

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.

I read the manuscript entitled 'Toxicological evaluation of aqueous extracts of *Clematis hirsuta* and *Rhamnus prinoides*' under the Qeios ID: 3GABRB and my general comment is that the authors used interesting tools in evaluating the toxicity of two plants of the Kenyan pharmacopoeia. They are presenting original and new results but some important improvements are still needed. These are my issues:

Major comments

1. The acute toxicity protocol is not well described, the dosages and animals in groups are not described as well. Also, the protocol is confusing as it does not seek to determine the LD₅₀ dosage value and seems to be a short period sub-acute toxicity testing. It is also confusing in acute toxicity there is no parameter evaluated right after the administration of the substances and the toxicity is only checked 2 weeks after according to the abstract even if some of these information are found in the results section. The design of the study should be well presented in the abstract while the statistics presented can even be canceled.
2. The authors did not provide the reasons of using different statistical testing for acute on a hand and sub-acute toxicities on other hand.
3. I think it would have been very important to check the toxicity at the histological level to see whether these plants did not lead to tissue damages in some specific organs.
4. The authors did not specify the reasons of choosing female rats exclusively throughout their study.

Minor comments

1. The voucher specimens numbers of both plants should be specified in the manuscript
2. Figure 1: the authors should specify in the foot notes what represent the values presented on the top of their histograms
3. Figure 4, the authors should add the statistic method used in the footnotes
4. Table 1 shall one consider the superscript for comparison of the values in rows even between both extract?