

26.02.2021

Dear Editor,

World Journal of Stem Cells

Thank you very much for reviewers' comments regarding our invited submission (Manuscript ID: 61991: Feasibility of Allogeneic Mesenchymal Stem Cells in Pediatric Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy: Phase I Study). We therefore revised our paper related to reviewers' comments.

We hope that the impact and quality of the manuscript has been improved to merit publication in the World Journal of Stem Cells after the modifications and revisions made to the manuscript . We look forward to your reply.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Serdar Kabataş, MD, PhD (C)

University of Health Sciences, Gaziosmanpaşa Training and Research Hospital, Department of Neurosurgery, Karayolları Mahallesi, Osmanbey Caddesi 616. Sokak No:10, 34255 Gaziosmanpaşa, Istanbul, Turkey.

Emails: kabatasserdar@gmail.com, kabatasserdar@hotmail.com

Reviewer 05410953 Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Authors present an open label phase study to examine the efficacy and safety of cell therapy (stem cell) in pediatric population with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. I think that is very interesting both the type of treatment and the new strategy of a triple route of

administration. The results in term of safety are good as well preliminary efficacy but with a small population (6 cases) with a wide age range (from 1yr to 12yrs). Then, the statistical results could be limited. Multi-center studies will be needed to confirm the safety and efficacy of SC treatment. Authors present the approval from the Turkish Ministry of Health but I can not find the registration number and name of trial registry. Page 7 line 199: you must change "demostrated" by "demonstrated".

-We thank the reviewer's comment. This study was performed with approval of Turkish Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Health Services, Department of Organ/Tissue Transplantation and Dialysis Services, and the Scientific Committee (Registry Number 56733164-203-E.2351). Therefore, this study has no any other registration to clinical trials database. We already pointed that multicenter clinical trials are needed to prove safety and efficacy in the conclusion section. Misspelling at page 7 in line 199 was corrected.

Science Editor: 1. Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a retrospective study of the feasibility of allogeneic mesenchymal stem cells transplantation in pediatric hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy. The topic is within the scope of the WJT.

(1) Classification: Grade B;

-We thank the Science Editor's comment.

(2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This study is very interesting both the type of treatment and the new strategy of a triple route of administration. The results in term of safety are good as well preliminary efficacy but with a small population with a wide age range. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; and

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. We pointed out in the text multicenter clinical trials and large population are needed to prove safety and efficacy.

(3) Format: There are 8 tables and 2 figures. A total of 35 references are cited, including 9 references published in the last 3 years. There are 2 self-citations (Ref. 6, 7). The topics of the self-citations are related to this study.

-We thank the Science Editor's comment.

2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by Protranslate was provided.

-We thank the Science Editor's comment.

3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, the Institutional Review Board Approval Form, and the Written informed consent. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search.

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. Statistical evaluation was made by a freelance statistician who is expert and experienced in the field.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJT.

5 Issues raised: (1) The key word "transplantation" is missing in the title. Please add it;

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. We removed transplantation from the key word.

(2) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. We performed it.

(3) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text;

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. We added add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text.

and (4) Authors should always cite references that are relevant to their study. Please check and remove any references that not relevant to this study.

-We thank the Science Editor's comment. We checked it.

6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

-We thank the Science Editor's comment.