Reviewer's report

Title: Short-term glutamine feeding decreases lung inflammation and the receptor for advanced glycation end-products (RAGE) expression in direct acute lung injury in mice

Version: 3 Date: 4 March 2014

Reviewer: Ruud Veldhuizen

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In the revised manuscript Dr Yin-ching Chuang and colleagues have addressed the majority of my previous concerns, at least in their cover letter. However many of the concerns I raised previously are still of concern when reading the revised manuscript (i.e. no, or insufficient changes were made to the revised manuscript. See the details in my previous review.

Comment 1) values of unchallenged mice. Some comments in text regarding this limitation (and or reference to previous studies) is warranted

Comment 2) The method of killing. It has been changed to “The mice were sacrificed by sodium pentobarbital asphyxiation 3 hrs after ALI challenge.” I don’t think asphyxiation is the correct term for killing using sodium pentobarbital.

Comment 3 and 4) animal model: The authors have provided a reply to my comments, but no adequate change was made in the revised manuscript; some discussion on the advantages, disadvantages and limitations of the experimental model is warranted. For survival studies the details should be included in the text.

Minor Comment 5) n-values in the survival study still don’t make sense to me. The numbers on the graph (such as 33%) would suggest 9 animal per group. The 8 animals per group the authors continue to list in the paper can mathematically not result in the values on the graph.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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