

Review of: "An Investigation of The Phytochemical Richness of Fresh Musa Paradisiaca L. (Plantain) Stem Juice and Its Anticonvulsant Potential on Pentylenetetrazole (Ptz)-Challenged Rats"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have read through the manuscript. It is well-written and includes all the necessary experiments to scientifically elucidate the potential of MP stem juice in convulsion/epilepsy based on traditional/folkloric practices. The experiments are relevant and follow international standards such as OECD425.

I think the data is timely and very useful to the community.

However, there are some concerns over the acute toxicity testing carried out. There are 6 test groups using different concentrations of MP stem juice. It is not clear how the feed concentration was carried out for each group. Was it the up-and-down procedure? What was the 1st feed concentration? Please explain the decision on the 1st dose. Was it based on the traditional usage as safe or based on the value of the LD50 of the cytotoxicity test carried out previously? Is there evidence of this MP stem juice being used as a health/medicinal drink in the African community? If yes, what is the volume given to people with an epilepsy episode? This data can help you calculate the starting dose using the ICCVAM 2006 guideline. Please clarify.

Please differentiate the group numbering for the acute toxicity test from other seizure tests.

The protocol for the Acute Toxicity and Lethality study LD50 needs more precise elaboration, be it following OECD425.

For the preparation of fresh MP stem juice, was there a need for refrigeration or preservation added? Was the juice prepared daily prior to the feeding routine for 10 days?

This manuscript is recommended for publication subject to the improvement of the listed comments.