Reviewer's report

Title: Protocadherin-1 is a glucocorticoid-responsive critical regulator of airway epithelial barrier function

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Reviewer: Steve Georas

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The authors have responded to previous criticisms, including showing that PCDH1 knock-down does not interfere with other TJ/AJ molecules.

Many of the revised sentences need to be rewritten for clarity and contain grammatical inaccuracies. For example:

"There are no differences on the expression levels of PCDH1 between normal mucosa in control and NR in CRS": in this sentence and the same sentence describing results in asthma, should read "...no differences IN the expression levels..."

"In the present study, we did not study the effect of PCDH1 knockdown on primary cultured epithelial cells, because we could transfec efficiently miRNAs into primary airway epithelial cells and keep it for a certain period. So, it is one of the limitations of our study": this is awkward. As an alternative: "A limitation of our study is that we did not primary cultured airway epithelial cells, because of technical difficulties in achieving sustained siren knock-down in primary cells".

" We used several source of lung section including 2 autopsy samples obtained the fatal asthmatic patients. In common, all patients were relatively severe asthmatic patients with airflow limitation. Recently, pathogenesis of asthma is recognized to be heterogenous and complexities. Although we couldn't clarify how the PCDH1 is involve in the pathophysiology of asthma, we showed that downregulation of PCDH1 would be associated with progression of disease severity of asthma": awkward. Instead: " We used several sources of lung section including autopsy samples obtained from fatal asthmatic patients. All patients were relatively severe asthmatic patients with airflow limitation. In future studies, it will be important to study the expression and function of PCDH1 in larger numbers of subjects with varying asthma severity".

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 no competing interests.