

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 51410

**Title:** Irisin attenuates intestinal injury, oxidative and ER stress in mice with L-arginine - induced acute pancreatitis

**Reviewer's code:** 00505440

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MBBS, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Doctor, Senior Lecturer

**Reviewer's country:** Australia

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Artificial Intelligence Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-09-17 08:43

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-09-18 06:40

**Review time:** 21 Hours

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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



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This is a nice study and well written manuscript

#### **INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

##### ***Google Search:***

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

##### ***BPG Search:***

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

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**Manuscript NO:** 51410

**Title:** Irisin attenuates intestinal injury, oxidative and ER stress in mice with L-arginine - induced acute pancreatitis

**Reviewer's code:** 03735398

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Research Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's country:** Poland

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Artificial Intelligence Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-09-18 20:54

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-10-01 08:15

**Review time:** 12 Days and 11 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
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input 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

The manuscript no 51410 is focused on the possible effects of irisin administration on intestinal injury in experimental model of acute pancreatitis. The MS is appropriately written and well-organized. The data is presented clearly. However, there are some critical comments related to the description of methodology. Also, I would like to recommend to revise the manuscript (at least the discussion) following comments pointed-out below. However, there are few major and minor points below: - please, provide the appropriate reference (in „Materials and Methods” section) to the experimental model implemented in this study - please, provide the information about the total number of mice included in the study and within each experimental group - I would recommend to include details regarding „scoring criteria” to „Materials and Methods” section (histological evaluation) - please, provide the information about the ALL chemicals and drugs used in the study - what was the post-hoc test used for statistical analysis? - what was the dilution of each antibody used in the study? - Few studies were published recently showing that the beneficial or harmful effect of exercise (possibly followed by the moderate or intensive increase in irisin release) within gastrointestinal tract also associated with ROS generation depends on its intensity (e.g. doi: 10.3390/nu11051127; doi: 10.1371/journal.pbio.2006159; doi: 10.26402/jpp.2018.1.13.; doi: 10.1093/ecco-jcc/jjy026). Therefore, it would be interesting to consider by Authors to test the effect of even higher dose of irisin in the experimental model included in this manuscript or at least to discuss the possible limitation of the study.

## INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

### *Google Search:*

- ☐ The same title
- ☐ Duplicate publication
- ☐ Plagiarism



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[ Y ] No

***BPG Search:***

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[Y ] No

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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**Title:** Irisin attenuates intestinal injury, oxidative and ER stress in mice with L-arginine - induced acute pancreatitis

**Reviewer's code:** 00073640

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Research Scientist

**Reviewer's country:** Slovenia

**Author's country:** China

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Zhou Tang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2019-10-11 15:25

**Reviewer performed review:** 2019-10-22 14:07

**Review time:** 10 Days and 22 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:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript evaluated effect of irisin on intestinal mucosa of mice. The aim was to evaluate oxidative and endoplasmic reticulum stress. However, since oxidative status of an organism is significantly affected by numerous factors, and authors did not provide much information about it, there is serious doubt about the validity of the study and results. My major comments are as follows. Authors wrote: »ARRIVE guidelines statement: All of our experiments follow ARRIVE guidelines.« – From that statement it is clear that authors do not know what ARRIVE guidelines are. ARRIVE guidelines are instructions which information should be stated in the manuscript when experiment is performed on animals. Authors did not provided necessary information about animal experiment and therefore it is not possible to evaluate the quaility and validity of the results. Authors wrote: »All experimental procedures were consistent with international guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals...«. Which international guidelines? There are many guidelines but international? Authors wrote: »all animals were housed for one week under standard conditions...« What are standard conditions?!!!! Standard conditions does not exist therefore ARRIVE guidelines were published to help authors what information they should provide when animals are used. I strongly suggest that authors read and follow ARRIVE guidelines and provide the necessary data in their manuscript. Important data about experimental design that should be stated in the manuscript are: - Authors stated that animal fasted for 12 hours before experiment – WHY? were animals in metabolic cages i.e. without bedding, enrichment etc.. - How many animals were in one cage (singly housed or in groups – how many animals per cage?), bedding material, diet (type and manufacturer), water (tap, autoclaved, sterilized, acidified...) - Microbiological state – health monitoring report – microbiological state can significantly affect results Housing conditions (temperature, humidity etc), light/dark period etc. All above mentioned factors (which are also stated in ARRIVE guidelines) are very important factors that significantly affect oxidative enzymes and consequently

validity of the results. In addition, the protocol is very poorly explained: - It is not clear why animals received »2 hourly intraperitoneal injections of L-arginine (4.0 g/kg L-arginine, A5006, Sigma-Aldrich, Shanghai, China).« Authors did not provide the volume injected and the reason why such protocol was used. - It is not clear why only one application of irisin was used, and why the dose was used. Again, authors did not provide the injected volume. - It is not clear why authors killed mice 69 hours after irisin treatment and why not 7 or 14 day or 30 day after (time that is recommended to get valid results). Histologic evaluation section: authors wrote: »Three sections were randomly selected for each group, two fields were randomly photographed for each section...«. 6 mice per group were used, sacrificed and then only 3 sections for each group were used? This is not ethical!!! Authors should macroscopically and histologically evaluate all animals used in experiment according to good laboratory standard procedures. Statistics section. Authors wrote: »One-way ANOVA was used to analyze the differences between groups ». Since the authors have 4 groups, MANOVA with post hoc test should be used and because of small samples mean  $\pm$  SEM (and not standard deviation) should be used. There is serious doubt regarding the protocol and ethical justification of animal use. - Mice received intraperitoneal injection every 2 hours in 72 hours, which is 36 intraperitoneal injections in 3 days. Why they did not use minipumps instead 36 intraperitoneal injections in 3 days!!! This is very painful and stressful for the animals (mice need time to rest-day and time to activity-night – so if they were disturbed every two hours at night the mice did not have dark period, which affects the melatonin production and oxidative stress etc) and therefore the results are questionable, specially because the authors investigated oxidative stress – such protocol is not appropriate and significantly affects not only animal welfare but most importantly the results.



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