Reviewer’s report

Title: Adjuvant TACE inhibitor treatment improves the outcome of TLR2-/- mice with experimental pneumococcal meningitis

Version: 4 Date: 28 February 2007

Reviewer: Annamaria AV vezzani

Reviewer’s report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Please add in the text the justification reported in the rebuttal letter for choosing not to treat the DKO mice with TACE inhibitor. This explanation will help the reader to readily understand the rationale for the choice of treatments.

The paper(s) were the method and score used for measurements of motor activity and general health of mice has been validated needs to be referenced in the text. If this is reported in ref 7 than this will suffice.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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