

Review of: "Toxicity of Olea africana in Artemia Salina and Mice"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

INTRODUCTION

Justification of the study is inadequate. Especially since there are already similar reports of the toxicity of the plant. The authors should stress on the knowledge gap in previous works to augment the significance of this study.

METHOD

- 2.2; part of the plant collected should be stated.
- 2.3; how was it shaken for three days? Be specific.
- 2.3; state concentration of ethanol used.
- 2.4; breed of mice employed should be stated.
- 2.6; what influenced the dose selection in the acute toxicity?
- 2.6; even though in acute toxicity studies, animals are observed critically for the first 24 hours, it should not end there. They should be observed for a 2-week period for signs of toxicity. Is there a reason you decided to end it after 24 hours?

RESULTS

- Table 1; what toxic expressions was used to arrive at the LD₅₀ in the acute toxicity studies?
- Figure 1; you should also access the potential significant difference(s) between the test groups (between 100, 300 and 600mg/kg).
- "The mean organ-to-body weight ratio in mice given the extract over 28 days is summarized in **Figure 1**." Should be Figure 2.
- Table 2; description of how values are expressed is not seen in the results presented. Please check
- Table 2; the superscripts (a) and (b) are not defined for table 2
- Figure 2&3; magnification should be total magnification and not just that of the objective lens used.

DISCUSSION

- "There was no significant difference between the mean weight gain of control and treatment group animals suggesting that the extract does not alter metabolism in mice." – The lack of significant difference does not definitively suggest the extract did not affect metabolism. Recast

- The discussion can also try and relate some previously identified phytoconstituents from the plant to its “toxicity”.

Consider relating the findings from the study to how the plant part is used locally and whether or not the doses employed in the study can be translational to how they are locally used.