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## JOURNAL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 46652

**Title:** Using transcription factors for direct reprogramming of neurons in vitro

**Journal Editor-in-Chief (Associate Editor):** Shengwen Calvin Li

**Country:** United States

**Editorial Director:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Date accepted review:** 2019-06-19 19:35

**Date reviewed:** 2019-06-19 19:36

**Review time:** 1 Hour

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision

### JOURNAL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (ASSOCIATE EDITOR) COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

EIC Notes: To enhance the clarity of the manuscript, the authors need to address the following two issues: (1) The authors need to specify what they mean in different color illustrations, including blue, green, yellow, purple, grey, and brown. If no meaning in color, they should have stated so - the color-coded illustration is of distraction. Their statement: "Figure 1 Transcription factor combination used for in vitro direct reprogramming to specific neuron subtypes, including sensory neurons, GABAergic neurons, glutamatergic neurons, dopaminergic neurons, photoreceptors, and retinal ganglion cells. Top and bottom panel illustrate direct reprogramming in human and mouse cells, respectively. The numbers indicate the starting cell type for reprogramming: (1) Fibroblasts; (2) Müller glia; (3) iris cells; (4) astrocytes. The specification factors neurogenin 2 and achaete-scute homolog are depicted with bigger circles to highlight its importance in neural fate induction. NGN2: Neurogenin 2; ASC Y: Achaete-scute homolog; RGC: Retinal ganglion cells." (2) Figure 1, as the current stand, is confusing about the mouse and human origin. They should create two panels: one for mouse and the other for human. A flow chart should be used to illustrate the input cells to the



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destiny cell types.