

## **Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Antioxidant activity and hepatoprotective potential of agaro-oligosaccharides in vitro and in vivo

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over

Dear Editor:

We are so glad to receive the positive comments from reviewer, and also grateful for your kindness and helpful suggestions for the manuscript modification.

According to the reviewer's comments, we made suitable revisions and the response to the reviewer's comments is stated below:

1. (1) In this assay, we regarded the control group as normal cells which hadn't been harmed by any compounds. In Fig.6 every column was generated by analyzing the survival value of sample cells versus that of the control group (untreated cells), so it's unnecessary to describe the control in Fig.6.

(2) In order to elucidate clearly in article, we added some words in Page 9, line 240-247

".....the change in cell number was determined by analyzing the values of cells treated with agaro-oligosaccharide versus that of control (Fig. 6). From result, we found that compared with the control group untreated, the agaro-oligosaccharides exhibited very slight effects on the cell growth"  
and Page 10

"...with concentration  $\leq 250 \mu\text{M}$ , which means that, at proper concentration, the agaro-oligosaccharides can promote the proliferation of L-02 cells."

(3) The error bar is not missing in these columns (Fig. 6). The reason why you didn't find them is that we repeated every concentration for three times, but the difference among the three values is so small and the SD value was too low to be distinguished between the black line of the column and the error bar.

2. We added the abbreviation of two words in the revised paper.

**Line 378.** **MTT:** 3-(4,5-dimethyl-2-thiazolyl)-2,5-diphenyl-2H-tetrazolium bromide

**Line 365.** **DCFH-DA:** 2',7'-dichlorodihydrofluorescein diacetate

3.

**Line 56-57.** In recent years, agaro-oligosaccharides which derived from agarose have been widely investigated in structures and bioactivities. Many beneficial health properties of agaro-oligosaccharides are attributed to their antioxidant activities.

**Line 92.** Samples were dissolved in D<sub>2</sub>O. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra.....

**Line 99.** The sentence has been changed to "Mass spectrometry analyses were performed on a Bruker Reflex III MALDI-TOF-MS (Bruker-Daltonik, Germany), which was operated in the delayed extraction and positive mode."

**Line 100.**

**Line 101.**

**Line 194.** "MALDI-TOS-MS" has been changed to "MALDI-TOF-MS"

**Line 359.** "Conclusion" has been deleted.

**Line 403.**

**Line 443.**

**Line 446.** The sentence has been revised.

**Line 452.**

We are looking forward to receiving your writing back.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Chen Haimin