

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 65847

**Title:** Evaluation of Botanicals as Potential COVID-19 Symptoms Terminator

**Reviewer's code:** 02979981

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Turkey

**Manuscript submission date:** 2021-03-16

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-03-19 12:42

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-03-26 06:15

**Review time:** 6 Days and 17 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

General comments: The topic is significant and relevant to Journal of World Journal of Gastroenterology. The article is presented in an intelligible fashion and is written in standard English. As such, the matter is of interest, however, the paper needs significant improvement. Hence, I recommend "Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions". Specific comments:

In Abstract: 1. "Botanicals are rich sources of metabolites, which are valuable compounds for therapeutic purposes." What do you mean? What metabolites are included? In Introduction 1. Please indicate the full name on the first occurrence of the abbreviation. 2. Authors should clarify the importance of the problem addressed. For example, COVID-19 epidemiology, medical cost for COVID-19 and mortality rate of COVID-19. 3. "The significance of ACE2, which is found in intestinal tissues, especially for amino acid uptake from foods, has been emphasized and it has been suggested that the intestine may be an important entry site for SARS-CoV-2[1,3]." "Clinical human studies showing the effect of plants on respiratory infections are also presented as a table." Authors should define the problem addressed. For example, authors focused on the effect of the herbals on which system, the digestive system or the respiratory system? 4. A strong justification is needed to conduct such a study in Introduction. At the present the justification provided is not sufficient. For example, why study the therapeutic effects of herbals on COVID-19 instead of other drugs or treatments? 5.

The authors should add any relevant controversies or disagreements in the field to understand the purpose and significance of the study. In Antiviral Effects of Herbal Therapies 6. Table 1: Please note what A and B mean under the table. For example, Influenza A-H9N2, Influenza A and B. In Effects of herbal treatments on COVID-19 symptoms 7. "Although, the current medical synthetic drugs focused on mainly respiratory symptoms, herbal therapy can be used to relieve overall symptoms of



**Baishideng  
Publishing  
Group**

7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** [bpgoffice@wjgnet.com](mailto:bpgoffice@wjgnet.com)  
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

COVID-19 with their bioactive ingredients.” Please provide reference. In Conclusion 8.

What were the differences between the results of this study and those articles conducted before? More challenge is needed. 9. The Limitations section (the weaknesses and strengths section) should be needed provided. 10. It is not clear that authors focus more on the antiviral effect of herbal treatments on the respiratory system or the gastrointestinal system.