Reviewer’s report

Title: Benazepril hydrochloride improves diabetic nephropathy and decreases proteinuria by decreasing ANGPTL-4 expression

Version: 0 Date: 17 Oct 2016

Reviewer: Gerit-Holger Schernthaner

Reviewer’s report:

The Manuscript "Benazepril hydrochloride improves Diabetic nephropathy and decreases proteinuria via decreasing ANGPTL4 expression" by Xue and colleagues is an interesting piece of work demonstrating first a potential effect of benazepril treatment on ANGPTL-4 expression as well as amelioration of experimental diabetic nephropathy.

Major:

1. The experimental work up is well made, however, the authors fail to prove a clear causal relationship between ANGPTL4 expression and nephropathy worsening or improving which they should be available to provide due to their multiple time point examinations....

2. ANGPTL-4 is reported to be secreted by podocytes. Are the authors able to demonstrate ANGPTL-4 expression inside the podocytes by for instance electron microscopy?

3. Did the authors by any chance measure ANGPTL-4 also in urine and serum?

Minor:

1. In the manuscript p values regarding Table 3 were p<0.001, in the Table 3, p values are reported as 0.000. Were they really 0.000?

2. Results in Figure 1 and 4 would better be reported in a Box and Whisker Plot fashion.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown? If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review? If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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