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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Neurology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 29904

Manuscript Type: Editorial

Point by point response to reviewers' comments

To the best of my knowledge and ability I have tried to answer all the questions and concerns expressed by the reviewers and the changes to the text are highlighted in blue lettering. As suggested by the reviewer #4 (00646543) I have attempted to shorten the "conclusion" section (last paragraph of the original submission) by deleting some parts of the discussion, which is reflected by "struck sentences". However, I leave the final decision to the editor whether to keep the struck out part or to take it out from the text.

Reviewer #1 (# 03464100)

1. Fig 1 is pixelated. Please use better image for final figure.

Response: We have added a new figure with a revised legend.

2. Missing reference.

Response: All missing references have been added.

3. Introduce which facial malformation in the fetus are induced by maternal alcohol consumption.

Response: This information is now included in the revised MS (References 12-15).

Minor Comments

1. eCB and endogenous cannabimimetic should not be used interchangeably and expand on abbreviations.

Response: These and other minor issues have been addressed in the revised MS.

Reviewer # 2 (# 02716549)

I appreciate reviewer's recognition of the significance of the role played by eCB signaling system in FASD and for his/her thoughtful suggestion/s.

Although it may be of significance to include some additional figures as suggested by the reviewer, however, the author is of the opinion that the current format with one figure will suffice to highlight the importance of the role of eCB signaling in FASD. Furthermore, in consideration of the purpose of the current editorial discussion, it may not be a good idea to introduce more figures in the text and thus making it much more lengthier text than it is necessary. For further reading, the author has provided ample references if one wants to learn more about the topic.

Reviewer # 3 (# 00631847)

I am grateful to the reviewer for recognizing the importance of the editorial discussion presented in the MS. The reviewer has no major suggestions for revision. Thank you.

Reviewer # 4 (# 00646543)

1. The reviewer is questioning whether the MS "is an editorial or a review?" and is of the opinion that the manuscript is too long (7 plus pages) to be considered for publication as an editorial.

Response: As far as I know from the instructions I had from the editorial office, there was no page limitation whether one is submitting an editorial or a review article. Nevertheless, the reviewer's recognition of the importance of the proposed hypotheses/possibilities regarding the role of eCB signaling in FASD is appreciated. I have followed the reviewer's suggestion for shortening the discussion and also addressed the issues of redundancies. As suggested by the reviewer I have modified the "Conclusion" section to shorten the discussion. I also want to state that I have added relevant references that the reviewer had concerns about.

2. Absence of references for experimental studies on the role of eCBs in alcohol toxicity.

Response: Although there are no direct evidence linking eCB signaling in FASD, however there are a handful of studies using a neonatal FASD models, which have implicated eCB signaling in alcohol toxicity in the developing brain, which I have quoted in the revised MS (references 16 and 44).

3. The title does not correspond to the contents.

Response: I have modified the title slightly to reflect the change. The new title now reads as "Drinking During Pregnancy: Potential Role of Endocannabinoid Signaling in Fetal Alcohol Effects".