Reply to Virojanapirom et al

To the Editor—we thank Virojanapirom et al for their comments, which suggest that, in addition to its use as rabies postexposure prophylaxis, favipiravir (T-705) might also have some therapeutic benefit after rabies virus (RABV) enters the central nervous system.

We have also investigated the efficacy of favipiravir after the onset of clinical manifestations of RABV infection. Although, favipiravir-treated animals appeared to have prolonged survival, compared with vehicle-administered animals, there was no statistical difference in survival between the 2 groups. Therefore, we omitted these data from our article and focused on postexposure prophylaxis. It is not clear that the results of Virojanapirom et al underwent statistical analysis, and we caution against interpreting preliminary results without having given adequate attention to their statistical significance or biological importance.

Note

Potential conflict of interest. Both authors: No reported conflicts. Both authors have submitted the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest. Conflicts that the editors consider relevant to the content of the manuscript have been disclosed.

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