

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 21st 2014



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 12817-Edited.docx)

Title: Augmenting peripheral nerve regeneration using stem cells: a review of current opinion

Authors: Fairbairn NG, Meppelink AM, Ng-Glazier J, Randolph MA, Winograd JM

Name of Journal: World Journal of Stem Cells

ESPS Manuscript NO: 12817

The manuscript has been amended and improved according to the following suggestions from the reviewers and editor.

1. The required information including running title, authors names, institution addresses, author contributions, address of corresponding author has been provided. A selection of keywords has also been provided.
2. The headings throughout the manuscript have been revised.
3. All references and in-text citations have been revised as instructed. The DOI numbers of four references could not be retrieved, even after searching using the recommended website www.crossref.org. In these cases, the URLs were used in place of the DOI.
4. The diagrams have been provided as grouped images and also as decomposed powerpoint images. This will permit reorganization of individual images, arrows and text if necessary although we would prefer if these images were not altered and the originals used or publication.

5. Abbreviations for Wharton's jelly derived mesenchymal stem cells (page 15), Schwann cells (page 17) and NMJ (page 21) have been revised on the relevant pages.

6. Italic font has been added to *in vitro* on page 15.

7. The reviewer suggested we cite evidence for our claim that transdifferentiation leads to phenotypic instability (page 10) and therefore increased tumorigenesis. We have instead elected to remove this sentence as we feel that increased tumorigenesis is an inherent characteristic of embryonic stem cells and induced pluripotent stem cells rather than associated with multipotent mesenchymal cells that have been transdifferentiated. We thank the reviewer for bringing this to our attention.

8. Following on from the above amendment, as requested, we have offered brief discussion on the very relevant topic of induced pluripotent stem cells. As suggested, we have cited Uemura T et al and have included additional relevant evidence. This section has also been added to table 1.

Many thanks for deciding to publish our manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

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