

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



May 23, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 9997-Review.doc).

Title: GM3-containing nanoparticles in immunosuppressed hosts: Effect on myeloid-derived suppressor cells

Author: Audry Fernández, Liliana Oliver, Rydell Alvarez, Luis E Fernández and Circe Mesa

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Immunology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 9997

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated (Abstract was enlarged to fit the 200 word limit; Core Tip was included, etc.)

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer 00457420:

"I think this is a good review of a very complicated field although I have some comments. 1) There are some language errors that might need editing. 2) To get a better overview of the effects of VSSP on the different immune cells I would like to see a table summarizing the effects in short. 3) The TLR4 agonistic properties of VSSP needs to be commented upon since TLR4 stimulation has been shown to induce tumor growth through stimulation of MDSC recruitment and differentiation in other systems (see DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0034207 for one example). 4) A summary of adverse effects of VSSP would be appreciated. Has this compound been tested in phase I alone? 5) In the figure I think the scales have been switched? If not I completely misunderstand the figure. The figure legend needs to explain the main effects of VSSP in "B". 6) All abrogations need to be explained; i.e OTI, SIINFEKL, CTL and OVA".

We are thankful to both reviewers for the critical revision of the manuscript and particularly to the reviewer 00457420 for the valuable suggestions. We have incorporated in the manuscript all the recommendations of this reviewer, as follows:

1. English writing have been improved with the kind contribution of Dr. Kelvin P. Lee (Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, USA), to whom we are very grateful.
2. A table summarizing the effects of VSSP on the different immune cells was included in the revised manuscript (Table 1 at the end of the manuscript).

3. The TLR4 agonistic properties of VSSP were discussed in comparison to single TLR4 ligands such as LPS (bottom of page 8-beginning of page 9).
4. The adverse effects of VSSP and VSSP-containing vaccines were commented (second paragraph in page 12). Also in this section is clarified that VSSP is being used as the adjuvant of two cancer vaccines currently in Phase II clinical trials.
5. The scales of the figure were modified for a better understanding. Also in the figure legend the effects of VSSP on (B) were explain in more detail (page 22).
6. All the abbreviations were defined along the manuscript.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Immunology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Circe Mesa', is shown on a light gray background.

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