

Manuscript No. 75128

Title: Role of baicalin as a potential therapeutic agent in hepatobiliary and gastrointestinal disorders: A review

Response to Reviewers

The authors of this manuscript express their sincere thanks to the Editor-in-Chief /Science Editor and Reviewers for their critical assessment of our work. The authors have acted upon the comments of the reviewers which have resulted in a significant enhancement of the quality of this manuscript. **The modifications made in the manuscript are shown in red.**

Comments of Reviewer 1.

General comments: The manuscript is up-to-date and is a fairly complete review of the therapeutic effects of baicalin in hepatic and gastrointestinal disorders. The manuscript is well organized and illustrated. The tables contain useful information about the effects of baicalin based on the results of relevant studies. Literary references are relevant. There is self-citation, but it does not exceed 10% (12 out of 124 references). The manuscript may be published, however, after minor revisions.

Response: We are thankful to reviewer for generous comments. Authors have acted upon the specific comments as given below.

Comment 1. It is recommended to rename the Ulcerative colitis section to Inflammatory bowel disease and slightly supplement it, for example, with important data that baicalin regulates the NF-κB activation and modulates both autophagic and inflammatory processes in intestinal epithelial cells, leading to an improvement of paracellular permeability (Rizzo V et al., 2021).

Response: The section “Ulcerative colitis” has been renamed as “Inflammatory bowel disease”. Further, text has been supplemented with the additional inputs from the article of Rizzo V et al., 2021 as suggested by the reviewer and shown in red. (**Page 12**). A new reference (Rizzo V et al., 2021) has also been added as reference no. 107.

Comment 2. The title of Table 2 does not correspond to its content (data not only for hepatic disorders but also for CRC and UC) and needs to be changed

Response: The title of Table 2 has been changed to “*In vivo* protective effects of baicalin in various hepatobiliary and colorectal disorders”.

Comment 3: A number of abbreviations, such as NF-κB, must be spelled out on first use.

Response: All abbreviations have been spelled out on first use throughout the manuscript including figures and tables and are shown in red.

Comments of Reviewer 2.

The manuscript entitled “Role of baicalin as a potential therapeutic agent in hepatobiliary and gastrointestinal disorders: A review” reports a review on the effects and roles of baicalin that is majorly purified from *Scutellaria baicalensis*, a Chinese medicinal herb, in liver and gastrointestinal diseases. The authors have summarized the current study progresses on baicalin from various aspects, including clinical medicine, immunology, biochemistry, etc. The manuscript is well written and properly prepared, and will contribute to the relevant fields. I recommend publication of the manuscript with priority.

Response: We are thankful to reviewer for the favourable comments.

Comments of Science Editor.

General comments: The article is well evaluated by the authors and has the theme within the scope of the WJG in addition to being very current. The author must answer the reviewers and follow their recommendations.

Response: The reviewers’ comments have been answered and the desired changes have been incorporated in the manuscript.

Additional Suggestions:

1. The conclusion of the article is too big. Completing an article answers the purpose of the article only.

Response: The conclusion of the article has been modified and made brief.

2. If there are more figures to be added, they will enrich the article

Response: No new figures are added in the manuscript. However, figure 2 has been slightly modified and enriched for better representation of the content.

3. It is extremely necessary for the author to read the submission instructions. The article is completely outside the WJG editing rules.

Response: We are unable to comprehend the statement “The article is completely outside the WJG editing rules”. However, we have sincerely followed the manuscript submission instructions and editing rules of the World Journal of Gastroenterology.