

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Translational Medicine

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 23595

**Title:** New insights in sperm biology: How benchside results in the search for molecular markers may help understand male infertility

**Reviewer's code:** 00253956

**Reviewer's country:** United Kingdom

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2015-12-05 09:30

**Date reviewed:** 2015-12-14 02:14

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

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript number 23595, entitled "new insights in sperm biology: how benchside results in search for molecular markers may help to understand male infertility" provides an insight into new biomarkers of sperm functionality that may assist with problems of infertility. The manuscript is an interesting and well-written piece - enjoyable to read, and at a mini-review level suitable to understand by others working or just interested in this field. I have no reservations recommending this for publication, pending a check through of the manuscript to correct several typos and grammatical errors.

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**Name of journal:** World Journal of Translational Medicine

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 23595

**Title:** New insights in sperm biology: How benchside results in the search for molecular markers may help understand male infertility

**Reviewer's code:** 02608938

**Reviewer's country:** United States

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2015-12-05 09:30

**Date reviewed:** 2015-12-14 06:36

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	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"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this manuscript, Marchiani and coworkers briefly reviewed recent data in benchside studies of male infertility. This is a nice and well-written short review and will provide readers critical updated information. Authors are welcome to address a number of issues before this manuscript is exposed to the field. 1. In the first sentence of the 2nd paragraph in introduction, words of "western countries" are inappropriately used. The word of "western" is more political, rather than life style and environment, orientated. Importantly, this statement is supported by only one article with data reported by a French group. Although no detailed information of patients' citizenship was provided, "countries" must be in question. I believe this statement can stand unless more relevant studies from different regions/countries were reported. Dependent on the background of the relevant studies, specific term such as industries, European, North American etc should be used to avoid confusion. 2. The aspect of biomarker studies is not reviewed although it is mentioned twice in the abstract. Is there any critical data that can be included, e.g., as a part of proteomic studies? 3. In aspect of epigenetic studies, is there any development regarding histone modification(s) which can be included



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in this review? 4. Editing should be carefully performed. For example, the successive numbers used for four reviewed aspects were 1, 2, 2, 3 instead correctly 1, 2, 3, 4.

## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Translational Medicine

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 23595

**Title:** New insights in sperm biology: How benchside results in the search for molecular markers may help understand male infertility

**Reviewer's code:** 00698952

**Reviewer's country:** China

**Science editor:** Xue-Mei Gong

**Date sent for review:** 2015-12-05 09:30

**Date reviewed:** 2015-12-16 18:08

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

## COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript serves a nice and concise introductory review of male infertility covering widely the genetic, epigenetic and protein aspects of the issue, and should therefore be of interest to researchers who may want to make a foray into the field. The only problem of this manuscript is still the English, the level of which remains below the standard for publication. This reviewer has indeed found it difficult to understand the manuscript in places, and had to refer to the citations to grasp what the authors meant to say. The manuscript is sprinkled with errors of grammar and punctuation, poor choice of words, supplemented with occasional sentences which are bordering on incomprehensibility, or are otherwise in poor writing style. Oddly, the problematic English seems to occur more frequently in the barely two and a half pages of the introduction section including the abstract, in which at least 18 errors of all sorts can be readily identified. For example, why should the word 'augment' be used in the abstract, instead of a simpler but eminently more suitable word such as 'increase'? The use of anecdote about some female employees having had the fees for freezing their oocytes paid by their companies in the US is not appropriate in a serious scientific review. By the way,



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the word 'employees' was written as 'employers' in the manuscript. In the same paragraph, the last sentence is both ambiguous and grammatically wrong. The 'male age' at its position in the sentence could refer to the age of the offspring, and the word where the 'contribute' is should be a noun. This sentence should therefore be rewritten. One possible sentence structure could be the following: In addition, it has been demonstrated that the higher number of de novo mutations found in the offspring of increasing paternal age is mostly contributed by the paternal transmission. The use of 'above all' in the last sentence of the page is entirely out of place. Direct quoting of a statement from a paper (e.g. lines 6-7 from the bottom of page 3) is not commonly practised, unless the statement is generally regarded as classic or extraordinary in some sense. The authors should express the message of the statement in their own words. Note that these are just a few examples. The authors are urged to revise the English of the manuscript once again. The article is otherwise worth publishing on the grounds of scientific merit.