Author's response to reviews

Title: Serotypes and Antibiotic Resistance of Streptococcus pneumoniae Isolates from Patients at a General Hospital in Guangzhou, from 2011 to 2013

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Chen,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript (MS: 1357803864140674) and providing us with instructive suggestions. We totally agree to the comments from the editors and reviewers, and have answered all the questions from the reviewers. We also thank the reviewers for their careful review and insightful comments. Please receive the detailed point-by-point responses to the editors and reviewers’ comments as follows. We believe that the study has been strengthened with minor revision. Therefore, we submit a revised manuscript to you.

Point-by-point response to the Editor’s comments and Reviewers’ comments:

Editorial Requirement:

We recommend that you copyedit the paper to improve the style of written English. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service. For authors who wish to have the language in their manuscript edited by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise, BioMed Central recommends Edanz (www.edanzediting.com/bmc1). BioMed Central has negotiated a 10% discount to the fee charged to BioMed Central authors by Edanz. Use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication. For more information, see our FAQ on language editing services at http://www.biomedcentral.com/authors/authorfaq/editing.

We totally agree with your comment that our paper need to be copyedited before being published. We have revised the whole manuscript carefully and tried to avoid any grammar or syntax error.

Reviewers' comments:

Referee 1:

Reviewer: yasim yusof

Reviewer's report:
Major essential revisions: nil

Minor essential revisions: Streptococcus pneumoniae is spelled wrongly in some instances i.e. without an 'e' in pneumoniae and not in italics.

There are a number of grammatical errors which must be addressed.

This a well researched article and shows the situation in China which would be of interest to researchers in this field.

We have revised the whole manuscript carefully and tried to avoid any grammar or syntax error. Furthermore, we have also double checked and revised the spelling for Streptococcus pneumoniae.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

We have revised the whole manuscript carefully and tried to avoid any grammar or syntax error.

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests

Referee 2:

Reviewer: Jo MC Jefferies

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions

Abstract
Line 35
Sentence should start “Fifteen serotypes” rather than “15 serotypes”

We have changed the word “15 serotypes” to “Fifteen serotypes”. (Page 2, Line 37)

Line 43
Numbers less than five should be written as text
We have changed the word “5” to “five”. (Page 2, Line 45)

Line 45
“13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine could cover most of the isolates, especially for penicillin-resistant ones, and PCV13 showed the highest efficiency in the prevention of pneumococcal disease
This sentence does not read well. It is not clear what is meant by “efficiency”.
I suggest, “13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine covers the majority of serotypes in our sample”.

We have changed “13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine could cover most of the isolates, especially for penicillin-resistant ones, and PCV13 showed the highest efficiency in the prevention of pneumococcal disease” to “13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine covers the majority of serotypes in our sample”. (Page 2, Line 48)

Line 48
remove “the” from this sentence
"Caution should be taken clinically in order to avoid the multi-drug resistance (MDR)."
Intro.

We have removed the word “the” from this sentence. (Page 2, Line 49)

Line 57
Please change “posed” to “poses”

We have changed the word “posed” to “poses”. (Page 2, Line 58)

Line 60
HIV should be considered as a chronic disease.

According to the reviewer's suggestion, we have involved HIV in chronic disease. (Page 2, Line 61)

Line 61
Please correct grammar in the following sentence, it mixes past and present tense.
“About 70-100 million children under the age of five years old died of S. pneumoniae infection, and 90% of which occur in developing countries worldwide every year”

Thanks for the constructive suggestions. We have corrected the grammar error in this sentence. (Page 2, Line 62)
We have changed the word “S. pneumonia” to “S. pneumoniae”. (Page 3, Line 91)

Thanks for the constructive suggestions. We mean development of vaccine policy in this region. Therefore, we have revised this sentence. (Page 4, Line 98)

We have changed the word “Britain” to “UK”. (Page 5, Line 129)

We have moved the comparison with results from other countries to the discussion section. (Page 7, Line 193)

We have corrected grammar error in this sentence to avoid misunderstanding. (Page 10, Line 278)

The authors suggest that their findings are dramatically different from those of Xue et al, however, as the sample size in this study is fairly small and no confidence intervals are
presented for either set of data, it is overstating the case to conclude that the results are totally different, given that 19F, 19A, 6B and 23F are common serotypes in both datasets. Please re-word this section accordingly.

According to reviewer's suggestions, we have re-worded this sentence in the new version. (Page 10, Line 296-303)

Line 298 – begins with “Because” but does not link to a logical argument. Please revise, I suggest “As S. pneumoniae spreads in the community serotype distribution among one age group could directly and indirectly affect the distribution in other age groups dependent on mixing patterns.”

According to reviewer's suggestions, we have changed this sentence in the new version. (Page 11, Line 309-311)

Line 405
Remove the word “the”

We have removed the word "the". (Page 14, Line 423)

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

According to the reviewer’s comments, we have revised the whole manuscript carefully and tried to avoid any grammar or syntax error.

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I have received research funding and conference support from vaccine manufacturers.

I am looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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