OPEN PEER REVIEW

Open Peer Review (OPR)

As a new feature for progressing towards transparency, we decided to open a new window for all of our editors as well as authors titled "**Open Peer Review**". We hope by this new facility, our reviewers will be more motivated and authors will be more satisfied with the review process. We believe that publishing our peer review reports could make a transparent and clear environment for all our efforts within a journal, but not all reviewers tend to publish their comments.

What is "Open Peer Review" process?

An "Open Peer Review" process is making the details of all review process (including reviewers, associate editors, and EICs comments) as "Public" as it is agreed by EIC, Authors, and reviewers.

Advantages of "Open Peer Review" process

- More transparency, constructiveness and tactful comments of the peer review process: leads to an increase in the quality of reviews
- More motivations for all involved roles in the review process
- Authors' satisfactions from the review process: Increases honesty between authors and reviewers
- Education of both authors and new students
- Prevents reviewers from following their individual agendas and leading to the detection of reviewers' conflicts of interests

You can find out more at:
https://brief.land/briefland/knowledgebase/category/tree.html#opr.html

Gene, Cell and Tissue
Article DOI: 10.5812/gct.104009
Published in: Gene, Cell and Tissue: 7(2); e104009

Peer Review Report for "Increasing Serotonin Level Due to Neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's Disease"

Author(s): Azam Asemi Rad

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 21 Apr 2020
Revised Date: 27 Apr 2020
Accepted Date: 27 Apr 2020

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) 22 Apr 2020

Dear AE,
The study is reviewed carefully. According to comments and revisions by the author, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) 22 Apr 2020

Dear AE,
I think this letter is good. I have some suggestions or the authors to make it better.
1- Can it be said certainty that exercise, both acute or chronic, has no effect on increasing serotonin level?
The changes in brain serotonin metabolism are time-course dependent and differ between brain regions. The striatum,hippocampus and mid-brain of rodents show an elevation of serotonin and serotonin turnover following acute exercise.
Refrences:
A- Dey, S., Singh, R. H., and Dey, P. K. (1992). Exercise training:significanceof regional

alterations in serotonin metabolism of rat brain in relationto antidepressant effect of exercise.Physiol. Behav.52, 1095–1099. doi:10.1016/0031-9384(92)90465-E
B- Meeusen, R., and De Meirleir, K. (1995). Exercise and brain neurotransmission.Sports Med.20, 160–188. doi: 10.2165/00007256-199520030-0000
2- Please mention in the text a study that expresses the lack of relation between the exercise and hyppocampus serotonin level.
3- In some sentences, the comma is not used and the sentence is difficult to understand.
Thanks.

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) 23 Apr 2020

Dear AE,
Concerning the manuscript entitled “Increasing serotonin level due to neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's disease” for Gene, Cell and Tissue Journal, the authors determined the unclear points of an article entitled "the effect of running on positive and negative slopes on serotonin levels in the hippocampus tissue of rats with Alzheimer’s disease” and recommended more investigation on the serotonin level in early stage of Alzheimer's disease. The subject of the article is interesting and is recommended to accept in its current version.
Best regards.

Zahra Heidari: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) 23 Apr 2020

Dear EIC,
Thanks so much for submiting this interesting manuscript to our journal. Based on the reviewers comment, this manuscript was good and suitable for publication in GCT but minor revision makes it better.
Thanks.

Zahra Heidari: EIC | **Revision** (0) 23 Apr 2020

Dear Authors,
This manuscript is a good letter to the editor. It can be accepted after minor revision.
Thanks.

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Dear Editor-in-Chief and Reviewers, thank you for the time and effort spent in reviewing this letter and suggesting some important points to consider. Please find below the reviewer's comments and my responses.

Reviewer 1:
Dear editor,
Concerning the manuscript entitled “Increasing serotonin level due to neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's disease” for Gene, Cell and Tissue Journal, the authors determined the unclear points of an article entitled "the effect of running on positive and negative slopes on serotonin levels in the hippocampus tissue of rats with Alzheimer’s disease” and recommended more investigation on the serotonin level in early stage of Alzheimer's disease. The subject of the article is interesting and is recommended to accept in its current version.
Best regards.

Response: Thank you so much for taking the time to review this letter.

Reviewer 2:
Dear author,
I think your letter is good. I have some suggestion to make it better.
1- Can it be said certainty that exercise, both acute or chronic, has no effect on increasing serotonin level?
The changes in brain serotonin metabolism are time-course dependent and differ between brain regions. The striatum,hippocampus and mid-brain of rodents show an elevation of serotonin and serotonin turnover following acute exercise.

Refrences: 1- Dey, S., Singh, R. H., and Dey, P. K. (1992). Exercise training:significance of regional alterations in serotonin metabolism of rat brain in relationto antidepressant effect of exercise.Physiol. Behav.52, 1095–1099. doi:10.1016/0031-9384(92)90465-E
2-Meeusen, R., and De Meirleir, K. (1995). Exercise and brain neurotransmission.Sports Med.20, 160–188. doi: 10.2165/00007256-199520030-0000

Response: *According to previous studies, exercise increases the serotonin level. The point of this article is the serotonin level in the AD group with exercise has increased compared to the AD group without exercise, and this is in line with previous studies. But with the induction of Alzheimer's disease degenerates some of the serotonergic receptors and part of the increase in serotonin levels, which is even higher than in the healthy group, is related to the compensatory function of serotonergic receptors, which the author did not mention.*

2- Please mention in the text a study that expresses the lack of relation between the exercise and hyppocampus serotonin level.

Response: did not mention this fact in text leads to misunderstanding. The role of exercise on increasing serotonin level added to the text.

3- In some sentences, the comma is not used and the sentence is difficult to understand.

Response: corrected in the text.

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

Zahra Heidari: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 27 Apr 2020

Dear EIC,
Revisions were done well. Now, this manuscript can be accepted, as a letter to the editor, for publication in GCT.
Thanks.

Zahra Heidari: EIC | **Revision** (1) 27 Apr 2020

Dear Authors,
Revisions were done well. Now, this manuscript can be accepted, as a letter to the editor, for publication in GCT.
Thanks.