Author’s response to reviews

Title: In Vivo Experimental intervertebral disc Degeneration Induced by Bleomycin in the Rhesus Monkey

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
To: Editor of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders

Sep 23rd, 2014

Dear Editor:

We greatly appreciate the valuable comments and suggestions from you and the reviewers to our previous revised submission with the manuscript entitled ‘In Vivo Experimental intervertebral disc Degeneration Induced by Bleomycin in the Rhesus Monkey’ (MS: 1753467155132848). We have modified the manuscript accordingly upon the comments. Enclosed please find the point-by-point response and the revised manuscript. The color of words that have been added or revised are in blue. The sentences that should be deleted are marked with delete line with blue color, for example, intervertebral disc degeneration. We hope that this revision is acceptable.

Thank you for your time and consideration to our work.

Yours sincerely,

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Point-by-point response

1. Author emails
Please ensure that each author is represented by a single email and that this is correct and identical on both the authors’ details page of the submission system and on the title page of the manuscript. We note that author Xuenong Zou has two different email addresses (9965265@qq.com & zxnong@hotmail.com)

Answer: Thanks a lot for your reminder. In fact, Dr. Xuenong Zou has two email addresses: 9965265@qq.com & zxnong@hotmail.com; Usually, he use the email address zxnong@hotmail.com for work more frequently. The address of 9965265@qq.com is his private address, which is less frequently used for work. Thanks. Both of them are correct. We also have confirmed them with Dr. Xuenong Zou, and will use zxnong@hotmail.com in the future.

2. Consent
Please revise your consent statement (lines 115 ¿ 116). We note that your cover letter with the point-by-point response to reviewers states that this has been changed (Thanks a lot for your review. We made an error in this sentence. It was not written informed consent. Before enrollment, we got the written files from the animal center, which showed that each monkey was eligible and healthy. We have deleted this sentence, which made the readers feel confused) but this is not reflected in the manuscript.

Answer: Thanks for your reminder. We apologize to you due to this error. We have deleted this inappropriate sentence this time. Thanks.

3. ARRIVE guidelines
In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#StandardsofReporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to the ARRIVE guidelines (http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357) for the reporting of animal experiments.
This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilised. Can you please include a completed ARRIVE checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript.

**Please upload the completed ARRIVE checklist as an additional file.**

**Answer:** Thanks for your reminder. We have completed the ARRIVE checklist and will upload it when submitting this revised paper. And according to the ARRIVE checklist, we supplemented the name of our research center, where we performed the experimental surgery. It has been shown on line 127-128.

Thanks for your review.