Author’s response to reviews

Title: Notch1 signaling induces Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition in lens epithelium cells during hypoxia

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Reviewer reports:

Hyun Soo Lee (Reviewer 1): There is still major concern that should be addressed to support the authors' conclusion.

It would be agreed that posterior capsular part of lens be in hypoxic condition, contacted with vitreous space before cataract. However, there is no evidence on hypoxic state of posterior capsule after cataract lens removal, including the authors’ mentioned references in their reply. It is a significant concern to prove their hypothesis and conclusions. Plz, clarify this concern first.

Sure, you are right. So far, there is no exact evidence on hypoxic state of posterior capsule after cataract lens removal. But this point caught our attention.

The references we provided only demonstrated the pressure of oxygen in physiological status. But the cataract surgery doesn’t damage or change the structure of vitreous body. After the cataract surgery, the oxygen pressure of posterior capsule was still influenced by the vitreous body. So the posterior capsule should be still in hypoxic condition. But you give us a useful advice. The oxygen pressure of posterior capsule will be measured in the following studies.

Thanks again.
Choul Yong Park, M.D., Ph.D. (Reviewer 2):

The manuscript is improved with the second revision.

One minor essential point;

Legend for figure 1:

At 48 hours of CoCL2 stimulation, the expression of Keratin decreased and Fibronectin increased. Is this right?

Yes, you are right. I’m so sorry for this mistake.