

23 July 2020

Vsevolod V Gurevich, PhD, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Vanderbilt University
Chun-Peng Wan, PhD, Postdoc, Professor, College of Agronomy, Jiangxi Agricultural University
Editors-in-chief,
World Journal of Biological Chemistry

Dear World Journal of Biological Chemistry Editors and Staff,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript ("Targeting the PI3K/Akt pathway in airway innate immunity" by Indiwari Gopallawa and Robert J. Lee; MS ID #: 04768407, MS type: review Title Submit Date: 2020-03-27, Title Accepted Date: 2020-03-27, Manuscript Submission Deadline: 2020-06-30, World Journal of Biological Chemistry Manuscript No: 57637) submitted in response to your invitation. Please note that, per your email from 3-21-2020, the publication fee should be exempted for this paper. We now submitting the revised version based on the reviewer's comments. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,
Robert J. Lee

A point-by-point response to the reviewer's comments is below.

Reviewer's comment: *This review ms was well-presented and explained with clear study design and ref-based comparison. It is believed that it will contribute to the exact research field and readers. Please confirm again by changing letters or typos in the main text and/or legends.*

Response: We re-checked the manuscript and fixed any existing typos. The authors are native English speakers and have reviewed the manuscript for language.

Reviewer's comment: *My minor comments are as below: 1. In Fig. 1, authors should complete the picture more accurately. In particular, it should display the behavior of transcription factors in the nucleus.*

Response: We added actions of Akt regulated transcription factors to the nucleus in the figure and better described this in the figure legend as per the reviewers' comment.

We thank the reviewer and editor for his or her comments and hope the manuscript is now improved so as to be suitable for acceptance for publication.

Editor's comment: 1 Scientific quality: This is a review of the role of Akt in airway defense. The topic is within the scope of the WJBC. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This review manuscript was well-presented and explained with clear study design and ref-based comparison. It is believed that it will contribute to the exact research field and readers. In Figure 1, authors should complete the picture more accurately. In particular, it should display the behavior of

transcription factors in the nucleus. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; and (3) Format: There are 3 figures. A total of 249 references are cited, including 60 references published in the last 3 years. There are 16 self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form and Copyright License Agreement. No academic misconduct was found in the CrossCheck detection and Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The study was supported by NIH/NIDCD; and US Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The topic has not previously been published in the WJBC. The corresponding author has not published articles in the BPG. 5 Issues raised: (1) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s);

Response: A copy of award letters for the two grants that supported this study (with non-essential identifying information redacted) were uploaded.

Editor's comment: (2) I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; and

Response: The original figures in PowerPoint were uploaded.

Editor's comment: (3) the authors need to provide an editable manuscript (format: .doc or .docx).

Response: A Word .docx file of the text was uploaded.