

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

**Manuscript NO:** 78558

**Title:** The endplate role in the degenerative disc disease: a brief review

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03814168

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Assistant Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Pakistan

**Author's Country/Territory:** Slovenia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-07-04 03:58

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-07-12 16:04

**Review time:** 8 Days and 12 Hours

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| Scientific quality         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish   |
| Judgment by peer reviewers | Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important novelty?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript use reliable research methods? |

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|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> [41] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [40] No<br>Are the manuscript-accompanying data and figures authentic?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [51] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [50] No<br>Does this manuscript make scientifically significant conclusions?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [61] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [60] No |
| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection  |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection  |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. The title of manuscript “The endplate role in the degenerative disc disease: a brief review” didn’t cover all the degenerative causes, for example the Mechanical, Neuronal Involvement and modic changes involved in degeneration of endplate. These all should be written well to provide better version of manuscript. 2. Morphological properties of the End plate and its composition is not well explained. 3. The possible side effects of different types of therapies in endplate regeneration, such as the transmission of infectious agents, tumorigenicity, immunogenicity, donor selection, long-term safety, cell survival, biodistribution should be written with the emphasize of advanced treatment therapies. 4. The vertebral endplate disc degeneration causes and risk factor should be added to the manuscript. 5. There is a need to add graphical illustration to better understand the idea behind the objective. 6. There are so much typos and grammatical errors throughout the manuscript.

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**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05384882

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Attending Doctor, BSN, Neurosurgeon, Postdoc, Postdoctoral Fellow,  
Research Assistant

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Slovenia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** Dong-Mei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-08-10 02:25

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-08-13 02:05

**Review time:** 2 Days and 23 Hours

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|----------------------------|--|
| Scientific quality         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish   |
| Judgment by peer reviewers | Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important novelty?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation? |

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|---------------------------------|---|
|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> [J31] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J30] No<br>Does this manuscript use reliable research methods?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J41] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J40] No<br>Are the manuscript-accompanying data and figures authentic?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J51] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J50] No<br>Does this manuscript make scientifically significant conclusions?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J61] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J60] No |
| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection   |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection   |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No   |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. Figure is needed in a review to demonstrate the information directly, and deliver the key points in a better way. 2. The title and subtitle need to be highlighted. 3. No references published after 2020 were cited, no relative studies were published in the past 2 years? 4. In the title, abstract, and core tip, the author talk about intervertebral disc or degenerative disc disease, but mainly discuss low back pain in the introduction. Low back pain is not equal to degenerative disc disease. 5. The current animal and clinical studies should be discussed in depth, and a table summarized the main results from animal and clinical studies focusing ednplated in degenerative disc disease could be added.

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**Manuscript NO:** 78558

**Title:** The endplate role in the degenerative disc disease: a brief review

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05328503

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** BMed, MMed

**Professional title:** Associate Research Scientist, Occupational Physician, Postdoc

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Slovenia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** Dong-Mei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-08-10 02:24

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-08-16 04:50

**Review time:** 6 Days and 2 Hours

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| Scientific quality         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish   |
| Judgment by peer reviewers | Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important novelty?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript use reliable research methods? |

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| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection   |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Accept (General priority)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection   |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No   |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [ Y] No  |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

As an important pathological process ,intervertebral disc degeneration (IVDD) plays crucial role in affecting the morphology and normal physiological function of lumbar interverbral disc, and eventually leads to the decline of its ability to bear compression load. Due to the complex pathogenesis of IDD, there is currently no treatment that can effectively alleviate or reverse IDD. I think it might be more useful if this review article focus on the mechanism of non-coding RNAs, protein-protein interaction ,or other medicine in regulation of molecules and their roles played in the degeneration of human nucleus pulposus(NP) cells.

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**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03072151

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, MSc

**Professional title:** Academic Editor, Associate Professor, Attending Doctor, Neurosurgeon

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Taiwan

**Author's Country/Territory:** Slovenia

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-07-03

**Reviewer chosen by:** Dong-Mei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-08-13 09:55

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-08-18 02:00

**Review time:** 4 Days and 16 Hours

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| Scientific quality         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish   |
| Judgment by peer reviewers | Does this manuscript meet the code of ethics standards?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important novelty?<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Does this manuscript have important creativity or innovation? |

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|                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> [J31] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J30] No<br>Does this manuscript use reliable research methods?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J41] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J40] No<br>Are the manuscript-accompanying data and figures authentic?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J51] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J50] No<br>Does this manuscript make scientifically significant conclusions?<br><input type="checkbox"/> [J61] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> [J60] No |
| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection   |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection   |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [Y] No   |

## SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear editor and authors, Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript entitled "The endplate role in the degenerative disc disease: a brief review". This is an interesting and promising manuscript which gives amazing points of comprehensive review instantly to the readers about the topic. In the present review, the authors aimed to provide an insight on background, concept, and features of the importance of vertebral endplate function in degenerative process of intervertebral disc. The authors did a really good job on the literature searching and explaining. It is generally well-written and the overview given is fairly informative. However, I have the following comments to the manuscript to improve and make it even a stronger paper before formal publication. Although the authors have provided an English editing certificate, some of the sentences are still hard to follow. Please revise the language and proofread





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7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite  
160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA  
**Telephone:** +1-925-399-1568  
**E-mail:** bpgoffice@wjgnet.com  
<https://www.wjgnet.com>

the whole manuscript again. Title and subtitles should be highlighted for clarity. Please give a more detailed background introduction to the endplate role in degenerative disc disease instead of low back pain as most of the readers of the journal may not be familiar with the field. For instance, degenerative disc disease may cause low back pain, herniated intervertebral disc, spinal stenosis, etc... The authors have mentioned some operative measures in treating degenerative disc disease, such as discectomy, spinal fusion, disc arthroplasty and epidural steroid injections. Please discuss in depth the indications and how to select or combine the aforementioned measures when treating degenerative disc disease. The authors should summarize the key points to the readers in table form. It would be easier for the readers to catch the points from the authors in a "at a glance" way. It could be a formidable if the review could present the core information in tables. In my point of view, a critical method of doing this is to add details of which citations originate the ideas proposed inside the tables. This would help the readers to find the tables even more useful and valuable. I would also appreciate some discussion about the quality of retrieved articles reported if listed. Some of the references are outdated and even before the millennium. Please update your reference list accordingly. Please correct the error in reference 29.