Author's response to reviews

Title: The overexpression of Sterol Carrier Protein 2 gene in patients of hereditary cholesterol gallstones

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr Edmunds,

Thank you very much for your good and instructive advices.

We have made the point-by-point changes for the article according to your instructions. They are as follows:

1. “Cui NQ, Zhang SK, Cui YF, et al: Overexpression of sterol carrier protein-2 mRNA in patients with cholesterol gallstones. Hepatobiliary Pancreat Dis Int 2005,4:117-20.” is a part of our former work about cholesterol gallstones research. After its publication we found that some cholesterol gallstone patients specially gathered in some families and the members of family background history are susceptible to cholesterol gallstone. So we accumulate these families and design current study to elucidate the inherent disorders of liver. Compared with that paper, our current study enrolled the patients with family history as one group and enlarged the sample size on the basis of former work. Moreover, we verify the reliability of the change of the SCP2 transcription level by using the western blotting to detect the change of SCP2 protein level in the same individuals. We also collected the biles of these patients to analyze the different components of them and compare the lithogenicities of different groups.

2. Now we cite the paper and make a further discussion about the advance over that publication in the current text.

3. We also make proper corrections to improve the grammar and readability of this article.

4. I can confirm that all of the email addresses correspond to the correct authors because the wrong corresponding email address was used in that paper.

Sincerely yours,

NaiQiang