Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development of a multiplex PCR to detect and discriminate porcine circoviruses in clinical specimens

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for spending so much time on our manuscript. We hereby resubmit our revised manuscript, “Development of a multiplex PCR to detect and discriminate porcine circoviruses in clinical specimens” (ID:INFD-D-18-02099R3), for your reconsideration.

We are grateful for the editor’s and the reviewers’ careful and accurate suggestions and advice. These were very helpful and constructive and helped us to improve our manuscript. We have made all the necessary changes according to the referee’s report and the edited version of the manuscript.

About the map depicted in figure 1, it was made by ourselves, it is original.

Please find, enclosed, the revised manuscript together with our detailed and point-to-point replies.
We would like to express our great appreciation to you and the reviewers for comments on our paper. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Your consideration of our manuscript would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

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Responses:

Editor Comments:

1. Please clearly indicate the Corresponding Author on the Title Page of your manuscript.

Reply: Thank you very much for your kindly suggestions. We have indicated the Corresponding Author on the Title Page of our manuscript.

2. Please clarify where the animal lung, spleen and lymph node samples used in your study were sourced from. Please state whether they are derived from a commercial/experimental source or from private owners. If the animals were privately owned we require a statement on owner consent in the ‘Ethics and Consent to Participate’.

Additionally, In your methods section, please state the source of the 20 PCV free pigs used in your study. Were these derived from a commercial/experimental source? If so please state the name of the company from which you purchased the animals. If the animals were privately owned we require a statement on owner consent in the ‘Ethics and Consent to Participate’.

Reply: The animal lung, spleen and lymph node samples used in our study were sourced from 8 farms in Hubei province. They are commercial source. They were collected by the owners and sent to us to detect PCVs (Methods section, line 143-144, page 6).
The 20 PCV free pigs used in our study are experimental source. They were derived from the farm of Institute of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Hubei Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Methods section, line 163-165, page 7).

We have added the information in our MS.

3. In your methods section, please state the method of euthanasia used on the animals in this study.

Reply: We added the method of euthanasia, CO2 inhalation, used on the animals in our study (Methods section, line 168, page 7).

4. Please state in the cover letter whether the map depicted in figure 1 is your own or taken from another source.

If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it.

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If images were taken from multiple sources please clarify whether permission was obtained from all sources to use and alter these images.

Reply: Thanks for your carefully review. The map depicted in figure 1 was made by ourselves, it is original. And we stated it in cover letter.

5. 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.

Reply: Thank you for spending so much time on our manuscript again. We have upload the files as suggested.