

March 11, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8871-review.doc).

Title: The protective effect of BM MSCs in intestinal barrier permeability after heterotopic intestinal transplantation

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

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

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(1) Title be modified as "The protective effect of BM MSCs in intestinal barrier permeability after heterotopic intestinal transplantation"

(2) AIM of the Abstract be modified as "To explore the protective effect of BM MSC in the small intestinal mucosal barrier following heterotopic intestinal transplantation (HIT) in a rat model."

(3) The animals per group have used: Seventy-six inbred specific pathogen-free Brown Norway (BN) and 30 Lewis (LEW) male rats weighing 200-220 g were used as donors in the homologous and isologous experimental groups, respectively. One hundred and six LEW male rats weighing approximately 220-250 g were used as recipients. Additional, 25 male LEW rats weighing 100-120 g were used for BM MSC extraction.

All rats were fasted for 12 h with free access to water before surgery and randomly assigned to a non-rejection group (A, LEW-LEW n = 30); saline-treated experimental rejection group (B, BN-LEW, via penile vein n = 43); and BM MSC-treated experimental therapy group (C, BN-LEW, via penile vein n = 33).

(4) Only surviving animals HIT were included in the analysis.

(5) The mortality be displayed as "Following small intestinal transplantation, all rats in group A survived for 10 days; in group B, two rats died by day 5, four rats died by day 7 and six rats died by day 10; in group C, one rat died by day 7 and two rats died by 10. The 10-day death rate was 0 (0/30), 30.23% (13/43), 9.09%(3/33) in groups A, B, and C, respectively."

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



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