Author's response to reviews

Title: The serum vaspin levels are reduced in Japanese chronic hemodialysis patients

Authors:

Junko Inoue (junchi@mx3.et.tiki.ne.jp)
Jun Wada (junwada@md.okayama-u.ac.jp)
Sanae Teshigawara (sanaea@nifty.com)
Kazuyuki Hida (kzhi@okayama3.hosp.go.jp)
Atsuko Nakatsuka (atsuko-n@md.okayama-u.ac.jp)
Yuji Takatori (y_takap2001@yahoo.co.jp)
Shoichirou Kojo (sho01011125@yahoo.co.jp)
Shigeru Akagi (s-akagi@md.okayama-u.ac.jp)
Kazushi Nakao (nakao-k@md.okayama-u.ac.jp)
Nobuyuki Miyatake (miyarin@med.kagawa-u.ac.jp)
John F. McDonald (john.mcdonald@merckgroup.com)
Hirofumi Makino (makino@md.okayama-u.ac.jp)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dr Gerard Clunn
The BioMed Central Editorial Team

Dear Editor in *BMC Nephrology*

We would like to re-submit the revised version of manuscript entitled ‘Serum vaspin levels are reduced in Japanese chronic hemodialysis patients’. We hope we addressed the issue.

Thank you for the consideration of publication.

Sincerely yours,

Jun Wada, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Medicine and Clinical Science,
Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences,
2-5-1 Shikata-cho, Kita-ku, Okayama 700-8558, Japan.
Tel.: + 81-86-235-7235
Fax: + 81-86-222-5214
E-mail: junwada@md.okayama-u.ac.jp

**Point-by-point response to reviewer**

As the reviewer and editor recommended, we add the comment to explain why we measured serum vaspin levels in HD patients in the introduction section in page 4 line 12 to page 5 line 1, ‘Serum vaspin levels should be increased in HD patients due to the fact that its small protein size, 50 kDa, which would be freely filtered by the kidneys. Furthermore, vaspin seems to increase with increasing insulin resistance and expanding fat mass. Therefore, it was interesting to know whether serum vaspin levels are elevated or reduced in uremic patients undergoing dialysis, who are frequently in the status of malnutrition. We conducted a cross-sectional clinical study to evaluate whether the serum vaspin levels are altered by the renal function and whether the frequency of much higher levels of serum vaspin is different in HD patients.’