Reviewer’s report

Title: Cyclosporine-A Attenuates Retinal Inflammation by Inhibiting HMGB-1 Formation in Rats with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Version: 0 Date: 14 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Ajay Donepudi

Reviewer's report:

Manuscript by Wang et al shows some interesting findings showing that Cyclosporine A administration inhibits retinal inflammation markers in diabetic rats. Although observations are interesting, data presentation and conclusion presented are not convincing.

1. Images of HMGB1 staining do not represent quantification results or explanations provided in the manuscript. The whole premise or hypothesis of the manuscript depends on this observation.

2. Cyclosporine A is known to inhibit Calcineurin and thereby inhibiting NFAT and NF-kB transcriptional activity resulting in decreased inflammation. HMGB1 is also known to upregulate pro-inflammatory cytokine by activating the NF-kB pathway. Authors did not see whether in their model there cyclosporin A treatment altered Calcineurin and NF-kB pathways.

3. The authors should provide retinal pro-inflammatory gene expression in cyclosporine A treated diabetic rats.

4. The authors should show both pro-IL-1b and mature IL-1b expression in the western blot analysis.

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?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No
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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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