Author’s response to reviews

Title: All-trans retinoic acid stimulates the secretion of TGF-β2 via the phospholipase C but not the adenylyl cyclase signaling pathway in retinal pigment epithelium cells

Authors:

Daren Zhang (zhangdaren@csu.edu.cn)
Shuirong Liu (128167864@qq.com)
Shuyu Hu (hushuyu1995@163.com)
Hui Tao (975598455@qq.com)
Renhong Tang (trh_1@126.com)
Zhihong Deng (daneyldeng@126.com)
Jia Tan (jasmintj@126.com)

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Author Reply to comments

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All-trans retinoic acid stimulates the secretion of TGF-β2 via the phospholipase C but not the adenylyl cyclase signaling pathway in retinal pigment epithelium cells.

Daren Zhang; Zhihong Deng; Jia Tan; Shuirong Liu; Shuyu Hu; Hui Tao; Renhong Tang

BMC Ophthalmology

Dear Dr Deng,

Thank you for amending your manuscript according to our requests. However, there are a few minor revisions that are necessary before we can accept the manuscript for publication:
1. Thank you for all of your efforts to bring down overlap. However, unfortunately, the overlap percentage is still quite high. The current manuscript still has a high percentage of overlap with a previously published paper of yours:


This overlap is now mostly seen in the Methods and the Abstract sections.

While we understand that this is work that you have previously published, and some of the same ideas are contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

Please rephrase the abstract where possible to bring down the overlap. We have attached a screenshot of the overlap to help with your revisions.

For the methods section, please provide citations to this previously published work, along with a statement that says that these methods have been described previously in this published work. Please ensure that a citation is provided with this statement.

Reply: Sorry about this inconvenience and thank you for your advice to improve our manuscript. We are appreciated for your help. We revised the manuscript again to bring down the overlap as we can as possible. Most of the materials and reagents that we bought are the same, so the overlap from the Methods can be hard to bring down. We revised the Abstract and Discussion to reduce the overlap. I would be grateful if you could let me know the limit of the overlap percentage, and whether our revised manuscript meets the requirement this time.

2. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Reply: we submitted the revised manuscript as described.