Author's response to reviews

Title: Biodegradable collagen matrix (OlogenTM) implant and conjunctival autograft for scleral necrosis after pterygium excision: two case reports

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Thank you for your e-mail dated 12 August 2015. We were pleased to know that our manuscript was reviewed as ‘minor essential corrections’.

Based on the instructions provided in your e-mail, we uploaded the file of the revised manuscript in MS word on the journal’s website.

As you notice, we have revised the manuscript by modifying the Abstract, Background, Case presentation, and Conclusion sections based on the comments made by reviewers and editor. Accordingly, we have marked with all the changes made during the revision process. The new or changed text is displayed in red color to first original text and displayed in blue color to last revised text. Appended to this cover letter is our point-by-point response to the comments raised by the reviewers and editor. As you notice, we agreed with all the comments raised by the reviewers and editor. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers and editor who identified areas of our manuscript that needed corrections or modification.

We would like also to thank you for allowing us to resubmit a revised copy of the manuscript.

I hope that the revised manuscript will be accepted for publication in BMC ophthalmology.

Sincerely Yours,

Sang-Bumm Lee, MD/PhD
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Dear Prof. Lee,

Your manuscript has now been assessed by the Editor and his comments are below:

The authors have addressed most of the comments and modified the manuscript suitably. There are a few important points, however, that have not been adequately addressed and require attention. Please see my comments below.

1) reviewer comment: MMC induced scleral defects can be covered with autologous scleral grafts or by partial thickness scleral flap rotational procedures where in graft vs. host disease can be prevented. Authors should make it clear the disadvantages of using autologous scleral tissue use in these cases.

Answer: For example, preserved homologous sclera is a flexible avascular tissue that causes minor immunologic reaction, and infectious disease transmission.

2) Line 33 reads 'All patients experienced loss of ocular discomfort and inflammation with rapidly stabilized ocular.' Please change wording to 'Ocular discomfort and inflammation ceased in all patients as the ocular surface quickly stabilized.'

3) Conclusion

Reviewer comment: What were the pre-operative signs pointing towards MMC induced scleral melt-provide in detail

Here the reviewer is asking how the authors can be sure that the melting was MMC-induced in the present cases? It could be likely, but the authors only show an association and not a causative effect. Therefore, I suggest that the authors revise the text to indicate 'a possible MMC-associated thinning/melting'.

4) Limitations - please also include as a limitation the specific indication for the OCM graft in this study, i.e., 'small scleral excavation without any underlying uveal ectactic change'

5) Reviewer comment: Include patient perspective regarding OCM implant graft to complete this paper.

The reviewer is asking for the patients’ subjective experience of the procedure - what is their view or opinion of the procedure and the outcome?
The patients’ perspective of OCM graft in this study was that both felt comfortable after reepithelialization, without ocular discomfort, ocular pain or severe foreign body sensation. Both were satisfied with their ocular surface cosmesis over the two years of observation.

6) This is a very small first case series, therefore please modify line 202 which reads ‘In conclusion, our results suggest that the OlogenTM graft with CAU qualifies as a new, safe, easy,’ To read ‘In conclusion, our results suggest that the OlogenTM graft with CAU is potentially a new, safe, easy.’

Answer : Wording change was done in the revised manuscript.

7) Requesting for Copy-Edit

We recommend that you ask a native English speaking colleague to help you copyedit the paper. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service. For authors who wish to have the language in their manuscript edited by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise, BioMed Central recommends Edanz (www.edanzediting.com/bmc1). BioMed Central has negotiated a 10% discount to the fee charged to BioMed Central authors by Edanz. Use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication. For more information, see our FAQ on language editing services at http://www.biomedcentral.com/authors/authorfaq/editing.

Answer : We commissioned our university (Yeungnam University) in professional language editing service.

We would be grateful if you could address the comments in a revised manuscript and provide a cover letter giving a point-by-point response to the concerns.

Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals). It is important that your files are correctly formatted.

We look forward to receiving your revised manuscript by 10 September 2015. If you imagine that it will take longer to prepare please give us some estimate of when we can expect it.

You should upload your cover letter and revised manuscript through http://www.biomedcentral.com/manuscript/login/man.asp?txt_nav=man&txt_man_id=7466020091679019. You will find more detailed instructions at the base of this email.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or questions regarding your manuscript.

With best wishes,

Ms Erica Cruz
on behalf of Dr Neil Lagali

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Web: http://www.biomedcentral.com/

To submit your revised manuscript

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When you have revised your manuscript in light of the reviewer’s comments and made any required changes to the format of your paper, please upload the revised version by following these instructions:
1. Go to http://www.biomedcentral.com/manuscript/login/man.asp?txt_nav=man&txt_man_id=7466020091679019 and log on with your email address and password.

2. With the ‘Manuscript details’ tab, please update the title, abstract and author details if they have changed since the previous version. It is very important that all changes are updated on this page, as well as in the manuscript file as the information on this page will be used in PubMed and on BioMed Central if your manuscript is accepted for publication.

3. With the ‘Cover letter’ tab, please provide a covering letter with a point-by-point description of the changes made.

4. With the ‘Upload files’ tab, please upload the revised version of the manuscript and press 'Submit new version'. Please wait for the confirmation page to appear - this may take a few moments.