Author's response to reviews

Title: Perindopril treatment promote left ventricle remodelling in patients with heart failure screened positive for autoantibodies against angiotensin II type 1 receptor

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Josefino,

We would like to thank you and the reviewers for your valuable comments and advice regarding our manuscript, “Perindopril treatment promote left ventricle remodelling in patients with heart failure screened positive for autoantibodies against angiotensin II type 1 receptor” (MS: 4275368418724521). Without your clear and detailed comments, we could not have revised the paper within the eight months allotted.

All comments have been addressed and point-to-point responses have been provided below. The manuscript has been revised in accordance with the journal’s style guide.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

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RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

We would like to thank reviewers for their positive evaluation of our manuscript and for their valuable comments. Below are our point-to-point responses to the reviewers’ concerns. The discussion section has been expanded and now provides more detail.

One of the tables and two of the figures have been removed. We believe these changes have made the manuscript stronger. This manuscript has also been edited and proofread by LetPub.

Reviewer#1:

Reviewer’s report

The authors have well modified their articles according to my last comments. I should add that the English level throughout the manuscript was greatly improved.

Q. Minor Revisions

Page 12, line 292; the authors should cite the study by Loot et al that Ang 1-7 is protective in a model of heart failure. Ang 1-7 has also been shown to have anti-inflammatory effects (Chappell MC, Hypertension 2007) and these may contribute as well to actions of the ACE inhibitor.

A. We would like to thank the reviewers for their suggestions. The discussion section has been changed accordingly (Page 14, lines 312–318).
Reviewer #2

We don’t link the second reviewer’s report here and respond the second reviewer’s comments in the first time again.

Q1. If I understand correctly this should be: Perindopril treatment promote left ventricle remodeling in patients with heart failure screened positive for autoantibodies against angiotensin II type 1 receptor.

A1: We would like to thank the reviewer for the suggestions. The title has been revised recording: “Perindopril treatment promotes left ventricle remodeling in heart failure patients with autoantibodies against angiotensin II type 1 receptor”.

Q2. Two duplicated sentences in methods (Anti-AT1-AR determination).

A2. The duplicated sentences have been deleted.

Q3. Authors should clarify what is blank and what is negative control (sample OD-blank OD/negative control OD-blank OD) since this is an in-house EIA...

A3. We have included this information in the revised manuscript (Page 8, line 176).

Q4. Positive sera for AT1 receptor in CHF was 56.41 % (88/156), significantly higher than that in the control group. Authors should describe the aforementioned control group. I cannot see any data on this group in patients section or in table 1.

A4. These data were not related to the current study and had been removed.
Q5 Authors should discuss more on the potential pathogenic/beneficial role of anti-angiotensin II type 1 receptor autoantibodies. What happens in the group of patients with autoantibodies disappearance or significant titer reduction (>4 fold) regarding primary outcome and LV remodeling? Also, some more discussion on the mechanisms of titer reduction or disappearance upon perindopril treatment would be appreciated. English must be improved throughout the manuscript.

A5: The text regarding the potential pathogenic and beneficial roles of anti-angiotensin II type 1 receptor autoantibodies has been modified. We are currently pursuing research that may allow us to describe the exact pathological mechanism in detail (Pages 12–15, lines 254–346).

Minor revisions:

Many typing and formatting errors throughout the manuscript. References should be uniform in terms of formatting (Journal abbreviations). Level of interest: An article of importance in its field.

Answers: We have modified the text and rendered the references uniform.