Author’s response to reviews

Title: Immune-enhancing activity of C. militaris fermented with Pediococcus pentosaceus (GRCON89A) in CY-induced immunosuppressed model

Authors:

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear, Editors

We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Editorial Board and reviewers for giving us the valuable comments on our manuscript for publication in BMC Complementary and alternative medicine.

Here, we have revised version of manuscript in response to the reviewer comments.

We cordially hope this revised manuscript acceptable for publication in BMC Complementary and alternative medicine.

Sincerely,

Hye-Jin Park

Minor revision

1. Please include the email addresses for all authors on the title page. The corresponding author should still be indicated.

Response: As the editor suggested, authors’ email addresses were included in the manuscript.
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2. Please detail in your Methods section the euthanization method used in your study.

Response: As the editor recommended, we combined the euthanization method in the method section.

Experimental design.

Animal experiments were performed in both normal and immunosuppressed murine models. For animal experiments using normal mice, mice were randomly divided into three groups (>10 mice per group): normal control group (Control), GRC-ON89A-treated groups (GRC-ON89A) and GRC-treated groups (GRC). For animal experiments using immunosuppressed mice, mice were randomly divided into three groups (>10 mice per group): CY-injected control (Control-CY), CY-injected and GRC-ON89A-treated groups (GRC-ON89A-CY), and CY-injected and GRC-treated groups (GRC-CY). Immunosuppression was induced by intraperitoneal injection of CY (80 mg/kg) once per day for the initial and final 3 consecutive days. From day 1 to 10 or 19, the four different groups of mice were orally administered D.W, GRC-ON89A, or GRC daily at doses of heat-inactivated 1.0 x 10^8 CFU/ml/mouse. Twenty-four hours after the final administration, mice were weighed and sacrificed. Mice were euthanized by injecting 1.5% tribromoethanol in tert-amyl alcohol intraperitoneally (Avertin, Sigma Aldrich, MO, USA). The spleen and thymus were immediately removed and weighed. A schematic of the experimental
design is shown in Figure 3A and Figure 4A. The splenic and thymic indices were calculated as the spleen and thymus weight/body weight, respectively.

3. Please represent authors’ names using their full initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

Response: As the editor suggested, we represent authors’ names using their full initials in the Authors’ Contributions section.

<After revision>

HKK and WRJ contributed towards data analysis, manuscript writing and laboratory experiments. HJP made contributions to manuscript writing, acquisition of data, interpretation of data and design of experiments. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

4. Please remove the cover letter, the response to reviewers and the authorship form from the file inventory, as they are no longer necessary at this stage.

Response: We remove the cover letter, the response to reviewers and the authorship form from the file inventory.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response: We upload the manuscript as a clean version and figures as separate files.