

February 9th, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 14578-review.doc).

**Title:** Mitochondrial Function and Regulation of Macrophage Sterol Metabolism and Inflammatory Responses

A review article summarising recent knowledge on the role of mitochondria in macrophage cholesterol homeostasis

**Author:** Annette Graham, Anne-Marie Allen

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Cardiology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 14578

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

**1. Reviewer 00502781**

1.1 'The authors could shorten the Introduction (chapters 1, 2 and 3) as well as the chapter under the subtitle 'Targeting protein constituents of the mitochondrial cholesterol trafficking complex....'

In the original manuscript, we presented a broad overview of the subject area, to ensure accessibility for a wide range of readers. However, in the light of this reviewer's concerns, we have shortened each of these sections by 25-30%.

1.2 'The authors might (shortly) discuss the impact of oxysterols on calcium signalling, mitophagy, mitochondrial unfolded protein response, mitochondria-associated membranes, apoptosis and ER stress'. We have inserted a paragraph to this effect into the text (page 9).

1.3 'Lack of space(s) between words in the title, text and references'. We have now addressed this issue, which was occasioned by migration of files from an external hard drive.

**2. Reviewer 02948944**

2.1 No comments to address: acceptance recommended.

**3. Reviewer 02601681**

3.1 The reviewer would like us to clearly state the aim of the review in the Abstract. This has been inserted (sentence 1).

**4. Reviewer 00227341**

4.1 'Introduction, line 48: I suggest to be clearer in defining the absence of clinical efficacy of dolcetrapib...and niacin...references indicated'. We

have strengthened the statement to include the Outcome trial, and added the references indicated.

- 4.2 'There are no numbers in the References, and there are no publication dates (year) in several articles'. We have revised the reference list in accordance with the reviewers comments, and the editors request for DOI (wherever possible) and PMID.

We hope that these revisions meet your satisfaction, and look forward to hearing from in due course.

Yours faithfully

Annette Graham

Anne-Marie Allen