Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Effect of Total Anthocyanin-base Standardized (Cornus mas L.) Fruit Extract on Liver Function, Tumor Necrosis Factor α, Malondealdehyde, and Adiponectin in Patients with Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver: A study protocol for a double-blind randomized clinical trial.

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Sharon Kirkpatrick

We appreciate your kind letter, where you informed us of your decision about the manuscript NUTJ-D-19-00006R1, entitled "The Effect of Total Anthocyanin-base Standardized (Cornus mas L.) Fruit Extract on Liver Function, Tumor Necrosis Factor α, Malondealdehyde, and Adiponectin in Patients with Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver: A study protocol for a double-blind randomized clinical trial". First of all, we would like to thank the reviewers and the associate editor for their great comments that improved the quality of our paper. The manuscript was revised according to the reviewers’ comments. The point-by-point responses to the reviewers’ comments are provided below. Revised texts are also highlighted in yellow.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,
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Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: The revisions implemented in this manuscript provide a much clearer overview of your planned RCT. I wish you every success in the implementation of this protocol and look forward to reading your findings in due course.

Of very minor note, there seems to be some repetition in lines 190-196; In essence, the target daily dose of 320mg/d of anthocyanin will be administered for 12 weeks; with the required daily intake (in g/d) adjusted in accordance with the concentration of anthocyanin measured in distinct intervals during the trial.

Author: Thank you for your suggestion. It was revised according to your suggestion in the method section (Page: 9; Lines: 190-195).
The target daily dose of 320 mg.d-1 of total anthocyanin will be administered for 12 weeks (42); with the required daily intake of extract adjusted in accordance with the total anthocyanin content measured in the extract. Moreover, the total anthocyanin content in the extract will be measured in distinct intervals during the trial (on days 1, 6, 12, 20, and after 6 months). If it is required, we will adjust the amount of consumed extract based on its total anthocyanin content.

Do you envisage adjusting the daily g/d requirement if the ACN concentration changes during the study (when you measure the content at 'distinct intervals during the trial')?

Author: Thank you for your attention. Since the target daily dose of 320 mg/d of the total anthocyanin will be administered, the daily amount of the consumed extract will be determined according to the total anthocyanin content of the extract. Furthermore, we will measure the total anthocyanin content in the extract in distinct intervals during the trial (on days 1, 6, 12, 20, and after 6 months). If it is required, we will adjust the amount of consumed extract based on its total anthocyanin content.