

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Manuscript NO: 82834

Title: Thymoquinone enhances the antioxidant and anticancer activity of Lebanese propolis

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02495934

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Chairman, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Turkey

Author's Country/Territory: Lebanon

Manuscript submission date: 2022-12-28

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-02-16 08:23

Reviewer performed review: 2023-02-16 09:07

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
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
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The study evaluated 'Thymoquinone enhances the antioxidant and anticancer activity of Lebanese propolis'. This manuscript was prepared well with all parts of the manuscript and discussed with the results of the study very deeply and detail. But it needs some minor corrections such as below: - It is advised to check all manuscript body (especially references section) as shape carefully and correct it kindly. -Please give a little information about antioxidants agents in the introduction section to improve your paper with to cite of some papers below: 1. Z. Selamoglu, I. Ozdemir, O. Ciftci, M. F. Gulhan, and A. Savci, "Antioxidant effect of ethanolic extract of propolis in liver of L-NAME treated rats," *Advances in Clinical and Experimental Medicine*, vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 227-232, 2015. 2. G. Badr, E. A. Sayed, H. Waly, K. A. H. Hassan, M. H. Mahmoud, and Z. Selamoglu, "The therapeutic mechanisms of propolis against CCl₄ -mediated liver injury by mediating apoptosis of activated hepatic Stellate cells and improving the hepatic architecture through PI3K/AKT/mTOR, TGF- β /Smad2, Bcl2/BAX/P53 and iNOS signaling pathways," *Cellular Physiology and Biochemistry*, vol. 53, no. 2, pp. 301-322, 2019. 3. Ozdemir Betul, Gulhan Mehmet Fuat, Selamoglu Zeliha, Sahna Engin. The

investigation of antioxidant and anti-inflammatory potentials of apitherapeutic agents on heart tissues in nitric oxide synthase inhibited rats via N ω -nitro-L-arginine methyl ester. *Clinical and Experimental Hypertension*. 43(1): 69-76, 2021. 4. Ekhteiari Salmas Ramin, Durdagi Serdar, Gulhan Mehmet Fuat, Duruyurek Merve, Abdullah Huda I, Selamoglu Zeliha. The effects of pollen, propolis, and caffeic acid phenethyl ester on tyrosine hydroxylase activity and total RNA levels in hypertensive rats caused by nitric oxide synthase inhibition: experimental, docking and molecular dynamic studies. 36(3): 609-620, 2018. 5. Selamoglu Zeliha, Ozdemir Ilknur, Ciftci Osman, Cakir Oguz, Gulhan Mehmet Fuat, Oguz Murat Pasaoglu. Role of Propolis on Biochemical Parameters in Kidney and Heart Tissues against L NAME Induced Oxidative Injury in Rats. *Clinical and Experimental Hypertension*. 7(36): 492-496, 2014. 5. RE Salmas, MF Gulhan, S Durdagi, E Sahna, HI Abdullah, Z Selamoglu. Effects of propolis, caffeic acid phenethyl ester, and pollen on renal injury in hypertensive rat: an experimental and theoretical approach. *Cell biochemistry and function* 35 (6), 304-314. 6. Gülhan Mehmet Fuat, Özdemir Betül, Selamoğlu Zeliha, Şahna Engin. The effects of apitherapeutic agents on oxidative stress in serum metabolic parameters of hypertensive rats created by nitric oxide synthase inhibited. *Sains Malaysiana* 50(6): 1745-1754, 2021. 7. Gögebakan Ayşe, Selamoğlu Zeliha, Özdemir İlknur, Şahna Engin. Role of Propolis on Tyrosine Hydroxylase Activity and Blood Pressure in Nitric Oxide Synthase Inhibited Hypertensive Rats. *Clinical and Experimental Hypertension*. 34(6): 424-428, 2012. 8. Selamoglu Zeliha. The Natural Products and Healthy Life. *Journal of Traditional Medicine Clinical Naturopathy*. 7(2): 1-2, 2018. 9. Selamoglu Zeliha. Polyphenolic Compounds in Human Health with Pharmacological Properties. *Journal of Traditional Medicine Clinical Naturopathy*. 6(4): 137, 2017. 10. Selamoglu Zeliha. Biotechnological Approaches on Anticancer Activity of Flavonoids. *Modern Approaches in Drug Designing*. 1(2): 510, 2017. 11. Doğan H, Akyol E, Akgül H, Selamoğlu TZ. 2014.



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Biologic Activity of Honeybee Products Obtained From Different Phytogeographical Regions of Turkey. Turkish Journal of Agriculture - Food science and Technology 2(6): 273-276. 12. Amin K, Ozgen S, Selamoglu Z. Stevia rebaudiana: A potential boon for human health. SM J Med Plants Stud. 2017;1:1005. Finally, after these minor corrections depend on my suggestions, this article is acceptable to be published in this journal and also it will be very useful for your journal.

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Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02760952

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: N/A, Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Taiwan

Author's Country/Territory: Lebanon

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Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen

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Reviewer performed review: 2023-03-02 02:24

Review time: 6 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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Peer-reviewer statements	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

Both novelty and scientific quality of this manuscript remains inadequate. The following issues of this article should be addressed adequately for possible publication: 1. Initially the authors used distilled water for extraction of bioactive compounds from raw propolis, followed by adding methanol to the residue for extraction to obtain the methanol extract. Did the authors collect the water extract? If not, the contents of both phenolic acids and flavonoids can be decreased substantially. 2. The authors only studied the inhibition effect of the methanol extract on breast cancer cells and colorectal cancer cells, which should be questionable. It would be better for the authors to study the effect of methanol on these cancer cells and normal cells as well as demonstrate the inhibition effect is mainly from bioactive compounds in the extract. However, no experiment dealing with normal cells and methanol is performed. 3. In Figures 1 and 2, the superscript letters should be provided on the top of each bar for significance in comparison.