

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Clinical Infectious Diseases

ESPS Manuscript NO: 5260

Title: Role of chemokines and cytokines in the neuropathogenesis of African trypanosomiasis

Reviewer code: 02451451

Science editor: Cui, Xue-Mei

Date sent for review: 2013-08-26 14:00

Date reviewed: 2013-09-01 00:39

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dr. Masocha presented a review paper regarding the role of chemokines and cytokines in the neuropathogenesis of African trypanosomiasis. The author systematically introduced the etiology, clinical characteristics and stages of African trypanosomiasis, and more interestingly, summarized abundant evidence, from basic research to clinical study, on the time-dependent distribution and expression patterns of a series of relevant chemokines and cytokines during the course of the disease. Moreover, a potential association between expression of chemokines and cytokines and brain invasion and neuropathology was discussed, in turn providing further molecular evidence largely accounting for the severity and stages of the disease in clinic. In the end, as the author stated, "studying cytokines and chemokines during African trypanosomiasis not only aids in understanding the neurobiology of the disease but also provides candidate diagnostic markers and possible therapeutic targets to reduce the neurological sequelae in surviving patients". The manuscript is well organized and the evidence summarized is clinical-relevant and thought-provoking. Several minor suggestions: 1. Introduction, paragraph 2, line 1-4, these statements (Clinically HAT is divided into two stages:.....where there is rapid transition from stage 1 to stage 2) need a reference. 2. In the last section (concluding remarks) the author may add some more information to the readers, E.g. 1): an interesting phenomenon has been summarized, but is there any possibly underlying mechanisms behind the time-dependent distribution patterns of these chemokines and cytokines? 2): Relevant chemokines and cytokines' characteristic expression features tend to link to the patients' clinical manifestation (severity or stages), how could our clinicians take advantage of this evidence to treat clinical patients, just give us some examples about the selection of treatment strategy if available. 3. Please list the full name when the first time uses the



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abbreviation. E.g. CSF, etc.