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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Diabetes

Manuscript NO: 67981

Title: Inhibitory Effect of Maspin on Neovascularization in Diabetic Retinopathy

Reviewer's code: 06058797
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Spain

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-07-07

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-12 12:14

Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-15 08:38

Review time: 2 Days and 20 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is a serious and potentially blinding complication of diabetes mellitus. Authors used a mouse oxygen-induced retinopathy (OIR) model to simulate neovascularization in DR and aimed to evaluate the effect of intravitreal injection of recombinant human maspin on neovascularization in DR. The article is well written, and the idea of the study is novel. The text is strictly logical. The results are interesting and they found potential agents to inhibit neovascularization in DR. The manuscript provided a theoretical basis for clinical treatments and could be useful for other studies in this field. I recommend that the manuscript can be published.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Diabetes

Manuscript NO: 67981

Title: Inhibitory Effect of Maspin on Neovascularization in Diabetic Retinopathy

Reviewer's code: 06058812
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Doctor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea
Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-07-07
Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique
Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-12 12:14
Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-16 05:55
Review time: 3 Days and 17 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript used animal experiments to find more effective strategy for the treatment of DR. The topic has a clinical relevance since the mouse OIR model has much in common with human ischemic retinopathy and can effectively simulate the occurrence of retinal neovascularization in vivo. The manuscript is well written: the title reflects the main subject of the article, abstract and keywords well summarize the arguments. The methodology is described in detail and is well structured. Newborn C57BL/6J mice were randomly divided into three groups: the normal control group, the Maspin injection OIR group and the OIR group. The protein and mRNA expression of VEGF, HIF-1 α in retina was measured and the number of vascular cell nuclei that broke through the ILM was counted in HE stained retinal sections. The discussion is well articulated according to results and the authors have clearly underlined the limitations and drawbacks of the manuscript. A point of strength of the article in my opinion is also that it provides a potential and effective strategy for DR clinical treatments. The manuscript cites appropriately the latest and authoritative references. Reading the manuscript some minor concerns have emerged: •Page6Line17, “neovascularizar tufts” should be modified to “neovascularizar tufts”. •Fig. 1 is not clear. What is the magnification power used, it should be noted on the figure. Thank you for giving opportunity to review your study.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Diabetes

Manuscript NO: 67981

Title: Inhibitory Effect of Maspin on Neovascularization in Diabetic Retinopathy

Reviewer's code: 06058871
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree: MD
Professional title: Doctor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: United Kingdom
Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2021-07-07
Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique
Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-12 12:14
Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-19 00:07
Review time: 6 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[ ] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[Y] Yes [ ] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I found the manuscript entitled "Inhibitory Effect of Maspin on Neovascularization in Diabetic Retinopathy" original, very interesting, well-structured and with huge impact on clinical treatments. Diabetic retinopathy is a complication of diabetes, caused by high blood sugar levels damaging the back of the eye (retina). It can cause blindness if left undiagnosed and untreated. Retinal neovascularization is one of the main pathological features of PDR, and inhibiting retinal neovascularization is a research focus. In this study, Mouse OIR model was used to simulate neovascularization in diabetic retinopathy and maspin was injected into the vitreous cavity. The protein and mRNA expression of VEGF, HIF-1 α in retina was measured. The number of vascular cell nuclei that broke through the ILM was counted in HE stained retinal sections. Conclusion was that maspin can inhibit neovascularization of DR by modulating the HIF-1α/VEGF pathway, which provides a potential and effective strategy for the treatment of DR. Comments/suggestions: 1. Title and key words - well chosen. 2-The abstract summarized and reflect the described in the manuscript. I suggest that it could be revised to structure: aim, methods, results and the conclusions need to be described separately. 3. Introduction contains the most important data to support the importance of the study. 4. Material and methods - the paragraphs are generally well structured and explained. 5. Results section is well and clearly presented with pertinent statistics. 6. Discussion paragraph could be expanded to underline the clinical application of this study and the potential limitations. Also, directions for future research could be discussed. 7. Good quality of the Figures. I suggest that arrows could be used in Figure1, e.g., it could indicate pathologic neovascularizar tufts. 8. References –appropriate, latest and important.