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
Wangxue Chen, Ph.D
Associate Editor, BMC Infectious Diseases

May 8, 2015
MS: 1357803864140674

Serotype distribution and antibiotic resistance of Streptococcus pneumoniae isolates collected at a Chinese hospital from 2011 to 2013

Dear Dr. Chen,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript (MS: 1357803864140674) and providing us with instructive suggestions. We totally agree to the recommendation from the editor, and have edited our manuscript by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise from Edanz (C1505-43254-YaoYandan). We believe that the study has been strengthened with minor modification. 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 ask a native English speaking colleague to help you copyedit the paper. 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 again before being published. have edited our manuscript by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise from Edanz (C1505-43254-YaoYandan).

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 50)

Line 57
Please change “posed” to “poses”

We have changed the word “posed” to “poses”. (Page 2, Line 60)

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 64)

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 65)

Line 90
S. pneumoniae

We have changed the word “S. pneumonia” to “S. pneumoniae”. (Page 3, Line 91)

Line 97
“supply the scientific basis for independent development of vaccine in
Guangzhou” – Do the authors mean development of vaccine or development of
vaccine policy in this region? It would be unusual to develop a vaccine for use in
a particular sub-national region.

Thanks for the constructive suggestions. We mean development of vaccine policy in
this region. Therefore, we have revised this sentence. (Page 4, Line 408)

Methods
Line 128
Change “Britain” to “UK”

We have changed the word “Britain” to “UK”. (Page 5, Line 130)

Results
Line 187
Please move the comparison with results from other countries to the discussion
section

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

Discussion
Line 270 – please correct grammar in this sentence, which currently suggests
that death is located in the nasopharynx, throat and oral cavity.

We have corrected grammar error in this sentence to avoid misunderstanding.
(Page 10, Line 283)

Line 288-292
“Xue et al. recently reported that the most common serotypes of IPD isolates in
Chinese pediatric patients were 19F, 14, 19A, 6B and 23F [18]. Totally different
from those data, we have shown that 19F (42.6%) is the main serotype in the
study, followed by 19A (8.5%), 3 (8.5%), 6B (7.4%), 23F (4.3%) and 15 (2.1%),
suggesting that regional difference of serotype distribution is dramatic. 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 14, Line 301)

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)

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.

Sincerely,

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