Correspondence

Angiopoietin-like 4 in sickle cell retinopathy

Ricardo Luz Leitão Guerra¹,², Mariana Gouveia Bastos² and Cristina Salles¹

¹Bahiana's School of Medicine and Public Health, Salvador, Brazil; ²Retina Division, Clínica de Olhos Leitão Guerra, Salvador, Brazil

Correspondence: Ricardo Luz Leitão Guerra (ricardo@leitaoguerra.com.br)

We read the article by Yang et al. [1] with great interest. The study assembled valuable information regarding regulatory effects of angiopoietin-like 4 (ANGPTL4)-associated pathways and provided information for the potential development of this protein as a clinical treatment target in eye disease therapy [1].

We have some considerations about their study.

The aqueous humor (AH) is an intraocular fluid, secreted by the ciliary body that fills both the posterior and anterior chambers of the eye [2,3]. The vitreous body [4], also known as vitreous humor (VH), is a transparent gel that comprehends 80% of the eye volume [3].

The terminology in aqueous means ‘containing water as a solvent or medium’ and in vitro means ‘elsewhere outside a living organism’.

In their article, Yang et al. [1] used the terminologies ‘in aqueous’ and ‘in vitro’ referring to Jee et al. [5] research regarding sickle cell retinopathy (SCR). Reading Yang et al. study, we understood that Jee et al. [5] performed a research outside a living organism [1].

However, Jee et al. [5] studied samples of the AH and VH and noticed that the expression of ANGPTL4 was increased in patients with SCR, suggesting that ANGPTL4 might be related to the development of retinal neovascularization in SCR and could therefore be a therapeutic target for the treatment of proliferative SCR.

We believe that the considerations aforementioned might help in understanding the valuable scientific information assembled by Yang et al. [1].

We celebrate Yang et al. [1] for the presentation and offer our respects.

Competing interests
The authors declare that there are no competing interests associated with the manuscript.

Abbreviations
AH, aqueous humour; ANGPTL4, angiopoietin-like 4; SCR, sickle cell retinopathy; VH, vitreous humour.

References