Reviewer's report

Title: Cooperative effects in differentiation and proliferation between PDGF-BB and matrix derived synthetic peptides in human osteoblasts

Version: 2 Date: 19 August 2011

Reviewer: Christoph Becher

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
- Please state clear hypotheses at the end of the introduction and refer to these hypotheses throughout the manuscript and confirm or reject the hypotheses.
- The aims/hypotheses in the abstract should be equal to them stated in the manuscript.
- The abstract is too long. Please shorten especially in the Method’s section.
- Please provide the exact p-values when you found statistical significance.
- In the figure legends you should tell the reader what was found and not report methodology as already done in the main text related to the figures. Furthermore, significant findings should be highlighted.
- Speculation must not be part of the conclusions. Please change to the discussion section.
- I would recommend to restructure the discussion section as followed: <restatement of rationale and the questions. Comparison and/or contrast of the results with those in the literature; include one paragraph for each question or purpose. End with a synthesis of your results with those in the literature. Briefly explore each major limitation.
- Author’s contributions are not presented.
- There are several mistakes in spelling and grammar. Be more accurate and have the article reviewed by a native speaker.

Discretionary Revisions:
- I recommend making clear statements and underlining them with citations rather than telling what authors xy et al. have evaluated (Introduction and Discussion).
- Many of the cited references are from the 90ies. I would recommend shortening the number of references and citing only the most important older papers and otherwise stick to the most recent literature.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests