Author's response to reviews

Title: Inhibitory effects of prostaglandin E2 on collagen synthesis and cell proliferation in human stellate cells from pancreatic head adenocarcinoma.

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Version: 6 Date: 28 April 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Re-submission MS 9031927179851771

Inhibitory effects of prostaglandin E\textsubscript{2} on collagen synthesis and cell proliferation in human stellate cells from pancreatic head adenocarcinoma

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your review and valuable comments on our manuscript. We have now revised the manuscript according to the comments.

Reviewer Paul Insel

One would also like to know the expression of other key components that are evaluated indirectly in the studies: EP2 receptor, TGF\textbeta reector and PDGF receptor in PSCs of different passages. Without this information, it is difficult to draw firm/strong conclusions and to synthesize the various observations that the authors have made.

We agree that the expression of the receptors to the growth factors examined in our study is of considerable interest. We assessed the expression of TGF\textbeta receptor, PDGF receptor and EP2 receptor by Western blotting, in two different passages (passage 4 and 7). The results show identical expression, suggesting stable expression as a function of passage number. We have included these data in the Results section (p. 9) and as a new Fig 1E in the revised manuscript.

We thus hope that the manuscript will now be found suitable for publication in BMC Cancer.

Yours sincerely,

Ewa Pomianowska, MD.