Author’s response to reviews

Title: Risk scores for predicting dysphagia in critically ill patients after cardiac surgery

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Re: Revision for “Risk scores for predicting dysphagia in critically ill patients after cardiac surgery” (BMC Anesthesiology - BANE-D-18-00188)

Dear Editor in Chief Guangde Tu,

We thank you and the reviewers for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We have carefully studied the comments raised by the reviewers and editors, and revised the paper accordingly. The following are point-by-point responses to the editors’ and reviewers’ comments.

Should you have any questions, please contact us without any hesitation.
We look forward to your favorable decision.

Yours truly,

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Editor Comments:
1. Please address Reviewer 1’s remaining concern.
   Answer: Thank you for your advice. The presentation had been added in the text (Page 7, Line 20-22 and Page 8, Line 1-3).

2. Please include email addresses for all authors on your title page.
   Answer: Thank you for your advice. The email addresses for all authors had been added into the title page.

3. Please remove the point by point cover letter from additional files.
   Answer: Thank you, the point by point cover letter had been removed.
4. Please double check all tables and figures are cited within your main manuscript text.
Answer: Thank you, all authors have check the tables and figures within the manuscript.

5. Please note that based on the current authors’ contributions section, several listed authors do not automatically qualify for authorship.
We ask that you ensure that author contributions are in line with the ICMJE guidelines (below), and that all listed authors have performed all four points specified below.
Answer: Thank you for your comment. We had ensured listed authors’ contributions. Detailed author contributions had been presented in the title (Page 7, Line 20-22 and Page 8, Line 1-3). Wen WW and Tu WY, as bedside nurses in cardiac care unit, have participated in dysphagia assessment and data collection and were qualified for listed authors.

6. Please list each individual author and their contributions in the Authors’ Contributions section (e.g. Authors AB, CD, EF and GH participated in data acquisition, analysis, and interpretation)
Answer: Thank you for your advice. Author contributions had been presented more clearly.

Reviewer 1
Comment 1: I have just one point of remaining concern. From the response letter: " We calculated the average number of each group to be 53 by the freely available estimation software PS 3.0 (Power and Sample Size Calculation). At least 25 patients with dysphagia was were required on the basis of preliminary data. Finally, the number of participants included in our study (103 patients was diagnosed as dysphagia) rather than the number of evaluations.” I don't see this presented in the text.
Answer: Thank you for your comment. The presentation had been added in the text (Page 7, Line 20-22 and Page 8, Line 1-3).