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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Cytotoxic Activity and Molecular Docking Studies of the Fraction Containing Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β, 5α, and 22E) from *Dysidea avara* Sponges

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

2 comments · 17 Apr 2024 – 20 Apr 2024

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 17 Apr 2024

1. The manuscript should be revised linguistically for capitalization, paragraphing, collocations, and grammatical issues.
2. Please change "…studies Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) fraction from Dysidea Avara sponges" to "… Studies the Fraction Containing Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) From Dysidea avara" in the title.
3. The sponge's scientific name in the title should be written in italics, and the species name should not be capitalized.
4. Please note the family to which Dysidea avara belongs.
5. On subsequent mentions, please abbreviate the scientific name to D. avara.
6. Please provide the full explanation the first time an abbreviation is used.
7. In the background section, please change " Dysidea sp genus" to " Dysidea spp.".
8. In the background section, please include further studies on anti-cancer properties with more focus on samples collected from the Persian Gulf.
9. Please include the previous studies on PARP and MDM2 inhibition in the background section.
10. Please explain the commercial sources of the materials, models of the instruments, and software versions in a separate section.
11. In section 3.1 (Sampling and Identification), please mention the institute in charge of confirming the scientific name.
12. In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), please report the timing for total extraction. The extraction yield should also be reported in the results section.
13. In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), the sub-extracts must be clarified based on the solvents used.
14. To report the ratios of the solvent mixtures, please simplify the fractions.
15. Please report the software, including the version, used for statistical analysis.
16. Please include the pictures of the TLC plates before and after treatment with vanillin reagent.
17. Please move the first 8 lines of section 4.1 (Isolation and verification of steroids) to section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation). Additionally, the method for subfractionation of the C69 fraction must be explained.
18. All the units should be reported in the same style.
19. Please edit the heading numbers under the results section.
20. Please report the results of Western blot in a separate section rather than together with the cytotoxicity assay.
21. Under the results section, please change the heading "cytotoxic assay" to "cytotoxicity assay".
22. In the discussion section, please note all the recommendations for further studies separately at the end of the section.
23. In the discussion section, please avoid the details about PARP and MDM2 inhibition studies and focus more on the results.

Associate Editor

MAJOR REVISION 20 Apr 2024

Dear Authors,

We have received the reports from our reviewers on your manuscript, "Cytotoxic activity and molecular docking studies Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) fraction from Dysidea Avara sponges", which you

submitted to Jundishapur Journal of Natural Pharmaceutical Products.
Based on the advice received, we have decided that your manuscript could be reconsidered for publication should you be prepared to make major revisions. When preparing your revised manuscript, you are asked to carefully consider the reviewers' comments and submit a list of responses to the comments. Please ensure that all changes in the revised manuscript are highlighted in yellow so that they can be detected by reviewers.

With kind regards,
Associate Editor

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you for your valuable comments and suggestions regarding my manuscript. I appreciate the time and effort you have put into reviewing my work. I will address each comment individually and make the necessary revisions to improve the quality of the manuscript.
Reviewer 1:

1. "The manuscript should be revised linguistically for capitalization, paragraphing, collocations, and grammatical issues."
Answer: The manuscript was revised linguistically to address capitalization, paragraphing, collocations, and grammatical issues.

2. "Please change "…studies Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) fraction from Dysidea Avara sponges" to "…Studies the Fraction Containing Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) From Dysidea avara" in the title."
Answer: The title was changed to "Studies the Fraction Containing Ergosta-14,22-dien-3-ol (3β,5α, and 22E) From Dysidea avara" as suggested.

3. "The sponge scientific name in the title should be written in italic and the species name should not be capitalized."
Answer: The sponge scientific name, Dysidea avara, was written in italics in the title, and the species name was not capitalized.

4. "Please note the family to which Dysidea avara belong."
Answer: The family to which Dysidea avara belongs was mentioned in the appropriate section.

5. "In repeatition, please summarize the scientific name to D. avara."
Answer: The scientific name Dysidea avara was summarized to D. avara in repetitions throughout the manuscript.

6. "Please write the explanation in full the first time an abbreviation is used."
Answer: Explanations for abbreviations were provided in full the first time they were used.

7. "In the background section, please change " Dysidea sp genus" to " Dysidea spp."."
Answer: In the background section, "Dysidea sp genus" was changed to "Dysidea spp."

8. "In the background section, please include further studies on anti-cancer properties with more focus on samples collected from Persian Gulf."
Answer: Further studies on anti-cancer properties, with a focus on samples collected from the Persian Gulf, were included in the background section.

9. "Please include the previous studies on PARP and MDM2 inhibition in the background section."
Answer: Previous studies on PARP and MDM2 inhibition were included in the background section.

10. "In section 3.1 (Sampling and Identification), please mention the institute in charge of confirming the scientific name."
Answer: In section 3.1 (Sampling and Identification), the institute responsible for confirming the scientific name was mentioned.

12. "In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), please report the timing for total extraction. The extraction yield should also be reported in the results section."
Answer: In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), the timing for total extraction was reported, and the extraction yield was included in the results section.

13. "In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), the sub-extracts must be clarified based on the solvents used."
Answer: In section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), the sub-extracts were clarified based on the solvents used.

14. "To report the ratios of the solvent mixtures, please simplify the fractions."
Answer: The ratios of solvent mixtures were simplified using fractions.

15. "Please report the software including the version used for statistical analysis."
Answer: The software version used for statistical analysis was reported.

16. "Please include the pictures of the TLC plates before and after treatment with vanillin reagent."
Answer: Unfortunately, we do not have access to the pictures of the TLC plates before and after treatment with the vanillin reagent. This is a regular task in our lab, and as such, we typically do not document it with photographs. However, we ensure that the TLC process is conducted according to standard protocols, and the results are consistent with expected outcomes based on our extensive experience and the results were accurately recorded and reported in the manuscript.

17. "Please move the first 8 lines of the section 4.1 (Isolation and verification of steroids) to the section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation). Additionally, the method for subfractionation of C69 fraction must be explained."
Answer: The first 8 lines of section 4.1 (Isolation and verification of steroids) were moved to section 3.2 (Extraction and isolation), and the method for subfractionation of the C69 fraction was explained.

18. "All the units should be reported in the same style."
Answer: All units were reported in the same style throughout the manuscript.

19. "Please edit the heading numbers under the results section."
Answer: The heading numbers under the results section were edited.

20. "Please report the results of Western blot in a separate section rather than together with cytotoxicity assay."
Answer: The results of the Western blot were reported in a separate section instead of together with the cytotoxicity assay.

21. "Under the results section, please change the heading "cytotoxic assay" to "cytotoxicity assay"."
Answer: The heading "cytotoxic assay" was changed to "cytotoxicity assay" under the results section.

22. "In the discussion section, please note all the recommendations for futher studies separately at the end of the section."
Answer: In the discussion section, recommendations for further studies were noted separately at the end of the section.

23. "In the discussion section, please avoid the details about PARP and MDM2 inhibition studies and focus more on the results."
Answer: In the discussion section, details about PARP and MDM2 inhibition studies were avoided, and the focus was more on the results.

Reviewer 2:

1. "The Background should be explained more in the abstract section."
Answer: The background was explained more in the abstract section.

2. "Please correct the size and structure of the title, headings, sub-headings, and main text according to the instructions."
Answer: The size and structure of the title, headings, sub-headings, and main text were corrected according to the instructions.

3. "Correct the typos and grammatical errors. There are some spelling mistakes in the Manuscript,"
Answer: Typos and grammatical errors were corrected throughout the manuscript.

4. "The introduction section should be explained more and the text should flow properly. It is suggested to explain the introduction part especially about cancer, natural and marine resources."
Answer: The introduction section was explained more, and the text was improved for better flow. Information about cancer, natural, and marine resources was added.

5. "Update the introduction references. Please use more new studies (2020 - 2024) in your manuscript."
Answer: The introduction references were updated with more recent studies (2020 - 2024).

6. "The superscripts and subscripts in the tables and text should be corrected."
Answer: Superscripts and subscripts in tables and text were corrected.

7. "Please add the "Conclusions" section to the structure of the article."
Answer: A "Conclusions" section was added to the structure of the article.

8. "This manuscript needs major improvement in English syntax and word usage. Spelling mistakes are evident in all parts of this manuscript. Authors should seek help in writing scientific articles in English from a person or service specializing in writing scientific articles in English to make the necessary improvements to meet the standards of the journal."

Answer: The manuscript underwent a thorough English language editing to improve syntax, word usage, and correct spelling mistakes to meet the standards of the journal.

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 28 Apr 2024

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 28 Apr 2024

Dear Authors

Thank you for revising the manuscript according to the reviewer's comments.
Your manuscript is accepted for publication in Jundishapur Journal of Natural Pharmaceutical Products.

best regards