

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

28th November, 2014



Dear Editor,

We are very grateful for the positive comments from your expert reviewers and for the helpful suggestions regarding improvements to our manuscript. We have carefully considered and addressed each comment, listed below and our revised manuscript, in Word format as requested, is enclosed with the file name: 14147-edited.doc.

Title: From the outside-in: epidermal targeting as a paradigm for atopic disease therapy

Author: Rachel M C Gillespie, Sara J Brown

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Dermatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 14147

Reviewers' comments *and authors' responses:*

Reviewer No. 646537:

- (1) A bit more detail on the pathogenesis of itch in AD would be nice.

Thank you for this helpful suggestion. We agree that the pathophysiology of itch is very interesting and we have therefore discussed its molecular pathophysiology in the context of epidermal barrier disruption in the itch-scratch cycle, and the overall contribution of this to atopic disease pathogenesis. Molecular mediators of the itch sensation (e.g. TSLP and IL-31) are also referred to at various points throughout the text.

- (2) One suggestion would be to try to simplify the manuscript as much as possible. Remove repetitions and points which are not relevant to your core message.

Thank you for this advice. We have simplified the manuscript wherever possible as well as removing the repetitive on peripheral points.

- (3) The abstract also needs to be a bit more compact and to the point

Thank you, the abstract has now been edited as you advise and as a result it is shortened to 200 words.

- (4) The format for writing gene/protein names needs to be uniform

Thank you for pointing this out. We have carefully reviewed the manuscript now to ensure uniformity and standard terminology for gene/protein nomenclature throughout.

- (5) The figures 3 is really good, but I wonder if you could sum up the whole message of the article in an additional single, simple concept map like image.

We are pleased that you like our Figure. We have made the suggested edits to our summary figure

(Figure 3 - see Reviewer No. 646569 point (4) below) and provided an additional concluding figure to sum up the concept of this review, as you have suggested.

- (6) Some of the words are joined together. Please recheck the insertion of spaces between words in the document

We apologise for these typographical errors which have now been corrected.

Reviewer No. 646569:

- (1) Abstract is a bit longer, could you shorten it?

Thank you, the abstract has now been edited as you advise and as a result it is shortened to 200 words.

- (2) Your references are written in style that appears in PubMed. It seems crowded.

We apologise that the references appear crowded. We have aimed to provide the references in the format advised in the Baishideng "Format for Review" document, to include PubMed citation numbers (PMID and DOI). However, if the references require further re-formatting please let us know and we will be happy to do this.

- (3) Figure 2 is blurred and not readable, could you clarify it.

We are sorry that Figure 2 was provided with insufficient quality for your viewing. The image has now been provided with resolution increased from 300dpi to 600dpi, and the image quality set to maximum in the edited manuscript. We trust that this is satisfactory.

Please also find attached Figures 1 to 4 in decomposable format (as Adobe Illustrator files) as requested.

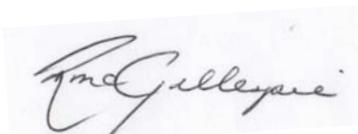
- (4) In figure 3 you must write smaller and lighter fonted "FLG" and "LEKTI" to point out that these are decreased and similarly write bigger and darker "IL-6" and "IL-1beta" to point out that these are increased. Additionally DC are not localised in epidermis but located in dermis. langerhans cells are located in epidermis. please correct it. you may draw another line arrows with nearby "?" symbol from TSLP to airway inflammation.

Thank you for this advice. We have done as you have suggested and edited Figure 3.

Thank you again for considering our manuscript for the *World Journal of Dermatology*

Yours sincerely,

Rachel M.C. Gillespie



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