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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery

Manuscript NO: 90372

Title: Kuicolong-yu enema decoction retains traditional Chinese medicine enema attenuates inflammatory response ulcerative colitis through TLR4/NF- κ B signaling pathway

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 07915400

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Researcher

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Belgium

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2024-01-12

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2024-01-16 09:33

Reviewer performed review: 2024-01-29 08:40



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Review time: 12 Days and 23 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous



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Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study is designed to explore the mechanism by which Kuicolong-yu enema decoction retains TCM enemas to attenuate the inflammatory response in ulcer colitis. The study is well designed. The authors described the methods in detail, and the criteria is clear. Total of 120 patients were included in this study. The results are interesting and well discussed. Minor comments: (1) A minor language polishing should be revised. (2) Please list the p value in the abstract. (3) Please discuss the limit of the study.

(1) A minor language polishing should be revised.

Response: We have polished our article.

(2) Please list the p value in the abstract.

Response: we have listed the p value in the abstract.



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This study included a total of 120 patients (60 in the control group and 60 in the experimental group). All the patients successfully completed the experiment without any adverse reactions. There were no significant differences in the patient characteristics between the control and experimental groups. The results showed that the expression levels of TLR4 and NF- κ B in the experimental group were significantly lower than those in the control group ($P < 0.05$). The levels of IL-6 and IL-17 in the experimental group were significantly lower than those in the control group ($P < 0.05$). The TLR4 protein expression in the experimental group was positively correlated with the expression level of downstream signal NF- κ B and was positively correlated with the levels of downstream inflammatory cytokines IL-6 and IL-17 ($r = 0.823$, $P < 0.05$).

(3) Please discuss the limit of the study.

Response: We have discussed the limit of the study.

Our study had a number of limitations. First of all, the sample size is not large enough, and a larger sample size study is needed to verify the test results. Second, the study was not a multicenter randomized controlled trial. So our findings should be treated with caution.