

## 82081-Answering Reviewers

We are indebted to both reviewers for their insightful comments.

Reviewer #1: Thank you for Your comments. We have now edited the language of our manuscript through the help of James T. A. Marshall, a colleague, co-author, and a native Scottish/Australian speaker. We believe that his editorial and linguistic assistance has improved the manuscript.

Reviewer #2: We are grateful for Your comments.

While we agree that the earlier lifestyle (exercise and nutrition) interventions are initiated the better, there is evidence that T2DM with durations of less than 11 years, can be reversed (references 2, 11 and 12 in the manuscript). In the study of Lian *et al.*, mean T2DM duration was 10.06 years and ranged between 4.32 and 15.8 years, but it is impossible to extract how many of their sixteen T2DM patients demonstrated a T2DM duration below 11 years. It is also not mentioned whether there was a correlation between T2DM duration and glycemic improvement in the hUC-MSC treated patients. Moreover, as Reviewer #2 suggests, despite a 10.06 year mean T2DM duration, it appears that this was a relatively mild T2DM cohort, since their baseline HbA1c level was 7.8000 (7.5250, 8.6750) that significantly reduced ( $P < 0.01$ ) to 7.150 (6.600, 7.925) on day  $84 \pm 3$ . However, none of the sixteen T2DM in the current study noted a remission.

Regarding the linguistic comments, we have now edited the language of our manuscript through the help of James T. A. Marshall, a colleague, co-author, and a native Scottish/Australian speaker. We believe that his editorial and linguistic assistance has improved the manuscript.