Author's response to reviews

Title: Potential immunological consequences of pharmacological suppression of gastric acid production in multiple sclerosis subjects

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear BioMed Editorial Team,

We have revised our manuscript “Potential immunological consequences of pharmacological suppression of gastric acid production in multiple sclerosis subjects” (MS: 1777559201684177) in accordance with the reviewers’ suggestions.

Reviewer 1

1) “abstract: Although histamine release promotes inflammation, activation of the H2R can suppress a proinflammatory immune response, and blocking...”

We thank the reviewer for catching this. We have made the modification to the abstract as suggested (abstract, lines 6-7).

2) “H2R activation promotes a Th2 response: what do you mean by 'Supporting in vitro studies demonstrate...”

We recognize that “Supporting” could be confusing and thus we have removed it (page 4, last paragraph, first line). The sentence should now be clearer.

3) “H2R activation polarizes DC and monocyte function towards a Th2 response: Due to their capacity”

We have replaced “capacity” with “ability” to enhance the clarity of this sentence (page 6, second paragraph, third line).

Reviewer 2

4) “The reference number “34” refers to the trial of copolymer 1. This treatment is not included in the related paragraph "H2R activation suppresses proinflammatory T cell responses (pg 5).”
We thank the reviewer for catching this. We have added “Copolymer 1” to the list of compounds (page 5, second sentence under the section “H2R activation suppresses…”).

In addition, we have reduced the length of the abstract by ~10%. We feel that additional reductions will have a negative impact. We hope you find these changes to be satisfactory.

Sincerely,

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