Reviewer's report

Title: Disruption of the endothelin A receptor in the nephron causes mild fluid volume expansion

Version: 4 Date: 30 October 2012

Reviewer: Pablo A A Ortiz

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Major compulsory revisions

1. Is ETB mRNA in the nephron affected by nephron ETA KO?. This could be done in the same mRNA samples isolated from PT, TAL and CCD. An increase in ETB could explain the lack of effect of nephron-ETA in renal function.

2. The authors need to provide an explanation why they think there is an increase in body water when there is no change in Na excretion. If something there is a tendency for ETA KO to loose more volume on high salt (albeit not significant).

3. While most data are negative and show a small effect of nephron ETA the scientific approach to study this is extremely straight forward and most appropriate to study gene function in nephron physiology. The Pax8/inducible Cre mice should be of high value to the renal community.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests'