

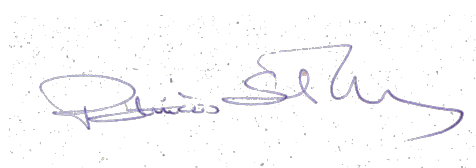
December 30, 2020

Dear Editor,

It is our pleasure to submit the manuscript “Investigating the Phagocytosis of *Leishmania* using Confocal Microscopy” in JOVE. This study was performed by Amanda R. Paixão, Beatriz R. S. Dias, Luana C. Palma, Natália M. Tavares, Cláudia I. Brodskyn, Juliana P. B de Menezes and Patricia S. T. Veras at Laboratory of Host-Parasite Interaction and Epidemiology (IGM/FIOCRUZ in Bahia, Brazil) and is being submitted for publication consideration.

In the present report, we attempt to describe a method to characterize the early events of *Leishmania* phagocytosis. This detailed protocol involves the differentiation and infection of THP-1 and human monocyte-derived macrophages, the evaluation of *Leishmania* binding and phagocytosis by the host cell, THP-1 nucleofection, and the assessment of LC3 recruitment to *Leishmania*-induced parasitophorous vacuoles. This *in vitro* protocol will further elucidate the mechanisms involved in *Leishmania* phagocytosis, and it can be modified and applied to other cell microorganisms. By adding to the body of knowledge surrounding these determinants of infection outcome, we hope to improve our understanding of the pathogenesis of *Leishmania* infection and support the eventual search for novel chemotherapeutic targets.

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Sincerely,

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