

Dr. Jan Kopecký  
Head of Committee of PhD Studies  
University of South Bohemia  
Czechia

Sao Paulo, September 23rd, 2022.

Dear Dr. Kopecký,

I hereby present my general review of the PhD thesis entitled "Anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory activities of *Ixodes ricinus* salivary proteins", by Mgr. Adéla Chlastáková.

The thesis is very well written and contains the appropriate literature on the topic. The introduction is clear and brings an overall view on ticks' biology, the importance of these blood-feeding arthropod as disease vectors and the role of their saliva on both acquisition of the blood meal and the transmission of pathogens. The section on the protease inhibitors, with special focus on the many tick serpins already described, provides a comprehensive overview that highlights the relevance of these molecules on ticks' life cycle and the reason to study them more deeply in the context of vaccines and therapeutical applications. The manuscripts presented are of high quality and three of them are already published in recognized journals of the field.

Given the format of the material provided, I have only a few minor points on immunological concepts that I would prefer to discuss during the thesis defense. In addition, I am not aware if there is a rule for the title, but I would rather use a more conclusional tone instead a general explanation on the topic. None of these points are crucial or affect my positive opinion on the thesis. Thus, I recommend the thesis to be defended.

Thank you for the invitation and opportunity. Congratulations on your graduate program and on the quality of the material produced by the student.

Warm regards,



Prof. Dr. Anderson de Sá Nunes  
Associate Professor 3 - Department of Immunology  
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