OPEN PEER REVIEW

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What is "Open Peer Review" process?

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Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
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- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

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https://sites.kowsarpub.com/kowsar/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

Gene, Cell and Tissue
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Peer Review Report for "The Effect of Regular Aerobic Exercise Training and Pumpkin Seed Extract on the Heart and Aorta Apoptosis Biomarkers in Arsenic-Intoxicated Rats"

Author(s): Mehdi Badkoubeh-Hezaveh, Bahram Abedi, Saleh Rahmati-Ahmadabad

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 15 Jan 2021
Revised Date: 14 Feb 2021
Accepted Date: 20 Feb 2021

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) — 20 Jan 2021

Dear AE,
Before accepting the manuscript I have some questions that should be answered by the authors.
1- You have poured arsenic into the water. How can you be sure that all rats have consumed the same amount?
2- Do you have any histological figures?
3- Put the charts in color type.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) — 22 Jan 2021

Dear AE,
Comments for the authors on the manuscript entitled" The effect of regular aerobic exercise and pumpkin seed extract on heart and aorta apoptosis biomarkers in arsenic-intoxicated rats": the manuscript has some major
1. What does the manuscript add to the subject area compared with the same other

published articles?
2. The introduction part is so long; it should be shortened.
3. Adding the ethic number is necessary.
4. While the authors give some information about related articles, the explanation of the mechanism underlying the process is necessary.
5. English editing is highly recommended.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) 23 Jan 2021

Dear EIC,
The manuscript is studied, and there are some comments which should be addressed by the author. According to the comments, the document needs major revision.
Kind regards,

Zahra Heidari: EIC | **Revision** (0) 23 Jan 2021

Dear Author,
Based on the reviewers and AE comments and as I read, this manuscript needs major revisions and reply to the comments point by point.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Dear reviewers

Thanks for your helpful comments

The manuscript was rechecked line by line again by an English editor and certificate letter is attached.

Changes to the manuscript text are highlighted in red.

Regards

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer 1:
Comments on the manuscript entitled" The effect of regular aerobic exercise and pumpkin seed extract on heart and aorta apoptosis biomarkers in arsenic-intoxicated rats": the manuscript has some major
1. what does the manuscript add to the subject area compared with the same other published articles?

Response: To the best of the researchers' knowledge, no study has investigated the effect of combined effect of regular aerobic exercise training and pumpkin seed extract on heart and aorta apoptosis biomarkers in arsenic-intoxicated rats. Thus, this study for the first time aims to investigate the simultaneous effects of regular aerobic exercise training and pumpkin seed extract on apoptotic factors such as Bcl-2, Bax, and Caspase-3 in the heart and aorta endothelial cells in rats poisoned with arsenic.

2. The introduction part is so long; it should be shortened.

Response: The introduction part was revised and shortened.

3. Adding the ethic number is necessary.

Response: The ethic number was added to the methodology.

4. While the authors give some information about related articles, the explanation of the mechanism underlying the process is necessary.

Response: Some explanation of the mechanism underlying the process about the related articles was added to the relevant parts.

5. English editing is highly recommended.

Response: The manuscript was edited by an English language editor and the confirmation of manuscript edition was sent to the Editor-in-Chief of the journal.

Reviewer 2:
Dear Editor before accepting the manuscript I have some question that should be answered.
1- You have poured arsenic into the water. How can you be sure that all rats have consumed the same amount?

Response: Just given that each group was in the cage, it could not be determined. But as it turns out, the arsenic group has made significant changes compared to the control group, and in general, arsenic was effective.

Bikashvili T, Lordkipanidze T, Gogichaishvili N, Pochkhidze N. EFFECT OF ARSENIC EXPOSURE ON BEHAVIOR OF RATS OF VARIOUS AGE GROUPS. Georgian Med News. 2017 Mar;(264):119-126. PMID: 28480863.

2- Do you have any histological figure ?

Response: Not unfortunately. However, it was added to the end of the manuscript as a limitation.

3- Put the charts in colors type

Response: It was edited and all the charts were put in color type.

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (1) 14 Feb 2021

Dear AE,
The authors answered all comments and now the manuscript is suitable for publication.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (1) 16 Feb 2021

Dear AE,
Title: The effect of regular aerobic exercise training and pumpkin seed extract on the heart and aorta apoptosis biomarkers in arsenic-intoxicated rats;
Manuscript ID: 112268
Comments for the author(s)
- I read the revised version of the manuscript, comments of reviewers are done by Author(s) point by point.
- But I think it's better to delete the abbreviation of BCL2 and Bax in the Keywords section because you previously use them in the Abstract section.
Thanks.

Azam Asemi Rad: Reviewer | **Revision** (1) 16 Feb 2021

Dear AE,
The authors provided the relevant response which covers all inquiries, anymore this version is suitable for acceptance.
yours faithfully,

REFEREE: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 17 Feb 2021

Dear EIC
Based on the authors' answers to the reviewers' comments, the reviewer(s) have recommended publication.
Kind regards.

Zahra Heidari: EIC | **Revision** (1) 20 Feb 2021

Dear Authors,

Revisions were done well, thus this manuscript can be accepted for publication in GCT.

Thanks.