Author’s response to reviews

Title: Inhibitory effects of berberine on proinflammatory M1 macrophage polarization through interfering with the interaction between TLR4 and MyD88

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor Ismail Shah,

Thank you for your kind letter on June 26th, 2019. We revised the manuscript in accordance with the reviewers’ and editors’ comments, and carefully proof-read the manuscript to minimize the errors. Here below is our description on revision according to the comments.
Reviewer #1:

1. Article needs to be gone through professional English editing service because there are countless mistakes all over the manuscript starting from the title.

The author’s answer: I am sorry for the broken English in the paper. Now, we have already asked a native speaker on American Journal Experts to reedit our paper.

2. Both mL and ml have been used in the different places. Kindly use either mL or ml and stick to it in whole manuscript.

The author’s answer: We have rewritten the according context according to your suggestions.

3. Page for line number 27. Past tense should be used rather than present tense.

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

4. Page 5 line 8, use the world "gentle" instead of "gently".

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

5. Page 5 line 16 "The LPS solution was activated by vortex "please elaborate the word activation. How solution was activated by vortex.

The author’s answer: LPS tends to attach to the tube wall; thus, tubes were strapped to the spiral oscillator and vibrated to prevent the decreased effects after treating cells.

6. Page 5 line 27 please elaborate "AICAR" at least once before using the abbreviated form.

The author’s answer: 5-Aminoimidazole-4-carboxamide1-β-D-ribofuranoside, and we have added the according context according to your suggestions.

7. Page 6 line 12 "Spectrophotometer (Bio-Tek, USA, Model: Synergr2) was applied to measure the absorbance at 490nm" word "applied" doesn't seem valid please correct it.

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

8. Page 6 line 16, Please mention name of the Elisa Kit along with its manufacturer.

The author’s answer: We have added the according context according to your suggestions.

9. In RT-PCR section it is mentioned that RNA concentration was examined. Please explain by which method it was quantifies i.e nanodrop, Gel electrophoresis etc. and mention the quantity been used in ever PCR reaction.
The author’s answer: RNA concentration was examined by Nanodrop spectrophotometers (Thermo Scientific, America), and the samples with A260/A280 in the range of 1.8 to 2.0 were used for further study.

10. Either use Co-IP or CoIP or stick to one form.

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

11. In Molecular Docking section please mention the version number of the software Chimera, Avogadora, Auto dock and Auto grid along with its manufacturers.

The author’s answer: We have added the according context according to your suggestions.

12. Figure 4 A microscope images of cells doesn't look to be taken on same magnification. Kindly use same magnification along with magnification bar.

The author’s answer: The magnification was consistent, cell morphology was changed after the exposure to LPS, and protrusions appeared gradually. Magnification bar was added in the image.

13. Figure 7 E, F and G mentioning immunofluorescence images are dark enough to be visualized please replace it with some better quality and understandable result images.

The author’s answer: According to your advice, we have marked the nuclear translocation with yellow arrows.

14. Figure 9 kindly add histogram graphs for protein expression mentioned on western blot.

The author’s answer: According to your advice, we have added the according context in Figure S1.

Thanks for your comments of our paper. We need more recommends from you and will try our best to improve the deficiency in our manuscript.

Reviewer #2:

1. The English language and spelling mistake start from the very title of the manuscript, see the first word of title, so all the mistakes should be avoided.

The author’s answer: I am sorry for the broken English in the paper. Now, we have already asked a native speaker on American Journal Experts to reedit our paper.

2. Why only female mice were used for the said study?

The author’s answer: According to the calculated number of extracted cells, more primary abdominal macrophages were extracted from female mice, especially the postpartum ones. In
order to avoid the effect of gender difference on the experimental results, we extracted cells from postpartum female mice.

3. Why did you employ 490 nm for MTT assay?

The author’s answer: The procedure was carried out according to the instructions of the kit.

4. Each and every procedure should be cited with a reference followed.

The author’s answer: Thanks for your advice. We didn’t list the reference about the normal procedures, and some citations were added concerning the key steps. (reference 22, 23)

5. Literature regarding the Berberine should be added to the background section

The author’s answer: We have added the according context according to your suggestions. (reference 20)

6. The English language mistakes and typographical mistakes should be avoided.

The author’s answer: I am sorry for the broken English in the paper. Now, we have already asked a native speaker on AJE to reedit our paper.

7. 40g should be 40 g, 10ml should be 10 ml, 37oC should be 37 oC, 12h should be 12 h and so on.

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

8. Space should be there in between the last word of the sentence and the citation.

The author’s answer: We have corrected the according context according to your suggestions.

Thanks for your detailed and useful suggestions, it indeed reflected the defect in our paper and help us to make our article better. I hope that I can get more knowledge from you.

Thank Editor and all the reviewers for the kind advices.

Sincerely yours,

Fuer Lu