Author's response to reviews

Title: Simvastatin decreases the level of heparin-binding protein in patients with acute lung injury

Authors:

Daniel F McAuley (d.f.mcauley@qub.ac.uk)
Cecilia O'kane (c.okane@qub.ac.uk)
Thelma R Craig (thelma.craig@hotmail.co.uk)
Murali Shyamsundar (muralee792000@yahoo.co.in)
Heiko Herwald (heiko.herwald@med.lu.se)
karim Dib (k.dib@qub.ac.uk)

Version: 2 Date: 4 February 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Belfast 03/02/ 2013,

To Timothy Shipley,
Executive Editor BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Dear Editor,

Please find our manuscript entitled “Simvastatin decreases the level of heparin-binding protein in patients with acute lung injury” for consideration of its publication BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

In this manuscript, we report that elevated plasma level of heparin-binding protein in patients with acute lung injury is associated with intense care unit mortality. We also show that oral administration of simvastatin lowers plasma levels of heparin-binding proteins in patients with acute lung injury. We provide here a mechanism by which simvastatin exerts a potential protective effect in acute lung injury.

I do hope that the external referees and the Editorial board will favourably score this manuscript and ultimately accept it for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Sincerely Yours

Karim Dib, Ph.D
Senior Lecturer in Molecular Immunology
Centre for Infection and Immunity, School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, Queen’s University Belfast, Second Floor, Health Sciences Building, 97 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7BL, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom
k.dib@qub.ac.uk | +44 28 9097 2634 (office) | +44 28 9097 2671 (fax)