Reviewer's report

Title: Immunity, atherosclerosis and cardiovascular disease

Version: 1 Date: 12 February 2013

Reviewer: Kuang-Yuh Chyu

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Major Compulsory Revisions

Section of “Immune modulatory therapy”, last paragraph

The list of references on HSP immunization is not complete. HSP immunization has been recently reported to reduce atherosclerosis in animal models. Here are few examples --


Given the athero-promotion effect of HSP immunization reported in the earlier literature (ref 51 in the manuscript), a short discussion of the discrepant reports on the effect of HSP immunization on atherosclerosis would be helpful.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Section of “oxidized LDL and related compounds”, 1st sentence – “Present at an early stage is low density lipoprotein (oxLDL) ...” Should be .....(LDL).

2. Section of “oxidized LDL and related compounds”, 12th sentence -- :...(PC) as an important epitope (PC)”. Delete second (PC).

3. Section title of “autoantibodies against phospholipid-related epitopes” – delete “autoantibodies against”. The phospholipid-related epitopes are the potential cause of inflammation, not autoantibodies.

Discretionary revisions
The section of “Is atherosclerosis a disease or a part of normal aging – or both?” is interesting, especially from evolutionary point-of-view. However the author can consider shortening this section. It would be more informative if the author can present his view (or answer) to the question.

Quality of written English: acceptable

Statistical review: The manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests: no conflict of interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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