

Dear editor,

We have substantially revised our manuscript after reading the comments provided by the reviewers and editor. Answers to reviewers and editor are as follows.

1. It might be easier to understand if the animals would be divided into 5 groups, instead of 2 groups with the second group further divided into 4 groups.

Answer: The relevant narrative has been modified: SD rats were randomly divided into control, model, grain-sized moxibustion at single acupoint (CV 12), grain-sized moxibustion at two acupoints (CV 12 and CV 4), grain-sized moxibustion at three acupoints (CV 12, CV 4 and ST 36) and medication groups ($n=8/\text{group}$).

2. The concept of moxibustion needs to be fully explain in Introduction.

Answer: The concept of moxibustion was added in Introduction: Moxibustion is a therapy which treats and prevents diseases by moxa floss. The combustion of the moxa floss permits transmission of heat to the acupoints or other parts of the body that have various pathological change. It is an external therapy to treat or prevent diseases and promote health of the body.

3. Title should be no more than 10~12 words.

Answer: Title has been revised into 12 words.

4. All figures, tables and legends should not be in the main text. They should be put at the end of this paper.

Answer: All figures, table and legends were moved to the end of this paper.

Thank you very much.