Author’s response to reviews

Title: Human herpesvirus-6 corneal endothelitis after intravitreal injection of ranibizumab

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RE: BOPH-D-18-00328R1

Human herpesvirus-6 corneal endothelitis after intravitreal injection of ranibizumab

Masahiro Onda; Yusuke Niimi; Kenji Ozawa; Ikumi Shiraki; Kiyofumi Mochizuki; Tetsuya Yamamoto; Sunao Sugita; Kyoko Ishida

Dear Editor-in-chief

Thank you for reviewing our manuscripts. We revised the manuscript according to the reviewer’s valuable comment. Below is the reviewer’s italicized comments followed by our response written in red.
Reviewer reports:

Alejandro Fonollosa Calduch (Reviewer 1): Thank you for your responses, I think now is suitable for publication.

Yi Lu (Reviewer 2): Thanks for the revised version. Just one more question, please discuss the ECD change in the discussion part because significant changes occurred before and after treatment.

Replay:

We were only able to detect the genomic DNA of HHV-6, but not the other 23 pathogens, e.g., HSV type 1 or 2, VZV, EBV, CMV, HHV-7, HHV-8, bacterial 16s ribosomal RNA (rRNA), or fungal 28s rRNA, in the aqueous humor of our patient. Furthermore, the copy number of HHV-6 DNA in the aqueous humor decreased with anti-HHV treatment. Qavi et al. found that HHV-6 was capable of infecting the corneal epithelial cells in vitro causing morphological changes similar to those caused by other human herpes viruses [34].

After the above sentences, we added the following one.

(P9 Line 156-158) Significant corneal endothelial cell density changes observed in our case might have been caused by corneal endothelitis with mild edema of the central cornea, intermediate KP, and minimal anterior chamber reaction. Thus, HHV-6 might be one of the causative agents causing corneal endothelitis.

We hope this manuscript is acceptable for publication in the BMC Ophthalmology.

Sincerely yours,

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