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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 11923

Title: Thalidomide reduction of portal hypertension in portal vein ligated mice is transient and NOS isoform independent.

Reviewer code: 02567564

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2014-06-12 18:17

Date reviewed: 2014-06-18 08:55

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Title would be better as "Reduction of portal hypertension by thalidomide in portal vein ligated mice is transient and independent of NOS isoform" Abstract: Better to replace the word abrogate with attenuates (Does thalidomide completely reverse PHTN) NOx : Please provide full form at first usage in abstract Introduction: Spellings of steatohepatitis Systemic and mesenteric hyperemia: Do the authors means vasodilation Do mesenteric vesels have increased tendency to bleed or is it the opening of collaterals and these dilated collaterals which bleed Multiple errors in use of English language Results: At one point the authors say TNF alpha levels were not detectable in plasma but detectable in Aorta. Do the authors mean aortic tissue. If yes, please state clearly. Also why was aortic tissue chosen for testing these levels Discussion: multiple errors in English language usage



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Name of journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS manuscript NO: 11923

Title: Thalidomide reduction of portal hypertension in portal vein ligated mice is transient and NOS isoform independent.

Reviewer code: 00039001

Science editor: Su-Xin Gou

Date sent for review: 2014-06-12 18:17

Date reviewed: 2014-06-26 23:30

Table with 4 columns: CLASSIFICATION, LANGUAGE EVALUATION, RECOMMENDATION, CONCLUSION. It lists various grades (A-E) and their corresponding evaluation and recommendation status.

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dr Theodorakis and associates examined the hypothesis that thalidomide diminishes TNF-a induction of NOS and the production of NO. They concluded that the transitory reduction in portal pressure was associated with an iNOS dependent increase in NO and a NOS isoform independent reduction in blood pressure. The paper reads well, but some concerns were raised during the review process. Major 1-Introduction - paragraph1, lines 7-9: The sentence "... promotes redirection of portal venous flow from the liver towards mesenteric venous beds. These venous beds become engorged varices and have an increased capacity for hemorrhage...". This sentence is overstated and probably should be rephrased to mention that the blood flow is also directed to the azygous vein system (not only the mesenteric vein) and that only the esophagogastric varices have high risk of bleeding. 2-Introduction - A short statement on the role of microparticles on NO release is welcomed. 3-Other mechanisms of action of thalidomide should be mentioned: inhibitor of VEGF (J Chin Med Assoc 2009;72:234), decrease of thromboxane A2 (Biochem Biophys Res Commun 2009; 380:666). 4-Data not shown are not considered scientifically valid results. Please provide a full description of the results. Minor 1-Results (last paragraph) -Four basic types of tissues are identified in histology: muscle tissue, nervous tissue, connective tissue, and epithelial tissue. Please clarify what would be aortic and hepatic tissues. 2-Typos must be corrected. Example: introduction, line 3- steatohepeticus (steatohepatitis). 3-Acronyms should be expanded. 4-Methods - Please provide a



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full description/reference of manufacturers or companies. 5-Method - last line- the expression "not significantly significant" is redundant. 6-References- the style is not appropriate. The name of the first author should be typed in bold-faced letter and the family name of all authors should be typed with the initial letter capitalized, followed by the their abbreviated final and middle initials.