



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 15094

Title: Dihydromyricetin alleviates CCl4-induced acute liver injury via JNK-dependent TNF-α down-regulation in mice

Reviewer's code: 00503458

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Yuan Qi

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Table with 4 columns: CLASSIFICATION, LANGUAGE EVALUATION, SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT, CONCLUSION. It contains checkboxes for various review criteria like 'Grade A: Excellent', 'Duplicate publication', 'Plagiarism', etc.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript the authors investigated the hepatoprotective role of dihydromyricetin (DHM) on CCl4-induced acute liver injury. They found that DHM is able to attenuate the increase of serum ALT and AST, to enhance serum Albumin, as well as, the activity of SOD. Moreover, they demonstrated that DHM contributes to accelerate liver functional recovery by promoting hepatocyte proliferation and reducing apoptosis. Finally, investigating the mechanisms underlying the protective effect of DHM on liver injury, the author found that DHM reduce the serum levels of IL-1? and TNF-?. DHM-mediated protection can be reverted by JNK-inhibitor SP600125 suggesting that DHM protective effect is mainly mediated by JNK signalling pathway. The study is well conceived and performed the results are quite interesting being potentially helpful for clinical application. However, the manuscript required an extensive editorial revision: 1) From the data described the authors cloud not conclude that there is a direct relationship between the protective effect of DHM and the TNF-? reduction, because a causal relationship has not been shown. The title should be modified accordingly (e.g."Dihydromyricetin alleviates CCl4-induced acute liver injury via a



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JNK-dependent mechanism") 2) The description of the data in the result section lacks a logical sequence. "DHM Protects Mice against Acute Liver Injury" paragraph should include only the description of Figure 1 whereas histological data should be described in a separate paragraph together with PCNA staining and TUNEL assay. The title of the paragraph should be modified accordingly. Figure 3A should be removed from figure 3 panel and eventually add to figure 4. The scheme shown in Figure G should be moved at the end and the role of TNF-??should be discussed as suggested above.