Author's response to reviews

Title: Lipomatous Metaplasia Identified in Rabbits with Evolving Reperfused Myocardial Infarction: 3.0T Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Histopathology Findings

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Author's response to reviews: see over
April 15, 2013

Dear Prof. Adrian Aldcroft, the Editor-in-Executive of *BMC Medical Imaging*,

Thank you for your encouraging letter about our submitted manuscript entitled “Lipomatous Metaplasia Incidentally Identified in Rabbits with Evolving Reperfused Myocardial Infarction: 3.0T MRI and Histopathology Findings”.

The comments from the three reviewers have been carefully addressed point-by-point both in the manuscript and in this revision letter (see the appended pages).

We hope that this revised version should meet the requirements for being published in *BMC Medical Imaging* and eventually contribute to the ever-enhancing impact of your journal.

Sincerely yours

With my best regards,

Yicheng Ni

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Responses to the Reviewer Satoshi Okayama’s Comments (SO)

Comments:

Major Compulsory Essential Revisions

Adequate response to reviewers' comments.

There are only a minor essential revisions.

**Q1:** Short axis images in Figure 6 were differ from each other in rotation. Please replace the images at the same rotation, because I consider the Figure 6 is the most important.

**A1:** Thank you for your suggestion. According to your advice, we have replaced images with better orientation in Figure 6.

Responses to the Reviewer Giovanni Donato D Aquaro’s Comments (GDDA)

**Reviewer's report:**

I appreciated the effort made by the authors to answer my question. As well, I’ve appreciated the effort of the authors to perform this experimental study. However, my suggestions were not used to improve the manuscript and my opinion is that the greatest limitation of the study is still evident: main result is an incidental finding of a study made for other purpose.

**A:** Thank you for your reply. The limitation which you referred to on this study has been well addressed on our manuscript. Our purpose of this study was to further validate the usefulness of this experimental setting as a platform for pre- and post-mortem imaging co-localization on the acute and the chronic phase of MI. We believe the images in this article are of high quality, enabled cardiac imaging research in rabbits with enhanced applicability, accuracy and cost effectiveness. Moreover, LM found in rabbit heart offer a novel research platform for further research on the LM. We also believe that any scientific discovery can be realized in different ways, either on purpose or by accident. The Newton's law of universal gravitation and the LM found in rabbits belong to the latter.