Author's response to reviews

Title: The Selective CB2 Agonist, JWH133, Ameliorated Collagen-Induced Arthritis

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January 17th, 2014

Professor Peter Lipsky
Professor Ravinder Maini
Editor, Arthritis Research & Therapy

Dear Professor Peter Lipsky and Professor Ravinder Maini,

Thank you for the request of minor revisions concerning our manuscript entitled, “The selective CB2 agonist, JWH133, Ameliorated Collagen-Induced Arthritis.” (1634272212115842). We have carefully reviewed the comments from the Associate Editor, and response to the comments is as follows,

1) >All human data are selected. Please show all data performed and calculate the statistics only on the biological variation.

We added results of immunofluorescence double-staining in Figure 1E.

2) >It seems inappropriate to calculate mean values of radiographic scores which includes both deformation and erosions, which are different process. Please take out the deformity scores from the figure. It could possibly be presented separately if you would prefer.

Thank you for this suggestion. We took out the deformity score in Figure 4E.

3) >The numbers of animals should be higher with this quite minor effect.
According to the Japanese legal issue, we could not obtain enough amount of compound (JWH133, the selective CB2 agonist) to increase the number of animals. Although the effect of JWH133 on the animal model may be small, treatment with JWH133 ameliorated collagen-induced arthritis statistically significant both prophylactically and therapeutically.

Thank you for your attention to this manuscript.

Sincerely,

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