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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 17799

Title: N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis and vasodilation in stomachs such as DNA damage in blood of portal hypertensive rats

Reviewer's code: 03294162

Reviewer's country: Brazil

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-03-27 09:54

Date reviewed: 2015-04-02 22:03

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors conducted a study "N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis, vasodilation, and DNA damage in portal hypertensive rats". Animals were divided into four experimental groups (n = 6 each): sham-operated (SO), SO + NAC, partial portal vein ligation (PPVL) and PPVL + NAC. NAC (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO, USA; CAS registry number 616-91-1) was administered at a dose of 10 mg/kg, intraperitoneally, dissolved in 0.6 mL of normal saline solution (0.9% NaCl). In my opinion, the article is of great interest and is properly drafted, so I have no doubt that the authors performed an excellent job. The results are quite interesting, showing great effect of NAC in the study. The methodology is clear. The results are displayed clearly, with charts and figures that facilitate the interpretation, however, the graphic pictures are with a bad resolution on the manuscript sent for evaluation. I suggest improvement. I suggest that the introduction is brief, and some paragraphs merged.



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 17799

Title: N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis and vasodilation in stomachs such as DNA damage in blood of portal hypertensive rats

Reviewer's code: 02861225

Reviewer's country: Austria

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-03-27 09:54

Date reviewed: 2015-04-10 00:20

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Licks et al conducted a small study on effects of NAC on portal hypertensive gastric mucosa in rats. Since the effects on portal pressure have already been published (Ref #30), the only new results cover eNOS, VEGF and DNA damage. Although results are solid and clear, connections are only made via literature and there are no additional experiments supporting the reported changes/evidence. Please check spelling throughout the manuscript. The abstract is not clearly written, especially the group comparisons which lack units. The abbreviation NTT is not explained. The background is written very broadly and does not cover literature about NAC, VEGF and eNOS sufficiently. The results are written very short. The columns in the figures all have the same pattern and are thus not easily distinguishable between the groups. It is not explained for what group comparison the asterisks stand for. The discussion is written nicely, however the conclusions are somewhat extensive for so this small amount of data. In summary, I would suggest changing the manuscript style to a short report.

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 17799

Title: N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis and vasodilation in stomach such as DNA damage in blood of portal hypertensive rats

Reviewer's code: 03055599

Reviewer's country: Argentina

Science editor: Jing Yu

Date sent for review: 2015-03-27 09:54

Date reviewed: 2015-04-11 22:54

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors conducted a brief study: "N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis, vasodilation, and DNA damage in portal hypertensive rats". In my opinion, authors must specify in the title the organ studied; "N-acetylcysteine modulates angiogenesis, vasodilation, and DNA damage in of portal hypertensive rats"; authors do not mentioned that the all experiments were carried out in stomach. The phrase in introduction: "The reactive oxygen species that characterize oxidative stress have the potential to bind to proteins, break DNA, and induce cell damage by interactions with various cell components. This phenomenon is associated with a series of disorders, including PH [15]". The authors should explain the relationship between PH and reactive oxygen species (ROS); it is known that in the PPVL model, ROS is not increased in all organs. The author should explain this. Moreover, author do not explained the importance of ammonia level in PH. It is believed and it is general accepted that ammonia is the responsible of ROS in PH. In the section Material and Methods, the reference 19 when authors explain the surgery process. I think that the proper reference for the PPVL is Vorobioff J. et.al; 1983. When authors explained the immunohistochemistry process



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they mentioned the slides but never mentioned the thickness of them. Why authors did not perform perfusion in the animals? It is known that perfusion is the best method for tissue studies. If author used the same animals for IHC and WB they should explain that the samples were divided in two and that was processed in different ways. The results are written very short. Why authors did not performed the NTT WB? In my opinion the comet assay should be the second mentioned results because is a kind of control of NAC action. In general, numbering of references is not correct.