

Review of: "Natural Polyphenols of Pomegranate and Black Tea Juices can Combat COVID-19 through their SARS-CoV-2 3C-like Protease-inhibitory Activity"

Juan Carlos Hernández González¹

¹ Autonomous University of Hidalgo

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Gabriele Marinello

Peer Review Team, Qeios.

1. I appreciate the invitation to review the article.

The topic is innovative, current, and necessary to continue the development of natural products that favor the control of SARS-CoV2 infection in the world population.

Nevertheless, it is necessary to address the following observations:

Review and correct the grammar and writing style in the English language.

I recommend the author present more bibliographic evidence of the polyphenols isolated from black tea with an inhibitory effect on the proteolytic activity of SARS-CoV-2 enzymes involved in cell infection.

The article referring to pomegranate juice only describes antioxidant polyphenols composition, and the authors did not test any of them as inhibitors of 3CLPRO. A more exhaustive review of the antioxidants in pomegranate juice that inhibit 3CLPRO and other proteolytic enzymes of SARS-CoV-2 is required.

I recommend that the author include evidence in the testing phase of polyphenols in SARS-CoV-2 infection in the cellular model, in which other cellular defense mechanisms that stimulate polyphenols for protection and/or elimination of SARS-CoV-2 have been exposed. Integrating all the literature evidence will further support using natural polyphenols as a potential treatment against SARS-CoV-2 infection in humans.