Author’s response to reviews

Title: Screening key genes for abdominal aortic aneurysm based on Gene Expression Omnibus dataset

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Francesca Dickens,

We are submitting the revised manuscript with the ID BCAR-D-17-00607R4, entitled "Screening key genes for abdominal aortic aneurysm based on Gene Expression Omnibus dataset" for publication in BMC Cardiovascular Disorders. According to the comments, we have already revised the manuscript. All revisions have been made in the revised manuscript. The following are our reply to the comments, item by item.

Once again, thank you for your kind reconsideration.

Yours sincerely,

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Comments:

1. We note that paragraphs in the Methods section have some textual overlap with other previously published works, particularly:


   While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. Therefore, we would appreciate if you try to minimise direct repetition of large sections of previously published text.

   Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. We are sorry for the repetition of large sections of previously published text. As suggested, we have modified the text to minimize the repetition. The changes have been made in the “Immunohistochemical (IHC) staining for CCR7 and PDGFA” section (line 117-127, page 6) and “Receiver operating characteristic analyses” section (line 131-134, page 6-7) of the revised manuscript. Thanks again!

2. In the section ‘Ethics and consent to Participate’, please include the full name of the ethics committee (and the institute to which it belongs to) that approved the study and the committee’s reference number if appropriate.

   Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. We are sorry for omitting the full name of the ethics committee and committee’s reference number. As suggested, we have added the full name of the ethics committee and the committee’s reference number. The changes have been made in the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section (line 293-294, page 14) of the revised manuscript. Thanks again!
3. Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure.

Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. To be frank, all patients in this study provided written informed consent. We have added the information in the “Immunohistochemical (IHC) staining for CCR7 and PDGFA” section (line 128-129, page 6) and “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section (line 293-294, page 14) of the revised manuscript. Thanks again!

4. Please confirm whether all figures included are your own or taken from another source. If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it. If the above conditions are not met the image needs to be removed. Please note the editors may request proof of permission at any time.

Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. We guarantee that all figures included are our own and not taken from another source. Thanks again!

5. We note that you have not included an acknowledgements section. If you have no acknowledgements please put ‘Not Applicable’ in this section.

Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. We are sorry for omitting the acknowledgements section. As suggested, we have added the section. The change has been made in the “Acknowledgements” section (line 309, page 15) of the revised manuscript. Thanks again!

6. Please ensure that the figure files are uploaded in the correct order.

Answer: We thank the Reviewer for his/her kind evaluation of our work. We would check the order of all figure files when uploaded them once revision. Thanks again!
7. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

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