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Re: In response to HEP-20-1785.R1 Letter to the Editors: Growth Hormone Stops Excessive Inflammation After Partial Hepatectomy Allowing Liver Regeneration and Survival by Induction of H2-Bl/HLA-G

Title:

Reply to Letter to the Editors: Growth Hormone Stops Excessive Inflammation After Partial Hepatectomy Allowing Liver Regeneration and Survival by Induction of H2-Bl/HLA-G

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We would like to provide information that address the Letter to Editors submitted on 17 July 2020 by Lin and Yan regarding our publication.(1) We have provided a response to each point raised by the authors below.

In response to "receptor PIR-B and ILT expression on murine and human NK/NKT cells and macrophages should be analyzed respectively with methods such as flow cytometry." PIR-B expression on murine cells has been previously characterised.(2-4) Expression of ILT2 and ILT4 in different immune cell types has been characterised, eg as reviewed by Amiot et al (5) which was our reference 9.

In response to "Second, expression, refolding, and functional verification of HLA-G should be performed." Methods for HLA-G production clearly are stated in supplementary information with appropriate referencing that clearly describe the expression and refolding. In addition, we demonstrate functional validation in a cell-based assay shown in Figure 5H.

In response to "However, HLA-G protein produced by eukaryotic expression would be better for functional assay." This is mere speculation. Refolded HLA class I molecules, including HLA-G is well established (as per our cited references).

The lack of antibodies available for H2-Bl is acknowledged.

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