



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Research in Biochemistry
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJRB_50623
Title of the Manuscript:	BIOCHEMICAL AND HISTOLOGICAL CHANGES ASSOCIATED WITH AZO FOOD DYE (TARTRAZINE) IN MALE ALBINO RATS
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the abstract, you mentioned "In each phase, 80 rats were used ..." but in the text (line#163) "Forty (40) experimental rats were used in each phase of the study ..." Why? 2. You used manual methods to analyze blood chemicals. Did you have enough blood to reliably measure these chemicals? How much did plasma you got and how much was the plasma used in each test? 3. You studied chronic effects. During the period of study, there were also aging process. To make sure the histological changes derived from tartrazine dye, you should show the histological finding of control group of phase 3 (90 days). I think some changes you found in 90 days period might not be the toxicity of dye but aging. 	<p>Thank you for your observation. We actual worked on 40 male rats and not 80. But I think the 80 reflected because we also did another work on tartrazine using 80 rats (40 males and 40 females). Please, it is a mistake. Thank you so much for your meticulous observation. We have the necessary corrections as well.</p> <p>The rats used weighed 150grams. About 4.0 - 6.0mls of whole blood samples are collected per rat using cardiac puncture and after centrifugation, 2.0 - 3.5mls of plasma is obtained. ALT used 100μL, AST used 100μL, creatinine used 100μL, ALP used 50μL, lipase used 50μL, urea used 20μL, total protein used 20μL, albumin used 10μL and finally glucose used 10μL of plasma sample. Therefore, you will agree with us that we used a total of 460μL of plasma sample per rat which is even less than 0.5ml (NB: 1000μL=1.0ml). In other words, the plasma samples collected were enough for our biochemical assays.</p> <p>We agree that aging process might induce some histological changes. However, we doubt if the changes observed in our work is solely due to aging. The age of the rats we used was between 16 - 20 weeks old but these rats have life span of 2-3 years. Do we then say a 20-weeks-old rat has aged compared to their life span? Like we said earlier, we agree completely with you that aging processes play critical role in histological alterations and on that note we have added the control slides of 90 days treatment as suggested for your perusal, and valuable inputs. Once more, thank you very much for your valuable expertise and inputs just to improve on the quality of this paper. Thank you.</p>
Minor REVISION comments		



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Optional/General comments		
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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<u><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></u>	There were ethical issues in the work since blood and tissue samples were collected from experimental rats. On that note, approval was given by the Rivers State University ethical committee with file no: RSU/CV/APU/74/VOL.VIII/104.