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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics*

Manuscript NO: 89049

Title: The comparison of treatment outcomes with BCD020 rituximab bioanalog compared to standard of care treatment in juvenile systemic lupus erythematosus: the data of 12 months case-control study.

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03307766

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, MSc, PhD

Professional title: Associate Professor, Director, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Kazakhstan

Author's Country/Territory: Russia

Manuscript submission date: 2023-10-19

Reviewer chosen by: Yu-Lu Chen

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-11-28 06:11

Reviewer performed review: 2023-11-30 08:21

Review time: 2 Days and 2 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty

Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION - The authors should also mention MAS as a potential complication of SLE in children (see: Macrophage Activation Syndrome in Pediatric Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: A Systematic Review of the Diagnostic Aspects. Front Med (Lausanne). 2021 Jun 4;8:681875. doi: 10.3389/fmed.2021.681875) - Rituximab should be introduced in a different paragraph from that providing SLE background. - Overall, the introduction provides a pertinent background and needs only some minor revisions, in terms of (few) language inconsistencies/repetition and as per comments above. METHODS - I would suggest better organizing it in subsection (study design and population, data collection, ethical statement, statistical analysis, others) - Indicate the exact date delimiting the study period. - Clearly list inclusion and exclusion criteria. Then, provide numerical and demographic information about the study population in the results. RESULTS - Notably, as shown in table 1, 5 patients developed MAS. Therefore, please, mention this condition

in the introduction based on the supportive reference. - Following the previous comment on MAS, it seems that the authors report it as clinical feature at the onset, which would be an important point, as also discussed in the suggested paper. Can you clarify if patients developing MAS showed it as disease onset? - Can you clarify PTX in table 1? Do you mean RTX? - Overall, the results are complete. DISCUSSION - I would suggest the authors clearly list and highlight their main findings and novelty at the very beginning of the introduction. - Some recent experiences with rituximab in children should be considered in the discussion, also to provide inputs on the most appropriate indications (see: *Pediatr Nephrol.* 2023 Dec;38(12):4001-4011. doi: 10.1007/s00467-023-06025-6; *J Pediatr.* 2017 Aug;187:213-219.e2. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2017.05.002; others) - Include limitations in the main text and expand this discussion. CONCLUSION - Highlight better the additional information and conclusion emerging from the present data. TABLES - no major comments