Author's response to reviews

Title: PDE4-targeted treatments for autoimmune diseases

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

Enclosed are the responses to the Reviewer’s reports on version 1 of our manuscript.

Authors’ contributions: All authors have approved the final version of the manuscript submitted.

Competing interests and Authors’ contributions sections have been moved to the end of our manuscript.

Reviewer: Clive Page

i) Thank you for the comments. As requested, this information has been added to the bottom of page 7.

ii) As requested, this information has been added to the top of page 7.

iii) Apremilast side effects have been mentioned at the bottom of page 6. The article is organized to discuss the PDE4-inhibitors as a class, with separate sections on select drugs that were unique enough to be mentioned individually.

iv) The suggestion that nausea and vomiting is associated with Rolipram due to it also being a PDE3-inhibitor has been removed. Information on mesenteric vasculitis has been added to the bottom of page 6. When the topic of the review was selected, PDE3 inhibitors (and their cardiovascular nature) were not the focus of the paper and we decided not to mention them.

Reviewer: Peter Taylor

Thank you so much for the comments. The references have been updated. The information from phase II studies of apremilast for rheumatoid arthritis has been added to the bottom of page 12.