

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Manuscript NO: 57110

Title: 4-1BB/TRAF1 pathway on hepatitis C viral persistence and natural history

Reviewer's code: 03536939

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Research Fellow

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Hungary

Author's Country/Territory: Spain

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

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Scientific quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Excellent [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Very good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: Good [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Fair [<input type="radio"/>] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Grade A: Priority publishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade B: Minor language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [<input type="radio"/>] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Accept (High priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Accept (General priority) [<input type="radio"/>] Minor revision [<input type="radio"/>] Major revision [<input type="radio"/>] Rejection
Re-review	[<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] Anonymous [<input type="radio"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="radio"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="radio"/>] No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article focuses on the reactivation of T-cells, as a therapeutic approach, in patients with chronic HCV, as the virus and increasing TGF-beta 1 may result in exhaustion of T-cell-specific response during HCV infection. This therapy proved to be effective in patients having low fibrosis progression but long-term infection or rapid-progression and short-lasting disease. As presented and discussed in the article, the roles of IL-7 and 4-1BB/TRAF1 seem to be unique in the exhaustion and apoptosis of T-cells. The article is very well written, concise, and focused. There is only one comment, a mistyping of TGF-beta 1 on page 7.