

Re: Effect of *Nigella sativa* against cisplatin induced nephrotoxicity in rats

Dear Editor,

An interesting article was published in the Italian Journal of Food Safety entitled *Effect of Nigella sativa against cisplatin induced nephrotoxicity in rats* (Alsuhaibani, 2018). The authors used male Sprague-Dawley rats and concluded that *Nigella sativa* (NS) contain bioactive agents which protect the kidney against cisplatin induced nephrotoxicity (CIN). Almost similar research was conducted by Hosseinian *et al.* (2018) in male Wistar Albino rats, and they also found that NS has antioxidant protective effect in the kidney against CIN. Other investigators also reported the protective role of NS against CIN (Busari *et al.*, 2018; Farooqui *et al.*, 2017; Hadjzadeh *et al.*, 2012), but one important point is necessary to mention here. The antioxidant effect of NS maybe gender related as it was found that losartan as antioxidant may protect the kidney against CIN in male but not in female rats (Haghighi *et al.*, 2012). Naseem *et al.* (2015) reported that the ameliorative effect of riboflavin against CIN is gender related. The gamma-aminobutyric acid as supplement against CIN exacerbate renal damage in female (Peysepar *et al.*, 2016), and pomegranate flower extract as antioxidant did not protect the kidney against CIN in female rats (Jilanchi *et al.*, 2013). Vitamin E and l-arginine also have different effects on CIN between two genders (Jilanchi *et al.*, 2014; Eshraghi-Jazi *et al.*, 2011). Therefore, the protective role of NS against CIN may be gender related, and the

interesting positive findings by Alsuhaibani (2018) may be failed in female. Further studies may needed to finalyzed the protective role of NS on CIN.

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