

Review of: "Sting Pathway Activation by Orally Administered Attenuated dsRNA Vaccine Virus for Therapy of Viral Diseases"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper seems to be well-written and provides a detailed exploration of the use of the attenuated avian dsRNA vaccine virus (IBDV) for the therapy of viral diseases, particularly through the activation of the STING pathway. The author discusses the potential applications in treating various viral infections, including hepatitis A, B, and C, SARS-CoV-2, and herpes zoster. However, I suggest the following changes:

1. *"SARS-CoV-2 is picking up about two single-letter mutations per month. The high circulation of the COVID-19 variants, the inequitable vaccine rollouts, and inadequate control measures in some countries offers fertile ground for SARS-CoV-2 to take surprising evolutionary leaps. Circulation in animal reservoirs could also bring unexpected changes. The assumption that viruses evolve to become milder is a myth. The World Health Organization has warned that Disease X could result in 20 times more fatalities than COVID-19."* **This section requires references.**
2. **The introduction lacks appropriate reflection of the abstract and the title.** If the paper just focuses on the COVID-19 co-vaccination efforts, the title should say so, and the introduction should also be revised.
3. **Please improve the quality of Figures 2A and 2B.**
4. *"Therefore, thirteen mutations (a gigantic jump) may be required for an avian influenza virus to cause a productive infection in humans."* **Please supplement it with an appropriate reference.**
5. **Although the paper is very well-written and interesting, the study lacks in connecting the whole idea with COVID-19. The authors need to add more discussion about how this approach will support vaccinations. Also, I don't see how any of the figures correlate with the main idea of the study. The genes mentioned in Figures 2A and 2B must also be discussed in the view of COVID-19.**