

## Review of: "Haematological and Biochemical Patterns in the Liver Function of a Syrup Made From Vitex Doniana Fruit"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The work done is very interesting, but the authors need to rewrite the manuscript to better reflect the good work done.

- 1. The grammatical construct is poor, with so many grammatical errors. Several segments of the work can be misconstrued as they are not correctly presented. Authors should request a linguist/English native to thoroughly evaluate the work and make the necessary adjustments to make the work understandable. An example of a grammatical observation in the text is the segment where authors were describing the histopathological process and indicated that "...previously **robbed** with egg albumin."
- 2. The methodology is not clearly presented, as there are so many gaps in the procedure. Authors should follow a step-by-step approach in reporting the methodology. For example, authors should start with the preparation of the syrup and determination of dosage before describing in detail Lorke's method of acute toxicity, before moving on to the experimental design for the study.
- 3. The syrup preparation process for Vitex doniana was not indicated.
- 4. The authors should rationalize their choice of concentrations of the extract used for the study.
- 5. The acute toxicity study according to Lorke's method does not match the results presented, as authors reported that the extract was administered for 21 days, which does not match the period prescribed in Lorke's method.
- 6. According to the methodology presented, the extract was administered for a mere 3 days. Authors should justify how this time period would affect the hematological parameters and histology of the liver in the tested animals.
- 7. Statistical software used for the analysis was not indicated.
- 8. Most of the tables presented are not so easy to understand. In many of the groups, there are no superscripts indicated as the letters appear in a normal font, especially in tables 2 and 3.
- 9. The units used were not first explained in the footnotes for the tables.
- 10. The labelling on the micrographs made them choked up and made appreciating the details cumbersome.
- 11. The magnification presented (X100) makes it difficult to observe the hepatocytes around the central vein in all groups, and authors should use a magnification that shows intact hepatocytes.

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