Editor Comments:

1. Please provide the reason and justification as to why the patient’s next of kin provided written informed consent and not the patient himself.

The patient went back to Heilongjiang Province for rehab and his daughter still work in Hainan Province. Thus we can only get consent of his daughter, who happened to be the healthcare decision maker of the patient when he was in our ICU. In our Chinese traditional culture, healthcare decision, such as DNR, was made by his/her next of kin, such as spouse, offsprings or parents, not him or herself.

2. We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:
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.

Those sections you mentioned have been re-written to minimise the overlap.

3. Please represent authors' names using their full initials in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

The authors’ full initials were used in the Authors’ Contributions section.

4. The individual contributions of ALL authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Currently, Jie Jiao (JJ) is missing from this section. Guidance
and criteria for authorship can be found here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

Jie Jiao MM. is the first author and plays an important role in patient care and data collection. All the authors’ contribution was checked based on the guideline.

5. Please include Figure 1 which is cited in the main text but not included in the manuscript.

Fig was attached in TIF file.

6. 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.

Checked