

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39546

Title: Total flavone from Abelmoschus manihot suppresses epithelial-mesenchymal transition by intervening with TGF- β signaling in Crohn's disease-associated intestinal fibrosis

Reviewer's code: 01850720

Reviewer's country: Ireland

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-10

Date reviewed: 2018-05-25

Review time: 15 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Some minor changes would improve the manuscript: Intro: the authors should include the reference for their previous study TFA and intestinal inflammation The authors



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should explain the rationale for using rat intestinal epithelial cells instead of human intestinal epithelial cells. The authors should provide more information on the purity of the TFA preparation. The authors should provide more information on the siRNA molecules used (e.g. Dharmacon assay ids) and the antibodies used (monoclonal/polyclonal, species generated etc)

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
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- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39546

Title: Total flavone from *Abelmoschus manihot* suppresses epithelial-mesenchymal transition by intervening with TGF- β signaling in Crohn's disease-associated intestinal fibrosis

Reviewer's code: 00050232

Reviewer's country: Brazil

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-16

Date reviewed: 2018-05-29

Review time: 13 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study was based on a publication mentioned in the introduction and in the discussion, without a bibliographic reference. This reference is essential for the

evaluation and judgment of this publication.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

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BPG Search:

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- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism
- ☐ No

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39546

Title: Total flavone from Abelmoschus manihot suppresses epithelial-mesenchymal transition by intervening with TGF- β signaling in Crohn's disease-associated intestinal fibrosis

Reviewer's code: 03442128

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-25

Date reviewed: 2018-05-29

Review time: 4 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer's expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Overall a well written study investigating not only the potential mechanisms behind the development of fibrosis in CD, but how steps in this fibrosis pathway (in the



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experimental rat intestinal epithelial cell line) may be potentially modified. While the article itself will be of greatest interest to those with a background in basic laboratory research, the topic and well organized presentation is accessible enough for the more “clinically” oriented reader. Minor comments: Title: Rather than saying “intervening with TGF-β...” should read “interfering with TGF-β ...” or “modifying TGF-β signaling...” Abstract: The abstract does not address any of the study “methods”. Some mention should be added Introduction: In the first paragraph would consider adding a reference or two when addressing surgical rates and CD. While the rates may be decreasing, other population studies have shown higher percentages than the single reference cited. Paragraph beginning line 57. Would add a sentence or two referencing the background/traditional uses of *Abelmoschus manihot*. Why, how did it become a candidate for investigation? Results: Section 3.1, sentence beginning line 171 appears to belong in the methods section rather than the results section Section 3.4 Line 208 “The activation of phosphorylated...” belongs in the introduction or discussion section. It is not a result. Section 3.5 Line 225 “In addition to the Smad2/3 signaling...” Also belongs in the introduction. It is not a result. Section 3.5 Line 227 “To explore the involvement...” Belongs in the methods section Discussion: The entire first paragraph really belongs in the Introduction, or should follow the second paragraph which begins on line 263

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