Author's response to reviews

Title: Intraoperative parathyroid hormone assay during focused parathyroidectomy: the importance of 20 minutes measurement

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Cover letter

We submit the revised version of our article entitled "Intraoperative parathyroid hormone assay during focused parathyroidectomy: the importance of 20 minutes measurement" for the publication in your journal. We performed all the correction requested, in particular:

1) We have modified the tables as requested by referee 2 deleting the first line of the second table and changing the titles of the two tables.

2) We have clarified line 17/18 of the discussion as requested by referee 2.

3) We have modified line 7 in abstract/background and line 2 in abstract/results as suggested by referee 2.

4) We have added in the discussion a comment on the 6 patients with low decrease of PTH in the 20min sample and normal PTH levels on the day after as suggested by referee 2.

5) We have added in the results and in an additional table the description of the 32 patients without > 50% decrease at 10 minutes and we have compared these patients to the other 156; we have added a comment in the discussion and we have added a table with the characteristics of the 12 patients with > 50% decrease at 20 minutes as requested by referee 1.

6) We have placed the Author's Contribution and Acknowledgement before the reference section and we have included a Competing Interest section before the reference section.

7) We have added requesting ethics statement in the Methods section, in particular we have added the name of the ethics committee which gave approval and confirmed that informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants.

All changes made have been highlighted in yellow.

All persons listed as authors have given their approval for the submission of the paper.

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