
Peer Review File

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Reviewer A

Although a common disease, astriction is difficult to treat and severely affects quality of life. Wenyang Yiqi Decoction (WYD) is a kind of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) that is used to treat astriction; however, the mechanism remains unclear. In the manuscript “Laxative effect of Wenyang Yiqi Decoction on loperamide-induced astriction model mice”, authors assessed the laxative effect of WYD on loperamide-induced astriction (LIA) model mice. Couple questions are required to be answered before it will be accepted.

(1) In the methods of abstract, the sentence was too long, and the use of brackets was wrong.

It was better to state clearly the dose of WYD and duration time in the methods of abstract.
Reply 1: Thank the reviewer's for his comments. According to the editor's comments, the sentence has been revised again, and the dose of WYD and duration time in the methods of abstract was added. line 37-45.

(2) What was the meaning of “If histopathological variation was noticed”? Please state clearly.

And in the results of abstract, please state clearly the results of enteral hormones.
Reply 2: Thanks to the reviewer’s reminder, according to the reviewer's reminder, we modified it on page 2, line 45. We also revised the second minor problem in lines 52-56 on page 2.

(3) In the introduction, it was proposed to add related reference (DOI: 10.21037/hbsn-2021-25) about the traditional Chinese medicine (TCM).

Reply 3: We appreciate the reviewer’s valuable comment. I rechecked the overall article reference format, and added this article as a reference to the article. In the article is the 12th reference.

(4) The Wenyang Yiqi Decoction (WYD) was the crucial topic in the study. Please make a brief introduction, including its main components.

Reply 4: Our research group briefly introduced the composition and function of WYD's prescription, in lines 124-135.

(5) Please state clearly the body-weight of used mice in the methods. I did not understand the sentence of “(IV) Lop+Prucalopride (Pru) groups (n=10): mice were first administered with Lop and 1 hour later administered with 0.26 mg/kg BW of WYD once a day for 5 days”. It was administered with Pru or WYD? Please state clearly the administration type.

Reply 5: Thank the editor for carefully reviewing the article. It is because of carelessness. Here should be Pru. We revised line 174 in the article.

(6) In the methods, it was showed that sections were stained with hematoxylin. But, in the results and figures, it was stained with H&E. please check again.

Reply 6: It should be hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining. We revised line 203-204 in the article.

(7) In the figure legends, please state clearly the * P<0.05 versus which group?

Reply 7*:P<0.05 versus the Lop + Saline group.

(8) Compared to Western medicine, what were the advantages and limitations of WYD in the treatment of astriction? Please state in the discussion.

Reply 8: Thanks to the reviewer for such a good opinion, according to the teacher's opinion, we have added it to the article. Detailed visible line number: 351-355

Reviewer B

1. The article follows the ARRIVE checklist for reporting standards.

a) For item 4, no related information in the main text.

we have modified our text as advised. We have modified it as required.Method/line 171-181

Randomisation	4	a. State whether randomisation was used to allocate experimental units to control and treatment groups. If done, provide the method used to generate the randomisation sequence. b. Describe the strategy used to minimise potential confounders such as the order of treatments and measurements, or animal/cage location. If confounders were not controlled, state this explicitly.	In this experiment, considering the stability of the experimental results, we adopted a randomized block grouping design. In this experiment, considering the stability of the experimental results, we adopted a randomized block grouping design.
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b) For item 5, no blinding method in the experiment process.

Blinding	5	Describe who was aware of the group allocation at the different stages of the experiment (during the allocation, the conduct of the experiment, the outcome assessment, and the data analysis).	The experimental designer knows the team assignment Data analysis: the inspector does not know the team assignment The experimental designer knows the team assignment
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Reply: *We have modified our text as advised. We have modified it as required.*

2. Ethical Statement

For any experiments involving animals, the authors must indicate the nature of the ethical review permissions, relevant licenses (e.g., Animal [Scientific Procedures] Act 1986), and national or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals by which the research was conducted.

Reply: *see line 449-453*

3. Figure 4F was cited in the main text, but it was not presented in Figure 4. Please check.

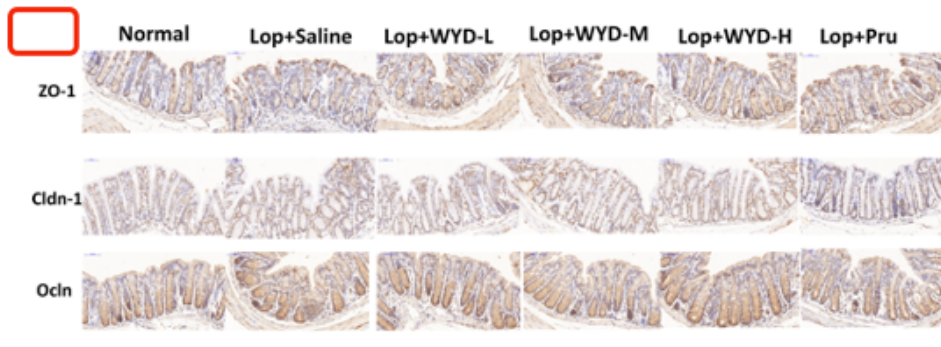
Reply: Annotation error, corrected

321 with the normal group ($P < 0.05$; **Figure 5A, Figure 4E, 4F**) There was no significant

4. Please indicate which image is Figure 5A in Figure 5. In addition, Figures 5C-5G were not cited in the main text. Please check.

Reply: The A icon has been added. At the same time, 5C-5G has also been shown in the article.

LINE336



5. References/Citations

Please double-check if citations should be added as you mentioned “studies”.

*Please note that the references should be cited in order of their appearance in the text. If the studies are not included in the reference list, please also update the current version.

164 ~~further strengthens the decoction's ability to moisten the intestines.~~ ~~Previous studies~~.....

165 ~~have shown that WYD has good outcomes in a variety of diseases.~~ However, few

Reply: Thank you. For the sake of academic rigor, these contents have been deleted. Line136.