Reviewer’s report

Title: Tolerability of inhaled N-chlorotaurine in a pig streptococcal bronchopneumonia model

Version: 1 Date: 3 July 2011

Reviewer: Futoshi Higa

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions
This manuscript describes that evaluation of inhalation of N-chlorotaurine (NCT) in a pig model study. Five ml of 1% NCT or normal saline was administered two hours after intra-tracheal infection of Streptococcus pyogenes. No hemodynamic difference was observed between 1% NCT and normal saline groups.

The experimental model was in the very early phase of infection, and did not simulate broncho-pneumonia as authors stated in Discussion. The model seems to be an acute airway inflammation model rather than pneumonia model. Distribution of NCT might not be verified. Authors should state the limitation of this study.

Minor essential revisions
1) (Title) This experimental model seems to be an acute airway inflammation model rather than a bronchopneumonia model.

2) (page 19 lines 410) This study could not show the antimicrobial activity of NCT in vivo. Authors should discuss on the results. Speculation might cause bias of interpretation.

3) (page 19 line 402-409) Authors stated that the lack of NCT activity was due to a short half-life of NCT in the lung. It should be noted that homogeneous distribution of NCT in the lung is not verified.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests