



Reply “Co-analgesics for neuropathic pain in the rat model of spared nerve injury”

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DEAR EDITOR,

We appreciate the recent correspondence by Chih-Jen Hung and Han-Fang Tseng regarding our article¹ and welcome this opportunity to address their comments.²

We agree with Hung and Tseng that it is necessary to consider various aspects of the spared nerve injury (SNI) model. Our research team has been using the SNI model for many years. According to our previous published results,³⁻⁶ and the first SNI paper by Decosterd and Woolf,⁷ stable, consistent, and long-lasting mechanical and thermal-evoked pain behaviors developed within 3 days after SNI surgery, in sharp contrast to negative pain behaviors after sham surgery. We tested the drug effects only when the SNI-induced pain behaviors had been well established. Our previous experiments also presented with saline injection in the SNI rats to address the placebo effect.⁴ In this work, we focused on synergistic effects by the combination of drugs. MPE and AUC were chosen and presented because these indices match clinician's perspective in managing neuropathic pain patients the best. Thus, we hope our article could provide preclinical reference in neuropathic pain managements.

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