

ERG preserves endothelial identity to limit atherosclerosis

Corresponding Author: Dr Kathryn Howe

This manuscript has been previously reviewed at another journal. This document only contains information relating to versions considered at Nature Communications.

This file contains all reviewer reports in order by version, followed by all author rebuttals in order by version.

Version 0:

Reviewer comments:

Reviewer #1

(Remarks to the Author)

The authors have performed additional experiments and clarification addressing the concerns raised in the previous cycle of review.

Specifically, they have demonstrated that the data provided are novel as compared to the previously published papers.

Reviewer #2

(Remarks to the Author)

The authors have added new experimental data that address all reviewers' critiques and strengthen the proposed mechanisms. The current work represents a significant advance to the understanding of ERG's role in ECs and its contribution to EndoMT in hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis. I have no additional comments.

Reviewer #3

(Remarks to the Author)

This is a remarkably nonconstructive response, the authors have argued every major point and improved essentially nothing. My previous evaluation is unchanged.

Open Access This Peer Review File is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license, and indicate if changes were made.

In cases where reviewers are anonymous, credit should be given to 'Anonymous Referee' and the source.

The images or other third party material in this Peer Review File are included in the article's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

REVIEWERS' COMMENTS

Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):

The authors have performed additional experiments and clarification addressing the concerns raised in the previous cycle of review.

Specifically, they have demonstrated that the data provided are novel as compared to the previously published papers.

Thank you for the time taken to review our revised manuscript and updated data. We are grateful for the insightful suggestions.

Reviewer #2 (Remarks to the Author):

The authors have added new experimental data that address all reviewers' critiques and strengthen the proposed mechanisms. The current work represents a significant advance to the understanding of ERG's role in ECs and its contribution to EndoMT in hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis. I have no additional comments.

We appreciate the effort and critical appraisal and are pleased that the Reviewer sees this work as a significant advance to the understanding of ERG's role in ECs and contribution to EndMT in hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis.

Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):

This is a remarkably nonconstructive response, the authors have argued every major point and improved essentially nothing. My previous evaluation is unchanged.