Author's response to reviews

Title: Totally implantable venous access devices: analysis of different insertion techniques and predictors of complications in 796 devices implanted in a single institution

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

we are submitting the second revision of our manuscript entitled "Totally implantable venous access devices: analysis of different insertion techniques and predictors of complications in 796 devices implanted in a single institution" for possible publication in your journal. We hope that our answer could satisfactorily address the editorial concerns and we are grateful for the opportunity to improve our paper.

Thank you for your consideration,

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Point by point reply:

1. We require some further clarifications regarding the source of the data used in your study. Could you please confirm whether the database used was freely available? If not, could we once again ask you to clarify who granted you permission to access it.
   - As described in the previous letter, the database was created and directly managed by our research group composed by the researchers detailed in the authors list, thus it was freely available to us. Moreover, we added further details in the manuscript: “The study was performed according to the second principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. This study is a retrospective review of a prospectively collected database created in 2006 by the authors including 796 consecutive totally implantable venous access devices (TIVAD) applied from November 2006 to November 2011 in the Surgical Oncology Unit of the Veneto Institute of Oncology (IOV-IRCCS). Follow up continued until the device was removed, patient died or the study was closed (30.11.2011). Patients gave their informed consent to have their data collected in a database and to have them anonymously used for scientific purposes.”

2. Please ensure that your Authors' Contributions section is formatted in accordance with our formatting guidelines (http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcsurg/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-contributions). Specifically, authors should be referred to by their initials in this section, rather than their full names. Please also ensure that this section is correctly located within your manuscript.
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