

Response to the reviewers' comments

Reviewer 1:

In this manuscript, the authors report a research of upregulated A2AR accelerates post-infectious irritable bowel syndrome (PI-IBS). They concluded that the upregulation of A2AR increases PI-IBS by promoting the Th17 polarization of CD4⁺T cells. The methods are clearly described and results are reasonable. This study is really useful for readers interested in pathogenesis of PI-IBS. However, the following points need to be addressed. Minor comments:

1. There are some typing errors. 2. The reference type needs to be revised according to journal guideline. 3. Improve the image resolution for Figure 1, and add the scale bar for each histopathological image.

Reply:

1. Thank you for your comment. We have corrected the typing error in our manuscript.

2. Thank you for your comment. We have revised the reference type according to the journal guideline.

3. Thank you for your comment. We have improve the image resolution for Figure 1, and add the scale bar for each histopathological image.

Reviewer 2:

“Upregulated A2AR accelerates post-infectious irritable bowel syndrome by promoting CD4⁺T cells' Th17 polarization” by Dong et al. In my opinion, it is a well-written and interesting manuscript, and within the scope of the journal. The authors investigated the role of Th17 polarization by CD4⁺ T cells regulated by A2AR in PI-IBS, and they concluded that the regulation of A2AR plays a pathogenetic role in the development of PI-IBS. Two suggestions: 1) All figures should be enlarged and a scale bar should be indicated in images of

Figure 1. 2) Maybe you should give more details on “AWR score” and “Bristol stool scoring system”, which contribute to a more comprehensive understanding for readers.

Reply:

1.Thank you for your comment. We have enlarged all figures and indicated a scale bar in images of Figure 1.

2.Thank you for your comment. We have described AWR and Bristol Score system in details.

Reviewer 3:

This is an interesting study of the role of Th17 polarization by CD4+ T cells regulated by A2AR in PI-IBS. This study is very well designed and the results are very interesting. The reviewer recommends to accept this manuscript after a minor editing. Thank you.

Reply: Thank you for your comment.