

July 25, 2014

Dear Editor,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We appreciate the encouragement and the constructive comments from the reviewers. We have revised our manuscript carefully, following the comments and suggestions. The revised sentences are marked in red in the revised manuscript. The detailed revisions are given in our Point-by-Point Response. We are now submitting the revised manuscript. We hope our revisions meet the approval of the reviewers. Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your help.

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name:11816-review).

**Title:** Electroacupuncture activates enteric glial cells and protects the gut barrier in hemorrhaged rats (**edited**)

**Author:** Sen Hu, Zeng-Kai Zhao, Hai-Bin Wang, Chun-Yu Gu, Hong-Min Luo, Huan Wang, Ming-Hua Du, Yi Lv, Xian Shi

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 11816

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Major: 1.As the author mentioned in discussion, they only determined the EGCs at 6h after hemorrhage, while watching the dynamic changes is much more important and necessary.

**We'd like to accept reviewer 's suggestion, and will perform the further experiments to watch the dynamic changes of EGCs after hemorrhage**

(2) Major: 2.The clinical signification and the latest research progress must be further elaborated in discussion part.

**We appreciate your suggestion, and we have added the correlative discussion in the text.**

(3) Major: 3.Besides, if the article could describe the exactly molecular mechanism of the change of EGCs that would be more significantly and novel.

**Thank you for your suggestion, we made a plan to carry out a further research determine the molecular mechanism to illustrate the function of EGCs for gut.**

(4) Minor: 1. In figure 2, after HS, the protein of the GFAP increased, its change should be significant, how to explain this?

**The change was certainly significant. When nerve cells are injury after hemorrhage, the surrounding glia cells will be activated to repair them. It has been hypothesized that a subpopulation of enteric glia cells can rapidly upregulate GFAP expression in response to inflammation, whereas other glia cells respond more slowly and require proliferation and GFAP synthesis[Von Boyen GB, Steinkamp M, Reinshagen M, Schafer KH, Adler G, Kirsch J. Proinflammatory cytokines increase glial fibrillary acidic protein expression in enteric glia. Gut 53: 222-228, 2004.]. So the GFAP will increase to some extent after injury. Although the protein of the GFAP increased, it did not impact the results. Because every**

group was performed the hemorrhage shock except sham group.

(5) Minor: 2. All the value of P should be the specific values.

Figure2, <sup>a</sup>P=0.000026<0.05;

Figure3, <sup>a</sup>P=0.000051<0.05   <sup>c</sup>P=0.000047<0.05 ;

Figure4, <sup>a</sup>P=0.000032<0.05   <sup>c</sup>P=0.000042<0.05;

Figure5, <sup>a</sup>P=0.000038<0.05   <sup>c</sup>P=0.000073<0.05 ;

Figure7, <sup>a</sup>P=0.000056<0.05   <sup>c</sup>P=0.000043<0.05.

(6) Minor: 3. In the research, the number of the rat was 3-6, may be the conclusion would be more convincing after expanding the number of samples.

The model of hemorrhagic shock rat is relatively difficult, and the rats were easy to die during the experiment. The 3-6 rats were the survivals. We appreciate your comment, and we will expand the number of samples in the further experiments.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background, reading "Sen Hu".

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