Author’s response to reviews

Title: A protocol for systematic review of the effectiveness of Plantago major in accelerating wound-healing in animal models

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A protocol for systematic review of the effectiveness of Plantago major in accelerating wound-healing in animal models

Dear Janet Curran,

Assistant Editor – Systematic Reviews

We are resubmitting the revised two-step process of our manuscript entitled A protocol for systematic review of the effectiveness of Plantago major in accelerating wound-healing in animal models. The reviewer’s comments were very helpful, and the manuscript was modified to deal with their concerns and specific questions. Specific responses to the reviewer’s comments are presented below.
Reviewer #1

I have a few comments to author(s) that can help to improve their manuscript:

a. Please, use MeSH terms. Plantago Major it's not a MeSH term, and 'wounds injuries' either.

b. The background needs a little more development. Is there any study that deals with the effect of P Major on the wounds? You can use it.

c. Why will you use spanish and portuguese terms in BVS database if you only will select english studies?

- we change the words Plantago Major and 'wounds injuries' by MeSH terms. page 4
- we added news sentence in the background, like following below:

Background

Because of their therapeutic effects, medicinal plants are used worldwide to treat many diseases. They are rich sources of phytochemicals with potential therapeutic effect in treatments using direct application of raw material. Moreover, they also play a role for the development of new medicinal drugs. Plantago major L. is one of the most abundant and widely distributed medicinal plant in the world. It is a perennial plant species that belongs to the genus Plantago and the family Plantaginaceae [1]. P. major leaves and seeds are reported to have analgesic, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, immunomodulatory, antifungal, anticancer, and wound healing [2–4]. Medicinal benefits of P. major may be related to various bioactive compounds, such as flavonoids, alkaloids, terpenoids, phenolic compounds, iridoid glycosides, fatty acids, polysaccharides, and vitamins [2,5]. Recent studies have shown successful treatment of cutaneous wounds with certain plant species or natural substances isolated from plants [6–8]. P. major has been described to be effective for tissue repair and skin wound healing, but the extent of its effectiveness has not been evaluated.

First reports related to therapeutic uses of this plant species date from the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries [9, 10]. Nowadays, several researches using in vivo, in vitro and ex-vivo techniques have demonstrated potential healing activity of ethanol- and water-based extracts from P. major leaves and seeds [11-14]. To date, a systematic review on therapeutic effectiveness of this plant species on skin wound healing was not identified in the literature. Therefore, the findings of this proposed systematic review will significantly contribute to the current knowledge of the mechanism of action of P. major in the process of cutaneous wound healing.
According to the literature, P. major has various medicinal applications without any serious adverse effects. Besides, this plant species is widely distributed in many countries (11-14). These evidences encourage further search on the effectiveness of P. major on healing processes, as well as transfer of knowledge from research to clinical practice. Thus, the objective of this systematic review is to identify, select and evaluate high-quality published research on the effectiveness of P. major in the healing process of cutaneous wounds. pages 4-5

c. We deleted the Spanish and Portuguese terms in BVS database, thank you.

Reviewer #2

Thank you for the efforts to put to developing this protocol. Here are some of my recommendations.

1. Please, read through your article carefully for grammatical errors. I understand you are not Native English speakers, but there are several ways you can get this done.

2. Related to the above, your sentences are too long and need to be broken into 2 or 3 to make clearer.

   1. The final version was revised by a professional in English. All modifications in the manuscript are highlighted in yellow. pages 3-9

   2. We rewrite the sentences. Thank you.

Editor

About your suggestions about your suggestions along with the pdf file, we attend all.

We insert table 1 - page 7

All modifications in the manuscript are highlighted in yellow.

We are at your disposal for any further information and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

We thank you for this valuable evaluation.

Cordially,

The authors.