

February 25, 2020

Dear Editor,

We have revised the manuscript as requested. The major changes were highlighted in yellow. The replies to editor are listed below. Please advise if there is anything else we can do.

Sincerely,

Shan Liao

1. Most of these are described in the legend of Figure 1. Please combine this paragraph with Figure 1 legend to avoid repetition.

This paragraph is now removed and combined with Figure 1.

2. Do you mean “disinfect the tools with 70% ethanol”?
Yes. I rephrase the sentence.
3. Tuberculin?
Yes. It is revised.
4. What is the ratio of ketamine/xylazine?
It is ketamine (10 mg/mL)/xylazine (1mg/mL). It is revised.
5. This is confusing. What is the concentration of xylazine? 1 or 100 mg/mL?
The stock solution is 100mg/mL. It is revised.
6. Shave with what? Do you both shave and apply depilatory cream?
Shave with hair clipper and then remove the left over fur with depilatory cream. It is revised.
7. Please specify the operation area.
It is around the leg.
8. Please reference different panels of Figure 1 in the protocol section to guide the readers.
It is revised.

9. I added this. Please review for accuracy.
Correct as revised.

10. Please describe in the imperative tense how to use the injection apparatus prepared in section 1 to inject 5 μ L of 1% Evans blue dye.

Gently inject 9 cm of fluid from the injection apparatus is equivalent to 5 μ L. It is revised.

11. 5 mm?
Yes.

12. I added this. Please review for accuracy.
Thanks for the revision. It is correct.

13. Please specify.

14. Please specify the steps being repeated for the sham control. The information here is not complete. For instance, Evan blue is also injected to the left leg but this is not mentioned in this sentence.
It is revised.

15. Under a microscope?
No, just watch the color of legs with naked eyes.

16. How is this done?
Euthanize the mice and collect the pLNs. Not sure how to describe this.

17. Can this be removed as Figure 1A does not show this.
It is revised.

18. Indicated by the white arrow? Otherwise please describe what the arrows point to.
It is revised. The arrows point to the blue lymphatic vessels.

19. These are already mentioned in protocol and results section. Please delete them to avoid repetition.
It is deleted.

20. I added these. Please review for accuracy.
Thanks for the suggestion. It is correct.

21. Please label it in the figure if you are able.

22. Please rephrase this sentence to avoid overlap with previously published text.

It is revised.

23. Please spell out journal names.
It is revised.