Author’s response to reviews

Title: A double patella-like condition secondary to synovial osteochondromatosis.

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RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

In taking into account valuable criticisms and comments offered by the editor and reviewers, the manuscript entitled 'A Double Patella-Like Condition Secondary To Synovial Osteochondromatosis' has extensively been revised and rewritten. The specific changes to improve the study according to the reviewers are as follows.

**Reviewer #1**

We were delighted to receive the kind comments.

**Reviewer #2**

1) “Page2,line17. Authors should explain MRI findings~”

   According to the comment, the following sentences have been changed as follows (Please, see Revised MS; Page2 ,line 17-20).

   ‘T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed a high-signal-intensity area around the bone fragment, and thus, the fragment was considered to be an intraarticular loose body, which had neither dupricated patellar tendon nor quadiceps tendon (Figure 3).’

2) “Page2,line23-page3. Authors diagnosed the current case as synovial~”

   “Page 4,line3. Active cartilaginous metaplasia in the ~”
In addition to the patella-like huge loose body, we found many smaller loose bodies and they were cartilaginous. They were almost completely covered with synovial membrane, which formed synovial nodules. Synovial membrane connected the loose body to the lateral plica synovialis and articular capsule. The transitional case with intrasynovial nodules and free bodies are typical for second-phase synovial osteochondromatosis [6]. The cartilage showed proliferative activity with large pleomorphic nuclei, which tended to be arranged in small bunches. The lobular type of cartilage is also typical for synovial osteochondromatosis [6]. In these findings, we believe that this case was synovial osteochondromatosis.

The following sentence has been changed as follows (Please, see Revised MS; Page2, line 26-7).

‘Histopathological findings showed that the loose bodies were almost completely covered with synovial membrane, which formed synovial nodules.’

3) ‘Page3. Authors repeated same sentence~’

According to the comment, the following sentences have been changed as follows (Please, see Revised MS; Page3, line 10-11).

‘Congenital duplication of the patella is called double patella [1]. To our knowledge, double patella is extremely rare, and the total number of reported cases is only 15.’
4) “Page3,line17. Authors discuss about MRI. They should~”

According to the comment, the following sentences have been changed as follows (Please, see Revised MS; Page2 ,line 17-20).

‘T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed a high-signal-intensity area around the bone fragment, and thus, the fragment was considered to be an intraarticular loose body, which had neither duplicated patellar tendon nor quadiceps tendon (Figure 3).’

Reviewer #3

1) “More reference concerning giant osteochondroma not ~”

Absolutely, we considered this case as synovial osteochondromatosis. Therefore, we think it is reasonable to cite more reference concerning osteochondromatosis not double patella.

2) “The data of the patient’s first treatment at the age of 2 are needed for publication”

Actually, the details were unknown, but we could know that she had not had operative treatment on her left knee.

According to the comment, the following sentences have been added as follows (Please, see Revised MS; Page2 ,line 6-7).

‘She did not have operative treatment on her left knee.'