Author's response to reviews

Title: Phosphodiesterase 5 Inhibitors Lower both Portal and Pulmonary Pressure in Portopulmonary Hypertension. A case report.

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We had previously shown that inhibitors of phosphodiesterase 5 (PDE5) exert a highly specific effect on portal hemodynamics in healthy and in cirrhotic liver: They induce an increase of portal venous blood flow and a decrease of portal pressure, probably by lowering the intrahepatic vascular resistance on the level of sinusoids. It is known that PDE5 inhibitors lower pulmonary arterial pressure in pulmonary hypertension and in portopulmonary hypertension, which is a combination of pulmonary and portal hypertension. In this case report we show for the first time that using inhibitors of PDE5 in portopulmonary hypertension a double goal is achieved: A lowering of pulmonary and portal pressure. This case report adds further arguments that PDE5 inhibitors should be evaluated in clinical studies as a novel therapeutic approach for portal hypertension.

Erroreously, in the latest version the abstract and the title page were not included in the complete manuscript file. Fig. 1 and Tab. 1 are now included in the text and are not uploaded as separate files. There are no other changes.