Author's response to reviews

Title: Long-term outcome of vertebral artery origin stenosis in patients with acute ischemic stroke

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Reviewer 1
I think the authors responded appropriately to the reviewer's comments.

Reviewer 2
1. 128 matrix in page 7 and field of view = 320 mm in page 8 seem incorrect. Please add the missing contents.
   : We revised details of MR protocol, “T1-weighted, T2-weighted, and DWI were obtained during the same imaging session and in the same orientation and slice position: matrix = 512×224 in T1-weighted, 384×384 in T2-weighted and 128×128 in DWI; field of view = 220×220 mm in T1 and T2-weighted and 240×240 mm in DWI; section thickness = 5 mm in T1 and T2-weighted and 3.5 mm in DWI; intersection space = 2 mm in T1 and T2-weighted and 0 mm in DWI; and diffusion gradient strength, two b values = 0 and 1000 s/mm2.” and “The acquisition parameters for CE-MRA were as follows: TR/TE = 3/1.1 ms; flip angle = 20°; matrix = 320×192; slice thickness = 2.8 mm; field of view = 320×160 mm; and a bandwidth = 83.33 kHz.”

2. “The prevalence of VAO stenosis (19.3%)” in page 13 is better revised into “The prevalence of VAO stenosis (19.3%, 149/774)”, so that the readers are easy to understand it.
   : We revised accordingly. “The prevalence of VAO stenosis (19.3%, 149/774)”

3. In the description “In our study, the prevalence of VAO stenosis was higher in patients with posterior circulation ischemic stroke than that in patients with anterior circulation ischemic stroke (26.3%, 80/304 posterior circulation ischemic stroke vs. 12.8%, 67/525 anterior circulation ischemic stroke, p < 0.001).”, the fraction and denominator seen incorrect because sum of the fractions is 147 other than 149, and sum of the denominators is 829 other than 774. Please check it.
   : We corrected values accordingly. “(31.7%, 85/268 posterior circulation ischemic stroke vs. 12.6%, 64/506 anterior or simultaneous anterior and posterior circulation ischemic stroke, p < 0.001). In particular, the prevalence of VAO stenosis in the subgroup of patients with posterior circulation ischemic stroke in our study cohort (31.7%) was comparable to those from previous cohort studies consisted of patients who had posterior circulation stroke (i.e., 11.3-44.4 %)”