Author's response to reviews

Title: Immunohistochemical study of N-epsilon-carboxymethyl lysine (CML) in human brain: relation to vascular dementia

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Version: 3 Date: 6 August 2007

Author's response to reviews:

We are submitting the second revision of our paper (Manuscript ID 9526429791348256). We were glad to see that Referee 1 had been fully satisfied with the first revision of the paper. In response to Referee 2's requirements we have made the following alterations:

Major compulsory revisions -

We have added more details about the study population that specifically addresses Dr Beissel's questions. Details of how the 25 cases studied were selected appear at the top of page 7. The dementia type of the selected cases is now recorded in the section on 'Clinical data gathering' on page 10.

Further clarity about the outcome measures has been added to the section on 'Microscopical analysis' on page 9 where it is now made clear that the vessels analysed in white matter were arterioles and the vessels analysed in deep grey matter were small arteries and arterioles.

Minor essential revisions -

We have removed the analysis on the relation between CAMCOG scores and CML staining as requested.

Finally, we have altered 'The main goal' at the start of paragraph 2 of the discussion to 'One of the main goals' and added a sentence at the start of paragraph 3 of the discussion. 'The other main goal .....'.

I very much hope the paper is now acceptable for publication.