Author's response to reviews

Title: The effect of Melatonin on bacterial translocation following ischemia/reperfusion injury in a rat model of superior mesenteric artery occlusion

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Version: 4 Date: 2 December 2014

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Response to Reviewer 1

1. Only three literature citations are outlined which are quite old on the relevance of melatonin in oxygen radical scavenging.

The literatures citations are reviewed and updated. The updated and replaced literatures are highlighted in the references section.

2. The authors should look for better evidence of their therapeutic concept and outline this in the discussion.

Detailed theoretical basis to form better evidence for our therapeutic concept were added and highlighted to discussion between the lines 237-264.

3. The authors use melatonin before the onset of reperfusion. Thus it is only a preventive agent which could be used in the clinical setting of organ transplantation or vascular surgery. The model does not prove the use of this therapeutic once the reperfusion injury already exists. This should clearly be stated in the discussion.

The reason why melatonin administered before the onset of reperfusion explained and highlighted in the discussion between the lines 257-264.

4. Why is the dosage of 10 mg ip used. Are there any data supporting this dosage?

This dosage was taken primarily from previous experimental studies down with melatonin. Concerning information was given in discussion between the lines 257-264.