Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of acute pancreatitis on the responsiveness of rat mesenteric and pulmonary arteries

Version: 1 Date: 26 February 2008

Reviewer: Jean-Louis Frossard

Reviewer’s report:

The paper by Camargo et al is aimed at evaluating the influence of acute pancreatitis on the responsiveness of rat mesenteric and pulmonary arteries. The authors used the well known model of taurocholate induced acute pancreatitis and presented their data in two main figures. They found minor changes (although some are significantly different from control groups) in the dose response curves using Ach, Phe and SNP as pharmacological agents.

Several points deserve comments.

Major points:

The authors do not demonstrate how severe the pancreatitis was in the rat. They must give amylase or lipase concentrations in all groups, and show others parameters that are usually used to illustrate the occurrence of pancreatitis (pancreatic edema, pancreatic necrosis, sequestration of inflammatory cells within the pancreas).

They focus on a very pivotal remote organ injury studying the lung during acute pancreatitis. The data provided in this study add minor incremental new data and even if some of the results brought by the authors are statistically different in figure 1 from control treated animals, it does not mean to me at least anything relevant.

The nitrite/nitrate data are not new.

Altogether the paper does not bring important new data.

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.