Author’s response to reviews

Title: Clinical parameters and outcomes of necrotizing soft tissue infections secondary to gastrointestinal fistulas

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear editor:

Thank you for your kind considerations on our manuscript (INFD-D-18-01845R2). We appreciated the valuable comments and suggestions from the respected reviewers. Based on the reviewers’ comments and requests, some modifications have been made on the manuscript. Please refer to the revised manuscript for details. Many thanks!

Yours sincerely
Jinan Ren

Respond to comments

Technical Comments:

Authors email addresses - Please include a title page at the front of your manuscript file. It contain, at minimum, the names, institutions, countries and email addresses of all authors, and the full postal address of the submitting author.

Answer: Thank you very much, we have added the Authors email addresses in the front of the revised manuscript.

Editor Comments:

1. Please address the comments provided by reviewer 1. However, please note that as these comments pertain to the addition of citations they are to be completed at your discretion. These comments are NOT compulsory.

Answer: Thank your comments. We have used the second paper as reference 3 in introduction.

2. Please amend the statement in the "Consent for publication" section, as this refers to consent obtained to publish potentially-identifying information (of patients/participants). Please confirm that Written Consent to Publish was obtained from the patient detailed within your Figure 2 Case Presentation by including the statement "Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this Case Report and any accompanying images. A copy of the written consent is available for review by the Editor of this journal.”

Answer: Thank your comments. We added the informed consent of the patients in the "Consent for publication" section (page 13, line 7 of the manuscript). A copy of the written consent was also obtained from Figure 2 Case (the patient’s name is Ji Jun) was also added in our manuscript of Supplementary Material -Consent to Publish, please check again.

3. Please clarify your statement on the availability of raw data. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. Alternatively, include a statement confirming "The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request."
Answer: Thank you very much for this precious comment. We have changed our data availability statement from “Not applicable” to “The datasets used and analyzed in the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request”.

4. In the “Funding” section of your declarations, please clarify the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Answer: Thank your comments. We have updated the role of the funding body in the “Funding” section. The funders had no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

5. The individual contributions of all authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Currently the individual contributions of Jieshou Li are not included. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

Answer: Thank you for the comment. Jieshou Li is a master in the field of gastrointestinal fistula. In this study, he provides important research ideas for us. We have added Li Jieshou as the Study conception and design in the Authors’ Contributions section. Sorry for our negligence.

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.

Answer: Thanks for these comments. We have uploaded our manuscript as a single, final, clean version.

Reviewer reports:

Silvano Esposito (Reviewer 1): The text is much improved and is suitable for publication.

I would add the following references in in introduction

Esposito Silvano, Noviello Silvana, De Caro Francesco, Boccia Giovanni. New insights into classification, epidemiology and microbiology of SSTIs, including diabetic foot infections. Infez. Med. 26, 1, 3-14, 2018)

Answer: Thank you very much for this precious comment. We have used the second paper as reference 3 in introduction. Thank you again for your work.