Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of Aging and Type 2 Diabetes on Resting and Post Occlusive Hyperemia of the Forearm; the Impact of Rosiglitazone

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Version: 2 Date: 7 February 2005

Author's response to reviews:

I have received your review of the manuscript and have made the changes requested. These are as follows.

1) manuscript rewritten to include subject data
2) format checked and corrections made as per journal format

Thanks you for reconsidering this publication.

Control subjects- all were normotensive, not on any medication and physically active.

1) diabetic subjects are now characterized better. A new paragraph has been added to the subjects section as follows;

The subjects with diabetes in this study were 8 men and 8 women, all with type 2 diabetes. The mean age, heights, BMI(Body Mass Index) and weights are shown in table 1 at the onset of the study. There were 15 on ACE inhibitors, 50% were on a statin, 3 were on beta- blockers and all but 1 were non smokers. Fifty percent were classified as having coronary artery disease and 50% had microalbuminuria. Sixty six percent had neuropathies, and 75% had retinopathies. Mean baseline values were : HbA1c: 8.8+/−2.4, Total cholesterol: 213+/−80, LDL:125+/−80, HDL:45+/−18, and Triglyceride: 275+/−274. Blood pressure was 132+/−38 systolic and 82+/−29 diastolic. Fourteen of the 16 were identified with hypertension.

Analysis of 3 month values revealed significantly lower HbA1c: 7.0 (P<.05) and lower trends in cholesterol and blood pressure: total cholesterol 206, LDL:117, HDL: 42.9, and Triglyceride: 275+/−274. Blood pressure was 126+/−34 systolic and 72+/−22 diastolic. The reduction in both systolic and diastolic blood pressure was significant. All medications were kept constant throughout the study. The younger volunteers represented a healthier cohort than the patients with diabetes. None of the subjects had metabolic syndrome, and none smoked. They had a lower BMI, weight, and were about 5 years younger than the subjects with type 2 diabetes. None took any type of medication. Their average resting blood pressure was 121+/−34 systolic and 75+/−28 diastolic.

2) Glycolation end products were not measured in either group. Blood pressure in the younger group and older group of controls has been added as well as BMI as;

The younger volunteers represented a healthier cohort than the patients with diabetes. None of the subjects had metabolic syndrome, and none smoked. They had a lower BMI, weight, and were about 5 years younger than the subjects with type 2 diabetes. None took any type of medication. Their average resting
blood pressure was 121+/-34 systolic and 75+/-28 diastolic. For the control group, the BMI in the younger subjects (less than 45 years) was 23.2+/-6.1 while the older subjects (>45) averaged 27.9+/-5.3. Both younger and older groups of controls were all physically active faculty and staff at Loma Linda University. School of Allied Health.

3) The evidence is indirect and this has been added to the conclusions- this should lead to other studies.  
4) Smoking etc has been added to the discussion as suggested.

Specific comments

1) All figures have been checked for missing labels, figure legends etc and corrected for consistency

2) spelling checked throughout paper as well as grammar