Author's response to reviews

Title: Postoperative cognitive dysfunction after inhalational anesthesia in elderly patients undergoing major surgery: the influence of anesthetic technique, cerebral injury and systemic inflammation.

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Version: 4 Date: 6 October 2015

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Answers to Editor:

1. However, since your study was registered retrospectively, we would ask you to please include the date of registration after the number in your manuscript, so that this is clear to readers.

Response: We have added the date of registration (page 4, line 60).

Answers to Section Editor:

1. IRB protocol number needs to be provided.

Response: We have added the IRB protocol number (page 7, line 91-92).

2. Conclusion in the abstract has to be changed: Eliminate ?suggesting that central nervous system injury and systemic inflammation have roles to play in the pathogenesis of POCD. Methylprednisolone appears to afford some protection against POCD?. Why? This was a fishing study that was not really hypothesis drive where multiple comparisons were made (without correcting for multiple testing), and we should not draw any conclusion in the conclusions statement of the abstract based on the observed association.

Response: Thank you for your valuable suggestion. We agreed with you, and changed the conclusion in the abstract (page 3, line 52-57).