

October 22, 2012

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: WJG_507_revised.doc).

Title: A silybin-phospholipids complex counteracts rat fatty liver degeneration and mitochondrial oxidative changes

Author: Ignazio Grattagliano, Catia V Diogo, Maria Mastrodonato, Ornella De Bari, Michele Persichella, David QH Wang, Adriana Liquori, Domenico Ferri, Maria Rosaria Carratù, Paulo Oliveira, Piero Portincasa

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 507

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 The manuscript has been carefully reviewed by a native-English expert and many points have been revised.

3 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

In this manuscript, the authors described that the administration of Realsil reduced liver injury in two steatosis rat models. Decreased ROS and NO species were also detected in Realsil treated groups. However, the underlined molecular mechanisms remain unknown. Therefore, this is essentially a descriptive study with very limited insight into the understanding of the beneficial effects produced by Realsil in liver steatosis. Additional concerns are the following:

1. In the Materials and Methods section, why Realsil used for CD diet and HFD rats consisted different amounts of silybin?

This discrepancy has been corrected.

2. There was an inconsistency regarding the duration for which one group of HFD rats was treated. In the method section, it was 28 days. But in many figures and tables, it appeared as 30 days.

The inconsistency regarding the duration of experiments has been uniformed between text and tables and figures.

3. Page 7 line 2, "protein (30mg) were separated by ..." the "30mg" must be "30ug".

This point has been corrected.

4. The description of some results was not clear. For example, in page 8, the 3rd paragraph, "GPx activity was initially ..."

This sentence has been rephrased.

5. In page 9, the 1st paragraph, the description of the results differed from what was shown in the figure regarding "days."

This inconsistency has been corrected.

6. What is the purpose of the 2nd paragraph in page 9, since all the results have been elucidated in previous paragraphs?

We agree with this comment and part of the paragraph has been deleted.

7. The Discussion is excessively general as well as lengthy. It would be much appreciated if it is more

closely related to current findings.

Discussion is now more concise and better focused on the current findings

.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Piero Portincasa', is enclosed within a light gray rectangular box.

Piero PORTINCASA, MD, PhD

Section of Internal Medicine
Department of Interdisciplinary Medicine
University of Bari
Piazza G. Cesare, 11, 70124 Bari, Italy.
p.portincasa@semeiotica.uniba.it