Reviewer's report

**Title:** Expression of a novel short isoform of the kidney disease protein podocin in human kidney

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**Reviewer:** Hiroyasu Tsukaguchi

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Research article # Expression of a novel short isoform of the kidney disease protein podocin in human kidney

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Reviewer 1 Comments for the Revised Version

**Major comments**

Völker A et al., have revised the manuscript mainly by improving the quality of mass spectrometry analysis. This experiment has been done very carefully (Fig. 2 b-d) by collaborating with the specialist (Dr. Rinschen). The Co-IP studies (Fig 4) are provided as additional piece of evidence supporting the possible physical interaction of short form of podocin with other SD proteins. These results have strengthened the author’s conclusion that human short podocin does exist in the kidneys at the protein level and may have some physiological roles, in addition to well-characterized canonical long form of podocin.

**Minor comments**

1. The last sentence in Abstract (line 58), “sequestration of lipids and protein interactors into other cell compartments” sounds ambiguous. The reader may wonder what do “other cell compartments” mean. It would become clear if authors specify the cell compartments exactly (i.e., ER).

2. In Fig 4 D legend, it would be helpful for readers to understand, if authors explain which samples are shown for their isotopic pattern in this panel (human glomerular lysate or HEK293 cell lysates? or both).

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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