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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Evaluating the Effects of *Aloe vera* Gel on Cerebellum Histomorphometrical Changes in Diabetic Male Rats

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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

3 comments · 8 May 2020 – 27 Jun 2020

Referee 1 Reviewer

REJECT 8 May 2020

Dear Author,
Greetings,
Your manuscript is very interesting and innovative.
However, it has some shortcomings that cannot be overlooked.
First, many grammatical errors are evident throughout your manuscript. In some cases, these errors even change the meaning of the sentence and would create ambiguity and confusion for readers after the manuscript is accepted.
In this regard, I strongly recommend that the manuscript first be written in Persian and then translated into English, or that it be edited again by a scientific editor who is fully familiar with the content of your work.
We know well that changes in insulin levels or function disrupt lipid and glucose metabolism. The roles of underlying mechanisms such as oxidative stress and inflammation in the development and worsening of diseases such as diabetes are also well established.
Your study frequently refers to oxidative stress, and you have presented it as one of the proposed mechanisms underlying the improvement observed in diabetic rats. However, you have not assessed it. We also know that changes in the activity of enzymes such as sorbitol dehydrogenase are responsible for cellular changes, but unfortunately, you have not conducted an assessment in this regard either.
Overall, your study is important because it includes a strong tissue assessment, but it requires investigation of the molecular or biochemical pathways that could better explain the data obtained in your study.

My suggestion is to assess oxidative stress levels in brain tissue or measure the level of sorbitol dehydrogenase in this tissue.
Some additional comments are included in the manuscript.
I must reject your manuscript; after making the appropriate changes and implementing the suggestions, you may resubmit it.

Associate Editor

REJECT 26 Jun 2020

1. Although the authors have revised and corrected many of the errors, many mistakes remain.
2. The information about body weight has not been provided but is addressed in the discussion.
3. Writing is very poor and needs to be improved.
4. Some of the errors are mentioned in the manuscript file.

Editor-in-Chief

REJECT 27 Jun 2020

Reject

2

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.

In the name of the Most High

To the respected Editor-in-Chief of Zahedan Journal of Research in Medical Sciences

Greetings

Respectfully, with sincere thanks to you and in appreciation of the valuable time spent by the respected reviewers and their valuable comments, which created a great learning opportunity for me, I would like to inform you that the following revisions and explanations were made in order to address the shortcomings and ambiguities and to improve the quality of the article:

Response to Reviewer No. 1:

The manuscript was corrected and revised grammatically, and although oxidative stress markers were not examined in the present study and it was not possible to fully meet the respected reviewer's comment, since previous studies have shown that aloe vera gel can reduce various oxidative stress markers in the brain of diabetic animals, an attempt was accordingly made to add sentences and references on this subject in the Discussion section in order to cover this shortcoming as far as possible.

Response to Reviewer No. 2:

The animals were initially in a normal condition; some of them were made diabetic by administration of streptozotocin and were placed in the diabetic, diabetic + aloe vera, and diabetic + insulin groups. The blood glucose stated in the manuscript relates to the start of treatment (after becoming diabetic). Explanations were also added to the text to remove the ambiguity.

With apologies to the dear reviewer, the table footnotes had been worded unclearly and vaguely. Means with a common Latin letter in each column do not differ significantly, and different Latin letters indicate a significant difference between the groups. The necessary corrections were made in the table footnotes.

Sincerely

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 10 Aug 2020

Raika Jamali Reviewer

ACCEPT 10 Aug 2020

The respected authors have revised the manuscript based on the reviewers' comments.