Author's response to reviews

Title: Analysis of human alveolar bone osteoblasts behaviour on a hydroxyapatite nanotechnological substrate: an in vitro study.

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Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer's report
Title: Analysis of human alveolar bone osteoblasts behaviour on a hydroxyapatite nanotechnological substrate: an in vitro study.
Version: 2 Date: 3 January 2014
Reviewer: Luciana Saraiva
Reviewer's report:

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS
1. Abstract: rewrite lines 2 and 3, they are confused
   R: It was corrected as follows: However, studies have yet to characterize the behavior of human osteoblasts derived from alveolar bone on nHA. Thus, aim of the present study was to evaluate the influence of nHA on the adhesion, proliferation and differentiation of these alveolar bone-derived cells.

2. *Abstract: replace "was monitored upon culture on a ..." by " were analyzed in a culture with ... substrate and compared ...."
   R: it was corrected and improved by professional English editing

3. Abstract: line12 - omit as
   R: it was corrected

4. Abstract: line14 - replace osteocontuctive by osteoconductive
   R: it was corrected

5. Abstract - conclusions - rewrite to improve the meaning
   R: It was corrected as follows: The increased expression of BMPs and
Osteoinductive biomarkers suggest that nano-hydroxyapatite may stimulate the proliferation and differentiation of local alveolar osteoblasts and thus encourage bone regeneration at sites of alveolar bone regeneration.

6. Introduction - 4th paragraph - line 4 - replace "when HA is grafted under healthy periosteum and well vascularized bone" by "when HA is grafted beneath a healthy periosteum and on a well-vascularized bone"
R: it was corrected

7. Introduction - 6th paragraph - line 1/2: can stimulate both THE differentiation ... osteogenic pathways AND human ....
R: it was corrected and improved by professional English editing

8 M&M: line 1 - fresh human bone removed from alveolar crest was obtained after approval ... (omir full ethical and replace isolates by removed)
R: it was corrected

9. M&M: line 3 - replace y by years-
R: it was corrected

10. M&M: line 6 - replace processed by processing
R: it was corrected

11. M&M: line 14 - replace microscope by microscopy
R: it was corrected

12. M&M: line 18 - replace dishes by plates
R: it was corrected

13. Results: rewrite the first paragraph, it is confused
R: it was corrected as follows: Osteoblasts successfully attached to the substrate surfaces and were observed to undergo proliferation from day 4 to day 14, as determined by visual inspection by microscopy

14. Results: page 9 - table 3 - no data available (omit). In the same line replace TO by to.
R: it was corrected and table 3 was replaced by table 1

15. Results: no statistical data was shown
R: it was corrected and the p-value was added

16. Discussion: rewrite the first paragraph, it is confused
R: it was corrected as follows: Hydroxyapatite, among the various bone grafting substitutes, has been widely investigated in periodontal regeneration over the past three decades [4,20]. HA alloplastic grafts, despite their similar chemical composition to bone, are known mainly for their osteoconductive properties [5]. Our study has confirmed the osteoconductive properties of a nano-sized version of this material, showing that nHA can stimulate osteoblasts to produce selected biomarkers representative of bone formation and mesenchymal cell recruitment.

17. Discussion page 10 - 1st paragraph, lines 7/8 - replace: "to osteoblasts are,
likely, the basic and pivotal mechanism regulating bone healing" by "to osteoblasts are, probably, basic and pivotal mechanisms in the regulating of bone healing"
R. it was corrected
18. Conclusions - 1st paragraph - put "on site" before human ostoblasts
R. it was corrected
19. References: review the references because the references 6 and 21 are the same
R. it was corrected
20. Figure 2: correct letters in Figure 2 (B and C are inverted)
R. it was corrected
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published.
R: The Professionals English editing was performed by Edanz Group Global Ltd.
* Some of the corrections advised were rephrased by the English Professionals editing.

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' below.

Reviewer’s report
Title: Analysis of human alveolar bone osteoblasts behaviour on a hydroxyapatite nanotechnological substrate: an in vitro study.
Version: 2 Date: 15 January 2014
Reviewer: Michele D'Attilio
Reviewer’s report:
I strongly believe that this is a paper worth publishing after correction of the following:

Minor Essential Revisions
In the ABSTRACT, 3rd paragraph is not clearly written and would benefit from rephrasing. The same goes for the 2nd sentence in the INTRODUCTION part.
R: it was corrected and improved by professional English editing
This paper would benefit from the shortening and cutting down of the very long sentences used particularly in the introduction.
R: it was corrected

It would be advisable to add the end of the conclusion the suggestions for further studies.

R: it was corrected

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

* Some of the corrections advised were rephrased by the English Professionals editing.

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

Declaration of competing interest: No competing interests.