Author's response to reviews

Title: Clearance of Technetium-99m-DTPA and HRCT Findings in the Evaluation of Patients with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Authors:

Katerina M Antoniou (katerinaantoniou@yahoo.gr)
Katerina Malagari (kmalag@acn.gr)
Nikolaos Tzanakis (tzanakis@med.uoc.gr)
Konstantinos Perisinakis (perisina@med.uoc.gr)
Emmanouil K Symvoulakis (symvouman@yahoo.com)
Nikolaos Karkavitsas (karkavitsas@med.uoc.gr)
Nikolaos M Siafakas (siafak@med.uoc.gr)
Demosthenes Bouros (bouros@med.duth.gr)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
POINT-BY-POINT REPLY

Reviewer: 1

We would like to thank you for accepting our manuscript for publication after the first revision.

Again, thank you very much for your constructive comments

On behalf of the authors,

Professor Demosthenes Bouros
Reviewer: 2

We would like to thank you very much for your helpful comments and suggestions. We have revised our manuscript accordingly. A point-by-point answer follows.

COMMENT: Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached). The response by the authors are appropriate. However the responses needs to be incorporated into the text of the discussion. For example how they derived the definitions of mild mod severe. They need to compare TID to other scoring systems in the discussion.

REPLY: Thank you for this question. We have included a paragraph in our revised manuscript, incorporating the responses in the text of the discussion. The classification of severity of disease in mild moderate and severe is somehow arbitrarily made based on the TID obtained from the above calculations. Patients with TID values from 0 to 20% were considered mild (grade 1), those with 21 to 40% as moderate (grade 2) and those with TID ≥40% as severe (grade 3). We have included this comment in the methods section of our revised-2 manuscript. In addition, we have compared TID to other scoring according to your suggestion in the discussion section.

Again, thank you very much for your constructive comments

On behalf of the authors,

Professor Demosthenes Bouros