Reviewer's report

**Title:** Edible oyster mushroom suppresses inflammatory response in macrophages and in an animal model of endotoxemia.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 8 November 2010

**Reviewer:** Margherita Cantorna

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revisions:
The number of times experiments have been done needs to be clearly described for each figure.

The effect of the OMC on viability of cells needs to be looked at in every in vitro assay exactly as the assay was done. It is not adequate as reported to add OMC alone to RAW cells and say that an increase in death was seen at the highest dose and after 48 h. The stimulation in the presence of LPS and OMC needs to be done to determine if cell death and not regulation of inflammation is responsible for the observations.

Same with Fig. 5 data.

The claim that OMC suppressed endotoxemia is not supported by the data. IL-6 did not change and although TNF-a decreased significantly it is not clear whether the small decrease would protect against endotoxemia.

The analyses of the extract are puzzling. The description of the extract suggest that only water soluble molecules are used in the assays. Characterization of that fraction would be interesting. The mass spectra data will not be overly informative to the readership of J Nutr.

In addition, why was an ethanol extract Fig 8? characterized. Only the water extract was used.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.