Author's response to reviews

Title: Study on the Evaluation of the Clinical Effects of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Heart Failure by Complex Intervention: Protocol of SECETCM-HF

Authors:

Jingyuan Mao (jymao@126.com)
Yazhu Hou (mreleven@163.com)
Hongcai Shang (shanghongcai@126.com)
Henghe Wang (henghewang@126.com)
Xianliang Wang (xlwang1981@126.com)
Yingqiang Zhao (zhaoyingqiang1000@126.com)
Tianfu Niu (niutianfu2584@sina.com)
Jinrong Cui (cjinrong21417@sina.com)
Guangping Li (tjcardiol@126.com)
Qian Lin (lingqian@mail.cintcm.ac.cn)
Le Shi (xfile01@sina.com)
Xiuli Jia (xiulijia123@163.com)
Ruihong Fan (fanruihong6399@yahoo.com.cn)
Baohe Wang (wbh3423@sina.com)
Hongwu Wang (wanghw55@tjutcm.edu.cn)
Jishou Ruan (jsruan@nankai.edu.cn)

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In the revised manuscript, we made three major modifications:

1. We specified the first item of the inclusion criteria, which was “Chronic heart failure patients#The medical history of primary cardiovascular diseases; symptoms and signs typical of heart failure; LVEF#50%#”.

2. We made the statistical analyses part more accurate, which should be “For the statistical analysis, both the medical statistic method and the complex mathematical methods will be used. The case-distribution, commeasurable analysis, patients’ compliance, therapeutic effect analysis, security analysis and correlation analysis are determined by the statistical method. Focusing on the occurrence and corresponding time of the cardiovascular events, product-limit method, Log-Rank test and Kaplan-Meier curve will be applied. Meanwhile, the total risk rate will be analyzed by the Cox proportional hazard regression. The complex mathematical methods include the rough set, random graph and support vector machine.”

3. In the discussion part, we made the logical relationships clearer. In the first section, we described the importance of developing traditional medicine. Next, we gave a brief introduction of what we had done before, and that was part of the basic work of this study as well. In the end, we pointed out how could we achieve
the goal.