Thank you for the editorial review of our submission. We have addressed each of the queries below and edited the manuscript accordingly.

**Editorial comments:**

1. Please take this opportunity to thoroughly proofread the manuscript to ensure that there are no spelling or grammar issues.

*Thank you – we have carefully proofread the manuscript to correct spelling and grammar*

2. The short abstract is over the 50 word limit.

*Short abstract has been revised as requested*

3. The protocol has been rearranged. Please ensure that all references are numbered based on their appearance in the manuscript.

*References have been checked*

4. All protocol steps are renumbered. Please ensure that all protocol steps are numbered correctly when they are referenced. For example, steps 1.1.11 and

1.1.12 are referenced in line 279, however, they are numbered different, so please correct the numbering.

*Thank you. This is an important point. We have checked the numbering*

5. Please do not highlight notes for filming.

*We were unclear about this instruction as we understood you did want us to highlight the areas relevant to filming. Therefore we have submitted two versions of the manuscript: one with the part of the protocol to be filmed highlighted and one without highlighting*

6. Please remove all header in Representative Results.

*All header were removed in Representative Results.*

7. Please combine some short steps so that each step contains 2-3 actions.

*We combined short steps when possible without interfering with subsequent referencing of steps*

8. Please use standard SI unit symbols and prefixes such as µL, mL, L, g, m, etc.

*We used the standard SI units, symbols and prefixes in the manuscript.*

9. Step 3.1.1: Please mention how animals are anesthetized and how proper anesthetization is confirmed.

*We have added that we confirmed appropriate anesthesia via toe pinch. We also mentioned that all animal studies were approved by the University of Colorado Denver Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. We request that this statement be included with the animal work (in vivo) section in the protocol rather than before the reagents preparation.*

10. Please specify the use of vet ointment on eyes to prevent dryness while under anesthesia.

*We have now specified this point in 4.3.2*  
11. For survival strategies, discuss post-surgical treatment of animal, including recovery conditions and treatment for post-surgical pain.

*Mice do not undergo survival surgery.*

12. Discuss maintenance of sterile conditions during survival surgery.

*As stated above we did not do survival* surgery

13. Please specify that the animal is not left unattended until it has regained sufficient consciousness to maintain sternal recumbency.

*We have clarified that mice are left attended until they regain consciousness after procedures.*

14. Please specify that the animal that has undergone surgery is not returned to the company of other animals until fully recovered.

*All mice were* *euthanized and did not undergo survival surgery.*

15. Please convert centrifuge speeds to centrifugal force (x g) instead of revolutions per minute (rpm).

*Speed changed to (xg)*

16. Step 5.1: Please write this step in imperative tense.

*Step was revised as requested*