Author's response to reviews

Title: The expression of p-ATF2 involved in the chondeocytes apoptosis of an endemic osteoarthritis, Kashin-Beck disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

Enclosed is an original manuscript entitled “The expression of p-ATF2 involved in the chondrocytes apoptosis of an endemic osteoarthritis, Kashin-Beck disease”. We would like to submit it to you for consideration of publication in Arthritis Research & Therapy.

Kashin-Beck Disease (KBD) is an endemic osteoarthropathy with characteristic articular cartilage and growth plate lesions with higher expression of inflammatory factors. JNK and p38 are two major inflammatory signaling pathways. In order to evaluate their function in the apoptosis of KBD chondrocytes, by western blotting and real-time PCR, we present the evidences of the expression of p-ATF2 by p38 and especially JNK signal pathway, which might play an important role in the pathophysiology of chondrocytes apoptosis and death in KBD cartilage. These findings may provide some new information for pathogenesis of KBD as well as other osteoarthrosis with similar articular cartilage lesions.

I certify that our research work is original, and is not being considered for publication elsewhere and free of conflict of interest. Our research was conducted by the ethics committee of Xi’an Jiaotong University. The final manuscript has been seen and approved by all the authors and that they have given necessary attention to ensure the integrity of the work.

Sincerely,

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