Author's response to reviews

Title: Arterial Wall Properties and Womersley Flow in Fabry Disease

Authors:

David F Moore (dfm1@helix.nih.gov)
Gheona Altarescu (altaresg@ninds.nih.gov)
Randall Pursley (pursley@exchange.nih.gov)
Umberto Campia (umberto.campia@medstar.net)
Julio A Panza (panzaj@nhlbi.nih.gov)
Emilios Dimitriadis (dimitria@helix.nih.gov)
Raphael Schiffmann (rs4e@nih.gov)

Version: 3 Date: 27 Dec 2001

PDF covering letter
December 27, 2001

Ms. Ruth King
Editorial Assistant, BioMed Central
BioMed Central Editorial

RE: 181541357386046 Ver: 1 Arterial Wall Properties and W…. Moore et al.

Dear Ms. King,

Thank you for your email of December 17, 2001 and the excellent comments of the reviewer. We have revised the manuscript to respond to the suggestions and concerns of the reviewer in the following manner:

**Reviewer 1 (Dr. Nichols)**

1. We added the following sentence at the end of the introduction to indicate the role of acetylcholine: ‘ACh induces vasodilation is due to an obligatory endothelium mechanism while SNP induces arterial vasodilation by a direct action on arterial smooth muscle allowing examination of endothelial and smooth muscle function in Fabry disease [6].’

2. The dynamic frequency characteristics of the fluid-filled catheter-manometer system was added on page 4 of the Materials and Methods Section. We followed the advice of the reviewer and recalculated the mean blood flow by truncating the late diastole values. This calculation gave much higher values. These blood flow values were not significantly different between patients and controls either at baseline or after administration of acetylcholine or sodium nitroprusside. We modified the abstract, results, and the discussion sections accordingly.

3. We acknowledge that the radial artery response to pharmacological intervention was significantly smaller than the response using plethysmography. This may be due to either the small sample in our study or to a reflection of a more general difference in responsivenes between conductance vessels and resistance vessels represented here by the radial artery.

We hope this paper is now in a form suitable for publication in Biomed Central.

Sincerely,
Raphael Schiffmann, M.D.