

August 20, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 12775-Review.docx).



**Title:** Limbal stem cells – central concepts of corneal epithelial homeostasis

**Author:** Jinny J Yoon, Salim Ismail, Trevor Sherwin

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Stem Cells*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 12775

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers and editor as follows:

1 Format has been updated according to the 'revision policies for BPG review' document

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

Reviewer 1 (02520943)-

1. The abstract is currently 194 words which is less than the required 'no less than 200 words'. We are happy to shorten the abstract further (as requested by the reviewer), however this would not meet the requirements of your 'revision policies for BPG review'. Please advise.
2. The first part of the introduction has been rewritten in order to be more concise as suggested

Reviewer 2 (02864228)-

1. Page 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph (now Page 3, second paragraph)-the symbol delta has been introduced
2. Page 3, last line (now Page 3, third paragraph)-*In vivo* has been substituted by *in vivo*
3. Page 7, 5<sup>th</sup> line from page end (now Page 6, first paragraph)- cytokeratin19 and cytokeratin3 have been substituted by cytokeratin 19 and cytokeratin 3 respectively

Reviewer 3 (00505064)- No suggestions by this reviewer

Reviewer 4 (00504335)- No additional suggestions by this reviewer

3 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the editor

1. Changes have been highlighted in yellow according to the peer-reviewer and editor comments
2. Duplicate references 73 and 113 have been consolidated
3. Decomposable figures have been provided (fonts and lines can be moved/edited in Photoshop)

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

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Sherwin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Trevor Sherwin, PhD

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