

## 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 herbarium numbers of the plants should be recorded.

While the animals treated with R. prinoides root aqueous extract exhibited a significant decrease in food consumption compared to the control group, their average body weight showed a significant increase, possibly due to the weight gain observed in internal organs such as kidneys and liver, where fatty degeneration occurs following toxic damage. If possible, organ weighing of the animals should be performed to ensure proper weight controls.

In their article titled "Antibacterial potential of the 80% methanol and chloroform extracts of Clematis hirsuta" (Habtamu, A., & Mekonnen, Y., 2017), the authors investigated the oral acute and sub-acute toxicity effects of Clematis hirsuta extracts. Therefore, using the statement "Because this may be the first study on the toxicology of *Clematis hirsuta*, it may be important to compare our findings with toxicological data from other medicinal plants within the genus *Clematis*" would be inappropriate.

An explanation should be provided regarding the rationale behind the selection of the 5 mg/kg, 75 mg/kg, and 225 mg/kg extract doses used in the sub-acute toxicity study.

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