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ESPS Peer-review Report
Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology
ESPS Manuscript NO: 5309
Title: Therapeutic effect of a hydroxynaphthoquinone fraction from Arnebia euchroma on TNBS-induced colitis
Reviewer code: 00055095
Science editor: Cui, Xue-Mei
Date sent for review: 2013-08-29 15:36
Date reviewed: 2013-09-24 01:21

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[ ] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
[ ] Grade B (Very good)	[Y] Grade B: minor language polishing	[ ] Existed	[ ] High priority for publication
[ ] Grade C (Good)	[ ] Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	[ ] No records	[ ]Rejection
[Y] Grade D (Fair)	[ ] Grade D: rejected	BPG Search:	[ ] Minor revision
[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[Y] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study describes the beneficial effects of hydroxynaphthoquinone fraction from Arnebia euchroma in an experimental model of colitis in rats. The authors have made a complex and interesting work; however the paper has some methodological concerns, and I strongly advice to show it to a statistician. 1. The index of injury provided at best only qualitative information. From the histology figures it appears that the degree of protection is modest (at least according to my understanding). A more quantifiable index or exact parameter of injury is required, functional assays, such as gut permeability should be also tested. 2. Please obtain independent statistical review of the manuscript as he difference between groups in figure 5 may not be significant in many statistical tests. Did you check the distribution of your data? My guess is that you should use non-parametric tests, ANOVA instead of the Student's t test. Moreover, p-values should be given as exact value, the expression "obviously higher" as mentioned in the results is unknown to me. 3. Figure 6 A and B: please show TNBS and mesalazine data with relevant statistics. These are missing. 4. Figure 7: please show TNBS and mesalazine data with relevant statistics. 5. The conclusion (HM is a potentially valuable candidate for IBD treatment) goes well beyond the data in this study. 6. There are some typos and errors in the text (e.g. conventinal, effecitve, adminitration, comfirmed, etc.).

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ESPS Manuscript NO: 5309
Title: Therapeutic effect of a hydroxynaphthoquinone fraction from Arnebia euchroma on TNBS-induced colitis
Reviewer code: 00036514
Science editor: Cui, Xue-Mei
Date sent for review: 2013-08-29 15:36
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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
[ ] Grade A (Excellent)	[ ] Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	[ ] Accept
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[ ] Grade E (Poor)		[ ] Existed	[Y] Major revision
		[ ] No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS
Major Comments 1) Mesalazine (apparently unformulated) was used as a positive control drug in then study. Typically mesalazine is specially formulated to allow delivery to the colon. Please explain how mesalazine worked as an anti-colitis drug in this study (i.e., topically or systemically). Add these comments to the Introduction and /or Discussion, and also provide appropriate literature support. 2) Why was no data shown for mesalazine in figures 6 and 7? These data would have been useful for delineating and contrasting the MOA of mesalazine and HM extract, and should be included in the paper. 3) Are there any macroscopic pictures related to the data shown in figure 2? If so, these pictures could be included in the paper. 4) HM extract apparently has anti-TNF-alpha effects. However, there is no specific mention in the paper, as to how these effects might be occurring. It would be easy/important to look at the NF-kappa B signaling pathway proteins (p65 and/or I-kappa B), by immunohistochemistry and/or western blot. Please consider doing these types of evaluations for the revised manuscript. Minor Comments 1)Some statements in the paper are too strong and unwarranted. See the comment in the core tip section on superiority of natural products for IBD. This remark is not based in scientific fact in 2013, and should be amended. 2) Better English grammar and sentence structure is needed in certain parts of the paper. Please review this carefully, before the next submission.