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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reply to Dr. Dias-Junior

We appreciate Dr. Dias-Junior comments and we acknowledge that the cGMP pathway is a complex intracellular signal. Cross-talk between cGMP and other signaling systems has been described.¹⁻³ The absence of additive vasodilator effects between the nitric oxide (NO) donor L-arginine and sildenafil described in the model of acute pulmonary embolism (PE) may be explained not only by the presence of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and inducible NO formation, but may reside in the differences between the acute pulmonary hypertension (PH) caused by the PE, and the long-standing, chronic PH of our patients. It is worth mentioning that the vasodilator effects of sildenafil on the systemic vasculature are enhanced by the addition of L-arginine, again underlying the slightly different signaling pathways in different hosts, vessels and type of vasoconstriction.⁴

References

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