

Dear Editor,

The authors would like to thank you for your time, comments, and recommendation. Please here are the replies:

Editor:

Self-cited references: There are 19/86 self-cited references. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%.

Self-cited references have been decreased to 8 for 75 reference. Just over 10%

The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s).

Number have been added to the manuscript (Acknowledgments section) and pdf form have been submitted

Author Contributions:

The author contribution has been reformatted as requested

The authors did not provide original pictures. 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;

A PowerPoint document has been uploaded with all the figures.

The “Article Highlights” section is missing. Please add the “Article Highlights” section at the end of the main text;

The webform section has been populated with required info, and the section has been added at the end of the main text before the references.

Reviewer:

In this study, the authors provided evidence that administration of Chromofungin (CHR: chromogranin-A 47–66) negatively regulates the development of DSS-induced colitis. In addition, expression of CD11c and CD80/86 expression is negatively correlated to that of CHR in patients with UC. Most of data shown in this data are convincing. Please address the following points.

1) Please examine the expression of CD11c, CD80, and CD86 at the protein levels, i.e. FACS or immunohistochemistry, in DSS colitis.

This was our initial plan before COVID-19. As many sanitary' restrictions have been in effect, we were and are still not able to generate a new set of data. In addition, all our current samples have been used.

2) Please examine the expression of TNF-alpha in DSS colitis.

The expression in preclinical and clinical setting of TNF-a was previously published. See PMID: 28827109. We demonstrated a positive correlation with mRNA NFkBp56 and a negative correlation with mRNA level of CHGA Exon-IV (Chromofungin). A statement has been added to the discussion referring to the original article

3) Please discuss how CHR negatively regulates NF-kappaB activation.

The discussion has been modified by adding an extended description of the potential pathways implicating CHR and NFkB

Thanks for considering our manuscript for publication,

Sincerely

Jean-Eric Ghia