Reviewer's report

Title: Immunomodulation of murine collagen-induced arthritis by N, N-dimethylglycine and a preparation of Perna canaliculus

Version: 1 Date: 29 January 2007

Reviewer: N M Davies

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)

None

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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)

Title
Fine

Abstract
Throughout the whole article please italize the words: in vivo and in vitro.

Line 16: Change if for of.

Methods

Neutrophil superoxide assay
Was this experiment also performed with DMG?

Animals and treatment groups
This section should be moved before the section: Induction of CIA to enhance clarity.

The authors state in line 4: “DMG plus Perna (at the previously indicated concentrations).” Which are the concentrations, and where were they previously indicated?

Results

Therapeutic administration of Perna ameliorated ongoing CIA in mice
Authors should include a summary table similar to Table 1 to summarize the results in this section for enhanced clarity.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Other comments/observations

It will be recommended for future experiments to perform pharmacokinetic studies in different species to understand the absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion of DMG and Perna to be able to predict the actual therapeutic doses needed to have pharmacological responses.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

Dr. Davies has previously received a grant from Vetri Science.