

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 48308

Title: STW 5 is effective against nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs induced gastro-duodenal lesions in rats

Reviewer's code: 03700068

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 12:16

Reviewer performed review: 2019-05-28 14:52

Review time: 2 Hours

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 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 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

The author present "Mechanistic study on the efficacy of the herbal preparation, STW 5, against gastro-duodenal lesions induced by NSAIDs" in the current study 1. Can you add more index about the bax, bcl-2 and the TUNNEL staining? Because the histological



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damage always involve the necrosis and apoptosis 2. Author use ELISA in the current study, Can you also compare the four groups by RT-PCR or maybe western blotting (using the IL-10, HO-1, IL-1 β , TNF- α)? 3. Can you show the morphology of the specimen?

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

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

BPG Search:

- ☐ The same title
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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 48308

Title: STW 5 is effective against nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs induced gastro-duodenal lesions in rats

Reviewer's code: 02520738

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 19:31

Reviewer performed review: 2019-05-29 21:12

Review time: 1 Day and 1 Hour

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

To: Editorial Board World Journal of Gastroenterology Title: "Mechanistic study on the efficacy of the herbal preparation, STW 5, against gastro-duodenal lesions induced by NSAIDs" Dear Editor, I read this manuscript and I think that: - The results section



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of the abstract should be updated by including more numerical data. Please update. -
Please revise the English of the text due to some typos. - The authors should specify the
diet of the rats. - The role of nutraceuticals on health conditions should be better
discussed. Please consider and discuss the paper from Scicchitano P et al. Journal of
Functional Foods 2014;6:11-32.

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BPG Search:

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 48308

Title: STW 5 is effective against nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs induced gastro-duodenal lesions in rats

Reviewer's code: 02441305

Reviewer's country: China

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 11:42

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-10 13:39

Review time: 13 Days and 1 Hour

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 type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The present study shows that STW 5 has a protective effect against the histological changes and the changes in biochemical parameters induced by diclofenac in rats. The experiment design, results and discussion are all sound.



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 48308

Title: STW 5 is effective against nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs induced gastro-duodenal lesions in rats

Reviewer's code: 02534486

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Jia-Ping Yan

Reviewer accepted review: 2019-05-28 13:41

Reviewer performed review: 2019-06-10 13:46

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
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			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript the Authors compared the protective efficacy of the herbal preparation STW 5 and omeprazole against diclofenac-induced gastro-duodenal lesions in rats. They show that both STW5 and omeprazole are able to prevent

diclofenac-induced changes in the levels of inflammatory mediators, specifically tumor necrosis factor α , IL-1 β and IL-10, and of the oxidative stress enzyme HO-1, as well as the diclofenac-induced histological damage. Moreover, they provide evidence supporting that the herbal preparation STW 5 could be more effective in protecting against histological damage, particularly in the duodenum. Based on these results They conclude sustaining the therapeutic utility of STW 5 as adjuvant therapy to long-term use of NSAIDs, for protecting patients from the possible occurrence of gastro-duodenal lesions. This is an interesting work that provide further evidences supporting the validity of STW 5 in preventing NSAIDs-induced damage of gastro-intestinal tract, reducing the risk of this side effect in NSAIDs long-term treated patients, also in light of the reported good tolerability of this herbal preparation(Ref 35). In this work the experiments are well designed, the methodology used are appropriated, and the data obtained sustain the Authors conclusion. However, there are some minor points that must be addressed before acceptance for publication I listed these points following: 1. Even if the language is in principle correct, in some points the English is not fluent with some inaccuracies and should be carefully revised. Just some example: - Pg. 3 lane 1: "...irritable bowel syndrome is STW 5, has a favorable safety...", should be: "...irritable bowel syndrome is STW 5, that has a favorable safety..." - Pg. 5 lanes 8-9 : "...inflammatory cell infiltration in the mucosa and sub-mucosa, respectively.": Respectively is not correct (is redundant); delete it - Pg. 5, the last lane : "...stomach and duodenum as compared to normal controls": "...as compared to untreated control" should be better. - Pg. 9 lanes 7-8: "...Omeprazole was effective in preventing the changes in both tissues, whereas STW 5, however , was effective...." "However" is redundant. - Pg. 10, the last two lanes: "...in Fig.7, where STW 5 is clearly seen to supersede omeprazole in overcoming the damage induced by diclofenac...." In this phrase the English is not fluent... for suggestion, it could be replace by: ...in Fig.7, where

it appears evident that STW 5 is more efficient than omeprazole in preventing the damage....." - Pg.14 lane 12: "...NF- κ B, thereby helping to up-regulate....": "...NF- κ B, thereby contributing to up-regulate..." should be better. 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS: The description of MM is in some points defective: - Paragraph "Experimental design": for the treatments with diclofenac, omeprazole and STW, the modality of administration should be specified; - the authors should specify on which kind of sample (tissue lysates,.. I suppose) the ELISA assays were performed , and should describe as they were obtained (for example: „tissue lysates were obtained by....") 3. RESULTS: In the legends to Figs.1-4, which is the meaning of " n= 7 – 10 rats"? Is the meaning "7 of 10 rats"? I think that "n=7" it's enough 4. RESULTS: In Figs. 5 and 6 the use of "short arrows" and "long arrows" could generate confusion... the use of two different kind of arrows (or different colors) should be better and less confusing for the reader. Upon the revision of the above listed points, the manuscript will be acceptable for publication

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[Y] No