Reviewer's report

Title: The feasibility of ureteral tissue engineering using autologous veins: an orthotopic animal model with long term results

Version: 2
Date: 2 September 2014

Reviewer: Jaqueline C Rinaldi

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Minor Essential Revisions

Comments:
The manuscript entitled "The feasibility of ureteral tissue engineering using autologous veins: an orthotopic animal model with long term results" describes the use of tissue engineered constructs for ureteral replacement in a long term orthotopic minipig model. Overall the data presented in this manuscript is very interesting and supports the venous grafts may be a potential source for ureteral reconstruction. However, there are a few concerns.

1) I suggest reviewing English and text format, for example: A) Title, 1st line: "feasibility" instead of "feasibility"; B) Abstract/Background, 2nd line: "in vivo" and "in vitro" are not in italic; C) Results, 3rd line: "In week 24 week one animal".

2) Figure (6): I suggest describing the photomicrography or put letters to identify the tissues. You are missing some important details of the tissue morphology.

3) Figure (7): Indicate the immunostained cells to be clear the immunoreactivity of the tissue. If it is not the case (there was no reaction into the tissue, I suggest write this information in the legend). Did the authors have done positive and negative control of this reactions?

4) I would like the authors discuss their comment: “With low sample number it is hard to tell, whether tissue engineered segments even have a disadvantage compared with unseeded constructs in long-term follow up” (Discussion, 3rd paragraph, 8nd line) and “These findings suggested that this method may be a feasible method to substitute the ureteral wall” (Discussion, 6nd paragraph, 4nd line) to highlight the main contributions with their manuscript.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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