Reviewer’s report

Title: Reversal of type 1 diabetes via islet beta cell regeneration following immune modulation by cord blood-derived multipotent stem cells

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Reviewer: Ivan Todorov

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript presented by Zhao and collaborators is a very preliminary report of a clinical trial on Type 1 diabetes. Modulating the patient’s immune system is a very promising approach. The presented ‘education’ therapy of patient’s own lymphocytes demonstrates impressive effect in several directions - increase in c-peptide secretion and effect on cytokines and regulatory T cells. The effects are much more pronounced in the case of patients with advanced diabetes where the c-peptide increase shows a steady line up to 24 weeks after the procedure (an impressive and unique finding). As curing diabetes could hardly be a job for just a few weeks, I consider the report as too preliminary and believe that showing data from later stages, especially for the c-peptide levels (9-12 months, or longer, that the authors probably already have in hand), will make the findings much stronger. This will make the study publishable not only in BMC Medicine, but also in the highest tier of journals.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests