Author's response to reviews

Title: beta2-microglobulin induce epithelial-mesenchymal transition in human renal proximal tubule epithelial cells in vitro

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Version: 4
Date: 26 December 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
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Version: 3 Date: 26 December 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report

Title: beta2-microglobulin induce epithelial-mesenchymal transition in human renal proximal tubule epithelial cells

Version: 3 Date: 17 December 2014
Reviewer: Mark Dockrell

Reviewer's report:

Most of my previous comments have been addressed but the authors do not appear to have taken on board my comments about their failure to recognize similarities between their work and that of Josson et al and the relevance of EMT. If I understand correctly they believe the fact that they have carried out their experiments on PTEC in culture this is abrogates them of any need to address the issues. Hence I would recommend they add "in vitro" to their title.

Although the effect of β2-M on EMT process and β2-M/HFE complex as mediator participated in β2-M induced EMT process is shared by renal proximal tubule epithelial cells and cancer cells. The first difference between our research and Sajni Josson group’s results lies to the different significance of β2-induced EMT, which contributes to renal fibrosis in human renal proximal tubule epithelial cells, whereas confers Cancer Lethality and Bone Metastasis in Human Cancer Cells. The second difference is consistent with the reviewer’s comment that we have carried our experiments on PTEC in culture. According to reviewer’s suggestion,
we have added "in vitro" to our title.