

Review of: "Toxicological evaluation of aqueous extracts of *Clematis hirsuta* and *Rhamnus prinoides*"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is good, and relevant studies have been carried out. However, there are few suggestions I would like to provide, which can be incorporated in the article.

Clarify the rationale and significance of the study: The introduction should provide a more focused and clear rationale for conducting this research. The authors should clearly state why investigating the safety of *Clematis hirsuta* leaves and *Rhamnus prinoides* roots in Wistar rats is important and how it contributes to the existing knowledge in the field of traditional herbal medicine.

Improve the study design and methodology: The methods section lacks some crucial information. It is essential to include more detailed descriptions of the sample size determination, randomization process, and blinding procedures for the animal experiments. Additionally, the extraction process and dosage calculation need to be thoroughly explained to ensure reproducibility.

Discuss potential toxic components: Since both plants are traditionally used for medicinal purposes, it is crucial to discuss the presence of potential toxic components, such as alkaloids or other secondary metabolites, in the extracts. Identifying and discussing the compounds responsible for the observed toxicity (reduced feed and water consumption) would provide valuable insights into the safety of these plants.

Contextualize the results with existing literature: The discussion section should compare and contrast the study's findings with previous research on *Clematis hirsuta* and *Rhamnus prinoides*, especially regarding toxicity studies. A more in-depth analysis of how the current results align or diverge from previous studies will strengthen the conclusions. It is recommended you cite the following article, which is relevant to this article: <https://doi.org/10.3390/antiox11071316>