Review of: "Toxicity of Olea africana in Artemia Salina and Mice"

Mohammed L'Bachir El Kbiach[1]

1 Université Abdelmalek Essadi

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The work is a well-conducted effort to assess the potential toxicities (acute and subacute) in vitro and in vivo of an ethanolic extract of Olea africana, an ornamental tree with abundant properties in folk medicine.

Nevertheless, I considered that some minor points needed to be improved, in particular the scientific names, the identification code of the plant sample and the formatting of the manuscript.

The abstract does not mention the concentrations of the extract used in the work.

In Methods:

Was the negative control in distilled water? Please specify.

What was the concentration used in the positive control?

The last two extract concentrations are the same (100 µg/mL).

Please check the total number of females and the number of females in each cage.

The results obtained for the control drug used in the in vitro toxicity test are missing.

It is unclear how the median lethal concentration was calculated. Mainly in the case of the shrimp test.

The authors should explain the number of mice used, why only female mice were used in the in vivo toxicity tests.

The photomicrograph of the negative control (figure 3) should be at the same scale as the others.

The authors should review the number of mice per group used in the 28-day toxicity test. They mention 28 mice but then describe 4 groups, each comprising 4 mice.

The discussion section is relatively weak in view of the results obtained. The authors should focus more on the current use of Olea africana extract and possible health concerns and risk patterns.