Reviewer’s report

Title: Infliximab therapy together with tyrosine kinase inhibition targets leukemic stem cells in chronic myeloid leukemia

Version: 1 Date: 04 May 2019

Reviewer: Paolo Gallipoli

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed all of my comments. However with regards to my comment 2 about the TNF-alpha rescue experiment in IFX treated primary murine cells, I do believe that would be an important experiment to clarify the effects and possible mechanism of action of IFX in this setting. I do appreciate the issue regarding regulatory approval and the time delay associated with it. While I think the paper could be accepted in the absence of these experiments, I would personally grant the authors more time to do them. If however the Editor feels strongly about it and does not want to wait the time required, I would suggest the paper is approved without these experiments but with careful discussion about the limitations of current experiments in allowing to draw conclusion on the mechanisms of action of IFX. Ideally one sentence explaining this clearly should be added to the discussion.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

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