

Manuscript Evaluation Form

PAPER TITLE	Determination of total arsenic, soluble arsenic, total mercury and soluble mercury for a Realgar and Cinnabar-containing Traditional Chinese medicine Compound Niu Huang Xiaoyan capsule by Semi-bionic Extraction-ICP-MS
AUTHOR(S) NAME	Bo-Yang Xu, Si-Qi Zhu, Xian-Xin Cheng, Yu Xu and Ji-Wu Liu

Sec. A: REFEREE'S ASSESSMENT*(cross as appropriate)*

Criterion	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality of the topic	x			
Technical Quality		x		
Importance in its Field	x			
Style & Overall Representation				
Readily Understandable	x			
Suitability for the Journal	x			
Adequate Illustrations or Drawings	x			
English language		x		
Overall the Paper is Rated:	(Excellent ----- Poor) 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1			

Criterion	Yes	No	Comments/ Suggestions
Does the title represent manuscript's contents?	x		
Is the Abstract accurate and concise?	x		
Are the approach/ methods properly described?	x		
Are the conclusions and interpretations sound?	x		
Are the references properly cited?	x		
Is this a new/ original/ confirmatory contribution?	x		
Is it within the scope of the journal?	x		

Sec. B: REFEREE'S RECOMMENDATIONS**OTHER SPECIFIC CRITICISMS**

Accept with minor changes	x	Imperfect style	
Accept with major changes		Too long	
Reject in current form, but may be resubmitted		References incorrectly presented	
Reject, with no resubmission		Typographical and Grammatical errors	x

PAPER TYPE: Research article

Review article

Letter article

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Confidential Comments to the Editor (not for Transmission to Authors):

This article is suitable for publication and within the scope of the journal, after some minor revision.

Comments for the Authors (continue on another sheet, if necessary):

Review of the article Determination of total arsenic, soluble arsenic, total mercury and soluble mercury for a Realgar and Cinnabar-containing Traditional Chinese medicine Compound Niuhuang Xiaoyan capsule by Semi-bionic Extraction-ICP-MS, by Bo-Yang Xu, Si-Qi Zhu, Xian-Xin Cheng, Yu Xu and Ji-Wu Liu

In this article, the method for determination of total arsenic, total mercury, soluble arsenic and soluble mercury in traditional Chinese medicine compound Niuhuang Xiaoyan capsules was established using semi-bionic extraction-ICP-MS. The analysis showed that the contents of soluble arsenic and soluble mercury in artificial gastric juice were significantly smaller than that of total arsenic and mercury in CNC. The results of this method were accurate, of high precision, good repeatability and reliable. These data provide a reference for further study on the toxicology and pharmacokinetics of CNC.

This article is suitable for publication and within the scope of the journal, after some minor revision.

The English language should be improved at some places.

Formatting according to the style of the journal should also be improved at some places.

On page 1, in the Introduction, column 2, line 6, format the text “As Compound Niuhuang Xiaoyan capsule”, according to the rest of the text in the article

On page 2, column 1, line 4, is more significant than that of total arsenic, instead of than that total arsenic
Paragraph 3, line 1, place the number and the unite of measure in the same row, 1000 mg/L, preferably

Line 11, use the first capital letters for Sinopharm International Corporation

Line 17, use the first small letter for guaranteed reagents

Paragraph 5, line 2, use one space between the adequate number and the unite of measure in the entire manuscript, for example 1500 w, 50 s

Move subheading 2.3 to the next column

Column 2, paragraph 1, lines 3 and 4, 800 mL of water and 10 g of pepsin

Paragraph 3, line 1, use one space between the number and the unit of measure, 0.2 g

Lines 3 and 4, the second sentence should be as follows

The solution was then mixed and heated for 1 hour at the temperature of 90 °C.

Line 11, format the font of the text “dried citrus leaves”, according to the rest of the article

Paragraph 4, line 2, 0.2 g of the powder in the capsules was weighed

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Move subheading 2.3.5. to the next page

On page 3, in Table 2, delete one space and replace Found/mg, instead of Found /mg, the first capital letter can be used for Recovery/%

In Table 3, state Found/mg, use the first capital letter for Soluble As and soluble Hg, as well as for Recovery/%
Delete points after captions of Table 2 and 3

On page 4, delete point after caption of Table 4

Below Table 4, use superscripts for a, b and c, and state the unite of measure mg/kg for the contents of both soluble As and soluble Hg, as follows ^a mg/kg; ^b mg/kg; ^c Not detectable.

Column 1, paragraph 3, The precision of the ICP-MS instrument for As and Hg

Column 2, paragraph 2, lines 2 and 3, manufacturers' codes: A, B and C

Paragraph 4, line 3, delete one space between of and the semi-bionic extraction

Paragraph 5, line 7, delete the word While at the beginning of the sentence and start the sentence with The non-mass spectrum interference

On page 5, column 1, paragraph 1, line 5, use superscript for 2+ in Hg²⁺

Line 8, use superscript for n- in [HgClx]ⁿ⁻

Paragraph 2, line 1, add one space between capsule and [1]

Line 17, delete one space between capsules and could

Column 2, paragraph 1, lines 2 and 3, place Table 3 in the same row

In Conclusion, delete word method at the end of the second sentence

In Human and animal rights, state based on this research, instead of base

In reference 2, add number of issue, if available, in references 4 and 6, add the number of last page, in references 7, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 21 add the number of issue

FIELD OF EXPERTISE OF REFEREE: Materials and chemical technologies, nanotechnologies, biomedical engineering, chemistry, medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry

Name & Affiliation of referee: Tamara Jovanovic, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Belgrade, Kraljice Marije 16, 11120 Belgrade, Serbia

Tamara Jovanovic / December 25, 2020

SIGNATURE OF REFEREE / DATE

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