

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN  
FACULTY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES

Xiaoyan Cao, Ph.D.  
Review Editor

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Dear Dr. Cao

Thank you for allowing us to re-submit a revised version of the manuscript, "Important Endpoints and Proliferative Markers to Assess Small Intestinal Injury and Adaptation Using a Mouse Model of Chemotherapy-induced Mucositis". Every editorial comment has been reviewed and the suggested necessary changes in the manuscript have been done. Reviewer's comments have also been reviewed and separate responses to each comment have been provided, please see the rebuttal letter for specifications.

The selection of the crypt and villus for measurement of cell proliferation has been carefully revised and the manuscript has been added a supplementary figure to illustrate how this selection process is done. Additionally, the revised version of this manuscript considers both the advantages and limitations of using small intestinal wet weight as an endpoint for measuring enterocyte mass, compared to measuring citrulline.

Reviewer #1 kindly suggest that the discussing of previous models of 5-FU induced mucositis is shorted, since it is beyond the scope of the manuscript, while reviewer #4 suggested a better justification of this dose used. Although a better justification of the dose is desirable, we choose to meet the suggestion of reviewer #1 and remove the discussion of previous models of 5-FU induced mucositis. A better justification of the model is provided in the rebuttal letter.

The method and manuscript have not been published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hannelouise Kissow, MD, PhD

NNF CENTER OF BASIC METABOLIC  
RESEARCH  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL  
SCIENCES

BLEGDAMSVEJ 3B  
DK-2200 COPENHAGEN N

DIR +45 35326651  
MOB +45 20276650

kissow@sund.ku.dk  
WWW.KU.DK

REF: HK