Reviewer's report

Title: Cardiac-Specific Catalase Overexpression Rescues Anthrax Lethal Toxin-Induced Cardiac Contractile Dysfunction: Role of Oxidative Stress and Autophagy

Version: 1 Date: 24 May 2012

Reviewer: Satoaki Matoba

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript focused on the mechanism of anthrax lethal toxin-induced cardiac dysfunction. The authors suggested the effect of autophagy and mitochondrial function.

Overall, the general findings are of interest. However, there are significant issues with the clarity and general mechanistic logic of the work as currently written.

1) Author's group has already shown the mechanism of impaired calcium handling (13).

Although they showed new data about autophagy and mitochondrial membrane potential, importance of them is not clear in this context.

2) From the results of Fig 7A and Fig. 8D, the rate of LC3-II is increased but difficult to say they were excessive. The relation of excessive autophagy and ROS is not clear in this manuscript. Authors should show how autophagy was controlled in this model.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.