Reviewer's report

Title: Podocyte specific knock out of selenoproteins does not enhance nephropathy in streptozotocin diabetic C57BL/6 mice

Version: 1 Date: 29 January 2008

Reviewer: Minoru Satoh

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Major Compulsory Revisions
How was the oxidative stress in the glomeruli. Was the oxidative stress increased by DM induction? And was the glomerular oxidative stress enhanced in PodoTrsp-/- STZ mice compared with Control STZ mice? Immunohistochemical study such as nitrotyrosin, malondialdehyde is needed.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Is there any phenotype on glomerular morphology in podocin-Cre;Trsp L/+ mice? These is precaution, to control for possible toxic effects of Cre recombinase in the podocyte because podocyte is week for endoplasmic reticulum stress.
2. In page 6, the PCR condition seems to be wrong. "min" in Step 2, 3, and 4 suggest "sec".
3. Is it correct in page 7, line 15 "20X"? It may be "200X".
4. Please make the Figure 1A-D size even.

Discretionary Revisions
It would be of great interest if in future studies the authors address the question whether loss of endothelial selenoproteins induces glomerular injury in this model of diabetes.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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.