Title: Combined immunization using DNA-Sm14 and DNA-Hsp65 increases CD8+ memory T cells, reduces chronic pathology and decreases egg viability during Schistosoma mansoni infection

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We are pleased to send the manuscript entitled: “Combined immunization using DNA-Sm14 and DNA-Hsp65 increases CD8+ memory T cells, reduces chronic pathology and decreases egg viability during *Schistosoma mansoni* infection”, to be considered for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases.

In the current work, we tested a new vaccination strategy using DNA-Sm14 along with DNA-Hsp65 in order to potentiate protection against schistosomiasis. Combined immunization induced increased CD8+ memory T cells and was able to decrease egg viability on intestinal wall of infected mice. In addition, simultaneous vaccination with DNA-Sm14/DNA-Hsp65 showed reduction of collagen and α-SMA accumulation on chronic phase of granuloma formation, indicating a potential antifibrotic propriety of DNA-Hsp65 associated with reduction of tissue damage.

All the contributing authors have reviewed the manuscript, concur in the submission and have no financial interest in relation to the submission. We attest that the manuscript is not currently under consideration, in press, or published elsewhere, and that the research reported will not be submitted for publication elsewhere until a final decision has been made by the journal as to its acceptability.

This manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and overall style by one or more of the highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts (Certificate Verification Key: C6C2-2D0E-D7F6-3F51-7FEA). Please note that all
experiments using animals were conducted with permission of the Brazilian national authorities (Protocol nº 09.1.144.53.3).

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter,

Sincerely,

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