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| **Prof. Josep M Campistol,** **Editor-in-Chief****World Journal of Nephrology** |



9th February 2016

**Re: Constitutive renal Rel/NF-κB expression in Lewis polycystic kidney disease rats, Basic Study, Invited Manuscript, ID 02007936**

Dear Professor Campistol,

Thank you for your invitation to us to publish in *World Journal of Nephrology*. We wish to submit a Basic Study entitled “Constitutive renal Rel/NF-κB expression in Lewis polycystic kidney disease rats” for your review.

Although recent studies have demonstrated that NF-κB proteins are expressed in the kidneys of rodent animals and human polycystic kidney disease (PKD), these studies investigated a very limited number of NF-κB proteins, and mainly focused on the p65 NF-κB subunit. There has also been limited information regarding the expression throughout disease progression.

Our study demonstrated that in the Lewis polycystic kidney (LPK) rat (a chronic rodent model of PKD), a diverse array of NF-κB proteins associated with both canonical and non-canonical signaling, is expressed in the renal cystic epithelial cells, and that NF-κB expression is constitutive over time.

Moreover, we confirmed the expression of NF-κB proteins in the cystic epithelial cells of human autosomal dominant and recessive PKD, suggesting that NF-κB upregulation may be common among models of renal cystic disease. These data may provide the groundwork for future studies to verify whether specific NF-κB inhibition can attenuate interstitial inflammation and cyst growth, and slow the decline in renal function in *in vivo* models of PKD.

Yours sincerely

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