**Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS**

December 23th, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find hereby the edited manuscript in Word format (with file name: 6320-review.docx).

**Title:** The role of autophagy in the pathophysiology of NAFLD: a controversial issue

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 6320

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

1. The format has been updated to the requested lay-out. Copies of the figures in decomposable and editable format are attached in PowerPoint format (file name: 6320\_Figure1.pptx & 6320\_Figure2.pptx).

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

1. Abbreviations: The list of abbreviations is moved downwards and placed between abstract and the introduction.
2. Former line 131 and 132 (“Secondly, steatosis…panacinar steatosis”): This sentence was adjusted and inserted in the general introduction (lines 57-58). The original phrase in paragraph 3.1 was shortened to “Secondly, steatosis is most of the time present in acinar zone 3“
3. Line 336 (former line 252): “not longer” is changed into “no longer”
4. Human data: Data focusing especially on autophagy and the lipid metabolism in human liver remain scarce. During revision one additional article became in press (Fukuo *et al*, 2013) and was incorporated in our review (lines 313-315).
5. Induction of steatosis: Indeed, the method to induce steatosis may also underlie the conflicting results in literature. This valuable remark is therefore added to the discussion (4th alinea of paragraph 3.5 (lines 485-495))

3. According to the general suggestion of the reviewers an effort was made to improve readability of the paper. Redundant words/phrases were also deleted if suitable. All these changes are marked in our manuscript using the ‘track changes’ option in Word.
The final version of the manuscript was critically reviewed and edited for proper use of English and English grammar by the head of our laboratory, prof. dr. B de Winter (in possession of CEFR level C1; file: BDW\_DiplomaInteruniversityTestofAcademicEnglish.pdf).

4. A recent article (Ma *et al*, 2013) contributes considerably to the discussion on autophagy in lipid metabolism and injury of hepatocytes. Therefore it was implemented into the text if applicable (lines 367-371, 473, 654).

5. References and typesetting were corrected if appropriate.

We thank the reviewers for their comments and hope our revised paper is acceptable for publication in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology.*

Yours sincerely,

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