Author's response to reviews

Title: Differential Expression of C-Reactive Protein and Serum Amyloid A in Different Cell Types in the Lung Tissue of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Patients.

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Executive Editor BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Dear Editor,

We would like to submit our manuscript, entitled: “Differential Expression of C-Reactive Protein and Serum Amyloid A in Different Cell Types in the Lung Tissue of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Patients” for consideration of publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine as an original article.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is associated with important extrapulmonary manifestations. Although the pathobiology of these extra-pulmonary manifestations has not been fully determined, systemic inflammation has been implicated in the pathogenesis of the majority of these manifestations. In fact, several authors have suggested that COPD is part of a chronic systemic inflammatory syndrome. There has been considerable interest in identifying the nature of COPD-mediated systemic inflammation, and one important issue is identifying the origin of systemic inflammation, which is currently controversial. The present study provides novel information regarding the expression of CRP and SAA in the lung parenchyma, indicating these cell types as primarily responsible for secretion of these molecules. Furthermore, we identified differences in production according to the cell type and the presence or absence of disease. The results of the present study reflect two main findings: firstly, all fibroblasts, epithelial cells and macrophages express CRP and SAA, and secondly, expression of both markers differs according to cell type and the presence of disease.

This work is not currently under consideration elsewhere and has not previously been published. All authors have contributed significantly and have read and approved the manuscript and they grant an exclusive licence to the journal in the event of acceptance.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our manuscript and hope that you will find it suitable for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Sincerely,

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