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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39776

Title: A novel sericin-based hepatocyte serum-free medium and sericin's effect on hepatocyte transcriptome

Reviewer's code: 00183445

Reviewer's country: Poland

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-21

Date reviewed: 2018-05-25

Review time: 4 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection	[Y] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript: [Y] Advanced [ ] General [ ] No expertise Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Interesting, well-done experiments and well written manuscript. Minor point: It would be good to add what cells are used in "the bioartificial liver support system (BALSS)"

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39776

Title: A novel sericin-based hepatocyte serum-free medium and sericin's effect on hepatocyte transcriptome

Reviewer's code: 00503516

Reviewer's country: Italy

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-21

Date reviewed: 2018-05-27

Review time: 6 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent [ ] Grade B: Very good [Y] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [Y] Major revision [ ] Rejection	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript: [ ] Advanced [Y] General [ ] No expertise Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Yun Huang et al describe a novel hepatocyte serum-free medium containing sericin to be used in in bioreactor containing hepatocytes (BALSS system). The work is potential interest for the BALSS system. - The first three lines of M&M should be moved to the

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beginning of the result section to make clear the general experimental organization. - It would have been better to use more than one hepatic cell line, indeed it is not clear whether the results obtained are of general value or are restricted to the C3A cell line used; in this last case the relevance of the manuscript would be significantly reduced. This aspect should be at least commented in the discussion as a limitation of the study. -Define in the text of the result section what are treatment groups A, B, C and D, the definition is reported only the figure legend. -The data of Fig 1 should be quantified and shown as histograms. - The most relevant weakness of the manuscript depend on the fact that the authors should have tested the functions of C3A (urea generation, figure 2) under an overload of NH4+ and see the ability of the cells to convert it into urea. Similarly, it would have been interesting to study the ability of C3A to convert an overload of non-conjugated bilirubin into conjugated bilirubin. This in the light of the fact that BALSS is used for patients with acute liver injury and end-stage liver failure where the NH4+ and non conjugated levels of bilirubin are expected to be considerably augmented. The lack of the above suggested experiments should be at least commented in the discussion as a limitation of the study. - In section "Part 2, Live/Dead fluorescence microscopy assay" fig 6 should be substituted by fig 4. These data should be quantified and shown as histograms.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

Manuscript NO: 39776

Title: A novel sericin-based hepatocyte serum-free medium and sericin's effect on hepatocyte transcriptome

Reviewer's code: 00698109

Reviewer's country: South Korea

Science editor: Xue-Jiao Wang

Date sent for review: 2018-05-21

Date reviewed: 2018-05-28

Review time: 7 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good [ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing [ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection	[ ] Accept (High priority) [Y] Accept (General priority) [ ] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous Peer-reviewer's expertise on the topic of the manuscript: [Y] Advanced [ ] General [ ] No expertise Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This study was well designed and conducted well to investigate the effect of sericin on the growth and adhesion of hepatocytes. Two points should be considered before the results are published. 1. The authors used C3A cells as hepatocytes in this manuscript.

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I wonder the effects of sericin on C3A is same as in hepG2 with the same mechanism and signals? 2. The role of sericin in hepatocyte growth and attachment are already known. So if the mechanism is an important finding in the present study, the expression of the gene or signal transducer mentioned by the authors can be confirmed by PCR or western blot or some inhibitors based on the chip results

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