

September 12, 2016

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 29435-review.doc).

Title: The role of lipid-lowering agents in the management of diabetic retinopathy

Authors: Estelle Ioannidou, Vasilis-Spyridon Tseriotis, Konstantinos Tziomalos

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Diabetes*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 29435

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers. All changes are shown in red in the revised text:

1 Format has been updated.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers.

Reviewer 00506276

The purpose of this review is to summarize the current knowledge about the effect of lipid-lowering drugs on the development of diabetic retinopathy. The topic is very important. This brief review is overall quite well-written. Both the mechanisms through which statins and fibrates may modulate the development of retinopathy and the results of clinical trials are presented. The only concern is that some introduction about molecular mechanisms of statin and fibrate activity should be included; it would be helpful for the reader. In addition, it would be suitable to include some figure presenting the most important molecular pathogenetic mechanisms involved in diabetic retinopathy development.

We thank this Reviewer for stating “The topic is very important. This brief review is overall quite well-written. Both the mechanisms through which statins and fibrates may modulate the development of retinopathy and the results of clinical trials are presented.” We added an introduction about molecular mechanisms of statin and fibrate activity. We also added a figure presenting the most important molecular pathogenetic mechanisms involved in diabetic retinopathy development.

Reviewer 00506250

This editorial on the management of diabetic retinopathy by lipid-lowering agents is clearly written and informative. I have no additional comments.

We thank this Reviewer for her/his positive comments.

Reviewer 00506239

The authors evaluated the data from literature regarding the role of lipid-lowering agents in the management of diabetic retinopathy. The text is clear and well-written; however, I have some comments for the authors: - The pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy: this part is weak: I suggest to go more in depth describing all different hypotheses. - A structured table showing the main studies can be useful for the readers. - The conclusion of the last part of the text is the same of the abstract: I suggest to modify it.

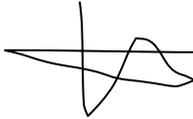
We thank this Reviewer for stating “The text is clear and well-written”. We expanded the section regarding the pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy. We also added a

structured table showing the main studies. Finally, we modified the last part of the conclusion.

3 References and typesetting were corrected.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Diabetes*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical line on the left, a horizontal line extending to the right, and a series of loops and curves that form the name 'Konstantinos TZIOMALOS'.

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