Reviewer's report

Title: Effectiveness of Iloprost and Montelukast Combination on Spinal Cord Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury in a Rat Model

Version: 1 Date: 26 February 2013

Reviewer: Hakan Ozhan

Reviewer's report:

The paper deals with an original hypothesis and the authors did their best to conduct the investigation and write their findings. However, I have several concerns;

1. Some changes for better reading and understanding should be necessary such as;
   ---Effectiveness of Iloprost and Montelukast Combination on Spinal Cord; ……
   ("Efficacy of…")
   ---The tissue level of HSP-70 was found to be similar among the 3 groups, however, MPO level was found to be significantly higher in the control group than in the sham group or in the study group (p=0.007). The IL-6 receptor level was found to be significantly lower in the sham group than in the control group or in the study group (p=0.005): (HSP-70 was highest and MPO level was lowest in the control group (p=0.007 and p=0.005; respectively)
   --- several grammatical errors such as; evaluted, assessment, tha sham group

2. Who has done the hematologic and neurological assessment? Were they blinded to the study groups?

3. Although the authors have put much effort in montelukast purification, absence of parenteral form is a clear limitation and should be added to the text.

4. The discussion should be written in-depth regarding montelukast and its potential mechanism on ischemia. Several recently published papers may be referred; such as

   "Effects of zileuton and montelukast in mouse experimental spinal cord injury; by Genovese et al and Montelukast inhibits caspase-3 activity and ameliorates oxidative damage in the spinal cord and urinary bladder of rats with spinal cord injury by Ersahin et al.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests