

To,  
The Editor,  
World Journal of Rheumatology.  
(Subject: Response to reviewer's comments regarding Review article bearing ESPS  
Manuscript NO: 17931 titled "Scleroderma: not an orphan disease any more" )

Dear Sir,

Please find the response of the authors to the comments of the esteemed reviewers. The modifications to the text have been highlighted in bold for ease of identification. Also, additional modifications suggested in the formatting of the main document viz .author contributions, conflict of interest, facsimile and phone number of the corresponding author, core tip, audio core tip, correction of references to square brackets and adding doi to all references have also been done as requested.

#### **Reviewer 1**

**Query:** "The manuscript entitled "Scleroderma: not an orphan disease any more" submitted by Agarwal et al covers most of the areas on Scleroderma in such a short review. However the article lacks information on microRNA analysis extracted RNA isolated primary fibroblast cultures from explants of SSc lung and skin. Moreover hyaluronan levels has been found to be elevated in the SSc. Although its role remains elusive, it should be included in the review."

**Response:** We thank the esteemed reviewer for their encouraging comments. As per their suggestion, we have modified the section on "Pathology and Pathogenesis" incorporating information on microRNAs regulating gene expression and driving fibrosis in scleroderma, as well as incorporated the suggested information on serum hyaluronan level elevation in sera of patients with scleroderma.

#### **Reviewer 2:**

**Query:** "The review of Misra and colleagues discusses the recent insights into the pathogenesis, clinical features, assessment and management of scleroderma. The review is clearly written and addresses a scientifically important subject It is thorough and very easy to follow. In my opinion, the value of a scientific review for a reader outside the field would be to learn about the authors' opinion on one or another issue. In this regard, apart from the final section 'Conclusion', in some cases, authors should lay emphasis on those aspects that they consider of special relevance. Finally, there

are some spelling errors throughout the text that should be corrected (e.g. page 10: maor to major; page 11: cathetarisation to catheterisation).”

**Response:** We thank the esteemed reviewer for their encouraging comments. We have emphasized at different places in the text (highlighted in bold for ease of identification in the modified document) aspects that we consider especially relevant. In addition, we have revised the document to correct any existent spelling mistakes.

Regards,

The Authors.

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The Editor,  
World Journal of Rheumatology.  
(Subject: Response to reviewer's comments regarding Review article bearing ESPS  
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Dear Sir,

Please find the response of the authors to the comments of the esteemed Editor-in -  
chief. The changes have been highlighted for ease of identification.

**Editor-in -chief.**

**Query:** "This is a well written review on the current issues of systemic sclerosis.  
However, references are omitted in many sentences. It is highly recommended to  
position references appropriately."

**Response:** We thank the esteemed editor-in -chief for their encouraging comments.  
We have made the necessary corrections and positioned the references appropriately.

Regards,

The Authors.