Author's response to reviews

Title: Retinal upregulation of inflammatory and proangiogenic markers in a model of neonatal diabetic rats fed on a high-fat-diet

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Cover Letter

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Dear Sirs,

Please find enclosed the electronic version of our manuscript entitled “Retinal Upregulation of Inflammatory and Proangiogenic Markers in a Model of Neonatal Diabetic Rats Fed on a High-Fat-Diet” by Jorge E. Mancini, Gustavo Ortiz, J. Oscar Croxatto and myself, which we would like to be considered for publication in BMC Ophthalmology. The manuscript is original and it has not been submitted for publication to another journal.

Our article deals with the effect of a high-fat-diet in the development of diabetic retinopathy in rats. In our opinion this is the first report done in small animals that shows advanced retinopathy changes caused by a high-fat-diet in diabetic rats. Inflammatory and proangiogenic markers as 5-LO, TNF-alfa and VEGF were found upregulated on western blot analyses compared to that found in diabetic animals fed on normal diet and controls. Besides, microvascular abnormalities were seen more frequently in diabetic animals.

We think our article might be of interest for ophthalmologists and researchers involved in the field of diabetic retinopathy.

Yours sincerely,

Juan E. Gallo, M.D., PhD