

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Hepatology*

Manuscript NO: 86588

Title: Progress on traditional Chinese medicine in improving hepatic fibrosis through inhibiting oxidative stress

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 06312955

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Research Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-06-26

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-06-27 00:44

Reviewer performed review: 2023-07-03 12:07

Review time: 6 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors have provided a comprehensive review in the manuscript titled "Progress on Traditional Chinese Medicine in Improving Hepatic Fibrosis through Mediating Oxidative Stress." They explore the potential role of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) monomers, single herbal extracts, and TCM formulas in treating and/or preventing hepatic fibrosis by targeting oxidative stress. In general, this review is well-structured and well-written, exploring existing knowledge about the anti-fibrotic effects of TCM. However, there are areas that could be improved to enhance the quality of the manuscript and better serve the audience. The title should be rephrased. In the context of hepatic fibrosis, any substance/treatment that mediates oxidative stress will worsen the disease condition. So, instead of using the word "mediating", authors should consider alternative words like "inhibiting", "controlling" or "alleviating", etc. The same comment applies to the last sentence of the abstract ".....TCM formulas in preventing and treating hepatic fibrosis by mediating oxidative stress in recent years,".

It would be beneficial to the audience if authors provide a brief description for all figures to outline the schematic diagram. For instance, figure 1: an arrow towards

activated HSC from extracellular matrix indicates autosecretion. Autosecretion of what? It will be better to mention that activated HSC autosecretes ECM components in the figure description. In figure 2, the word “antioxygen” should be replaced by “antioxidants”. In figure2, “accumulation of genes” as internal factors to trigger OS is not clear. Moreover, how the liver injury causes accumulation of genes, protein and lipids? Is there any rationale behind this hypothesis? Or any references show injury mediated accumulation of macromolecules within the liver cells? Accumulation or damage? Subtopic 4. Traditional Chines Medicine Understanding of Hepatic Fibrosis should be rephrased like “Understanding Hepatic Fibrosis from the Perspective of Traditional Chinese Medicine”. Various cell types of the liver such as HSC, neutrophils, and macrophages (Kupffer cells) are mentioned in the figures. However, the hepatocytes are the major cell type of the liver (around 80%) which also plays an important role in hepatic fibrosis through intracellular communications, is not mentioned elsewhere in the manuscript. Are there any known cases of adverse reactions to the TCM in human subjects? It would be informative if authors add a brief paragraph about the potential adverse effects or precautions to be considered while taking TCM. Overall, this review provides valuable insights into the potential use of TCM to prevent/treat hepatic fibrosis. By incorporating the listed suggestions, the manuscript can be enhanced to make it even more accessible and deliver valuable information to a wider readership.

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Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 00607640

Position: Editor-in-Chief

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-06-26

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-08-08 22:56

Reviewer performed review: 2023-08-15 02:16

Review time: 6 Days and 3 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
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Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this paper, the authors reviewed the effect of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) monomers, single herbal extracts and TCM formulas in preventing and treating hepatic fibrosis. The paper is interesting. However, two minor concerns are for your consideration. 1. Section 4: ...The Ling Shu section of the Huangdi Neijing states:..... , are diagnosed with drum distention.” Proper literature citation is encouraged to be added. 2. Figure legends. except the title, description to help a figure stand alone is encouraged to be added.