

Reviewer 1

In line 60, change the word 'capture' into 'captured'.

Change incorporated

Provide the Institutional animal ethical approval number.

Our institution does not assign numbers to its Animal Care and Use protocol approvals. However, the approval of the McNeese State University ACUC for this work was noted.

Line 114 seems to be sentence incomplete.

Corrected

Reviewer 2

I think it would be better for the authors review the introduction adding more information about the complement activity in reptiles, once there are many of them. It would improve the understanding of it.

Not much is known about reptilian complement. The publications from our laboratory constitute just about the entirety of this topic in the literature. We have added a section (lines ***-****) explaining the difficulties in the study of crocodilian immunity, and added a reference that reviews all of our work regarding this topic.

In addition, they could explain why they use SRBC in this work; since it was the unique method used in it.

Analysis of SRBC hemolysis is a common practice for the evaluation of serum complement activity, as we have references many papers in which this method has been used.

I suggest also taking some attention in some sentences mainly those are underlined.

I have looked at the underlined sentences, and do not see any problem with any of these portions of the manuscript. "Aliquots (200 mL) were removed to microtiter plates" is very common verbiage, and is not incorrect English. In addition, the use of "ambient temperature" is commonly used to describe experiments that occur on the lab bench under non-regulated conditions, with respect to temperature. "*Ca. crocodilus*" is a common abbreviation for *Caiman crocodilus*. The "Ca." is often used to distinguish the genera *Crocodylus* (C.) and *Caiman* (Ca.), as used in this manuscript.

Reviewer 3

If plasma was employed which was the anticoagulant used????

The use of heparin as an anticoagulant has been added

Moreover, complement is measured in serum.

Serum complement activity can also be measured in plasma, as our laboratory has documented this in many peer-reviewed publications.

The experimental conditions were different without justification for example for centrifugation force, period of incubation, final concentration of SRBC (1% or 2%???) final volume of reaction mixture and so on.

The authors do not see any disparities in the centrifugation conditions (5 min, 3000xg, ambient temp) throughout the manuscript. The SRBCs are added as 2% at 50% volume, for a final concentration of 1%.

The Abstract was reformatted and the References were also revised.