Reviewer's report

Title: Chronic Kidney Disease Alters Lipid Trafficking and Inflammatory Responses in Macrophages: Effects of Liver X Receptor Agonism

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Reviewer: Herbert Stangl

Reviewer's report:

Kaseda et al. aim to analyze alteration in lipid trafficking and inflammatory responses of THP1 macrophages in CKD. It gets more and more accepted that dysfunction HDL generated in the progression of the disease is one cause for the high burden to develop atherosclerosis in CKD patients. Thus studies to find alteration in macrophages which are the basis of this development are needed. Thus the study is timely and needed. Up to now several studies come to different results. This is due to their difference in the setup. Thus adequate setups are necessary. One main point to me is the selection of the patients. It is of utmost importance to have age, sex and race matched patients as control. For me this is the major drawback of this study. Furthermore to me the manuscript seems to be premature with many details missing. The use of frozen HDL for efflux studies might alter the particle composition and foster misleading results. Did the authors assess, if frozen HDL from CKD patients has the same efflux as it unfrozen counterpart?

Minor Points:

Methods are scarcely documented with some interesting details (use of 1µl oligonucleotide, a concentration would be worth mentioning).

The LDL uptake data are not clear to me, what does 73.1 versus 64.9 mean
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No

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

No

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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