (page 8, line 13) and 0.00 (page 8, line 14).
Response: The unit µg/mL has been added
Query: Please change "class" to "classes" (page 9, line 26).
Response: it has been effected

Query: Please change "for the isolation" to "for studying" (page 10, line 6).
Response: It has been changed to “for studying”

Query: Please remove "they" (page 10, line 8).
Response: “they” has been removed. The sentence now reads “should there be discrimination between normal cells and cancer cells”

Query: Finally, authors should add the definition of IC50 (page 8, Antimicrobial activity).
Response: The definition of IC50 has been added.

Cristiane Y. Koga-Ito, Ph.D. (Reviewer 3): The study is very interesting and well conducted. Overall, the manuscript is almost ready for publication. One point should be still addressed by the authors:

Query: In Material and Methods, authors cite that "Data's were analysed using one-way analysis of variance test, where applicable at p &lt; 0.05.". However, no reports on statistical analysis can be found in Results section. Please, detail what data were compared by One way ANOVA and what was the post hoc test used (if used). Include the results of the statistical analyses (p values) in Results section.

Response: ANOVA was not used for the statistical analysis instead, regression analysis (non-linear regression curve) was performed to obtain IC50 values. We sincerely apologise for the mix-up. The correction has been effected in the manuscript.

John Awungnjia Asong, M.Sc (Reviewer 2):
Background

Query: Line 4: I suggest "is increasing largely"

Response: Suggestion "is increasing largely" is utilized in the sentence.
Query: I suggest you motivate why you choose the roots. Line 9 page 4 could read; “In Nigeria, the roots are traditionally important”

Response: Statement is modified as suggested: “In Nigeria, the roots are traditionally important as…”

Methods

Query: Line 5: I suggest "flora diversity" instead of biodiversity which is a broader term.

Response: it has been changed to “flora diversity”

Query: Line 25 page 4: I suggest a full stop after vortex. The upper layer was decanted…… Replace 'removed out' with 'decanted'

Response: The statement is modified as: “Distilled water was added to the extraction system and vortexed. The upper aqueous layer was decanted and concentrated using the rotary evaporator…”

Query: Line 1 page 5: I suggest you replace "each of the elates" with "each eluate"

Response: “Each of the eluates” is replaced with “each eluate”

Query: Line 18 & 19 page 5. Is it 0.5 uL or 0.5 µL, 3 u or 3 µL

Response: The correct symbol “µL” is inserted

Query: Line 19 page 5: “as described above”

Response: The conjunction “as” is added

Query: Line 3 page 7: Please include a reference for the method

Response: It has been included

Query: Line 6 page 7: I suggest it should read “and serially diluted two-fold down to 12.5 µL”
Response: Statement is modified to read “and serially diluted two-fold down to 12.5 µL”, and the statement “further dilutions were serially performed in two-fold to reach concentrations ranging from 200 to 12.5 µg/mL” is deleted.

Query: Line 11 page 7: delete growth and replace 'a' with 'each'
Response: The word “growth” is deleted and “a” replaced with “each”

Query: Line 15 page 7: Put a full stop after 30mins. Rephrase the next sentence to read:" Wells with colour change from yellow to pinkish red indicated bacterial or microbial growth"
Response: The two sentences now reads: “The plates were again incubated at 36ºC for 30 mins. Wells with colour change from yellow to pinkish red indicated bacterial or microbial growth”

Discussions

Query: Line 19 page 9: The sentence should read…… “methanol was replaced by ethanol and phosphoric acid was added to the reaction mixture”…..
Response: The sentence now reads… “methanol was replaced by ethanol and phosphoric acid was added to the reaction mixture”.

References

1) Query: Some references have issue numbers while others don’t have. I suggest the authors make a decision either to use issue number or not. For example, ref 1 has issue number while 4, 5, 17. Ref 20, 21, 22, 23,24, have an issue number but not in bracket
Response: All issue numbers have been included for all references and put in bracket

2) Query: Some journals are abbreviated while others are written in full. Can the authors correct this? For example, ref 6 is in full but ref 7 is acronym. Check through the reference list
Response: All journals have been written in full.

3) Query: The authors have used ‘et al’ in some references and not in others. Please correct this. For example, in refs 35 and 40
Response: All references authors are now written in full.
General comment.

Query: The article is well conceptualized with novel approach. I suggest that in future, at least two or three microbes of both G-negative and G-positive bacteria should be considered.

Response: Well taken.