Author’s response to reviews

Title: Clinical features of rabies patients with abnormal sexual behaviors as the presenting manifestations: a case report and literature review

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Sabeta,

Thank you very much for your encouraging decision letter and advice on our manuscript (Manuscript # INFD-D-18-02270) entitled “Clinical features of rabies patients with abnormal sexual behaviors as the presenting manifestations: a case report and literature review”. We also thank the reviewers for the constructive and positive comments and suggestions. Accordingly, we have revised the manuscript. All amendments are highlighted in red in the revised manuscript. In addition, point-by-point responses to the comments are listed below this letter.

This revised manuscript has been edited and proofread by Medjaden Bioscience Limited.

We hope that the revision is acceptable for the publication in your journal.

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
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First of all, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the reviewers for their helpful and positive comments.

Replies to Reviewer 1

Technical Comments

1. The discussion section could be improved further. The arguments posed in lines 27 to 57 (Page 11) and lines 1 to 24 (Page 12) are not entirely correct. While there have been rabies survivors, there have been many more deaths. Also amongst those that have survived, most have neurological sequelae. I therefore suggest that the authors consider revising this part of the discussion and provide a more balanced argument.

Response: Thank you for your insightful suggestion. Several sentences have been modified in the Discussion and conclusions section of the revised manuscript (Page 11, Lines 27-57; Page 12, Lines 1-57; Page 13, Line 1-28) to provide a more balanced argument on the important issue.

2. I recommend that they update their literature review to include recent reviews and articles on survival after rabies. One such example is Human Rabies Survivors in India: An Emerging Paradox? published recently in Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg., 98(1), 2018, pp. 207-210.

Response: Thanks for your recommendation. We have done literature research on recent reviews and articles on survival after rabies, and updated the literature review by adding four references [1-4]. The paper entitled “Human Rabies Survivors in India: An Emerging Paradox? PLoS Negl Trop Dis 2016;10:e0004774.” you mentioned was already cited in the manuscript (i.e. reference 44), and another one published in Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg., 98(1), 2018, pp. 207-210, with a title “Case Report: Failure of Therapeutic Coma in Rabies Encephalitis”, has been added in the revised manuscript (i.e. reference 65).
References:


Replies to Reviewer 2

Minor considerations:

1. Considering the age (6-71 years) was this clinical feature observed despite the age?.

Response: Thanks for raising this important issue. Accordingly, we have addressed this issue, alone with the clinical feature in terms of gender, in the revised manuscript (Page 10, Lines 53-57, and Page 11, Lines 1-10).

2. The gender of the cases {Among the 55 cases, 51 were male and three were female (age ranging from 6 to 71 years)" although it was mentioned later the unrecorded gender of the one case should be mention in the abstract.

Response: Thanks for your thoughtful suggestion. Correction has been made in the revised manuscript (Page 2, Line 32).