Author’s response to reviews

Title: Automated detection of nonmelanoma skin cancer using digital images: a systematic review

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dirk Krüger, Ph.D.
BMC Medical Imaging
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October 25, 2018

Dear Dr. Krüger,

Thank you for considering our manuscript, “Automated detection of nonmelanoma skin cancer using digital images: a systematic review” for publication in BMC Medical Imaging. The authors appreciate the points raised by the reviewers, which we believe we have thoroughly addressed in the revised version our manuscript. Please consider this point-by-point response to the reviewer’s comments, including descriptions of additional analyses that we conducted:

Jan Maria Juszczyk (Reviewer 1):
The original decision to use only the term “image” in our search string was based on preliminary database searches, which showed the ubiquitous use of this term in our target literature. However, considering the reviewer’s suggestion, we have updated our review with a modified search string that includes the synonyms suggested by the reviewer: photo*, picture, dermoscop*, dermatoscop*.

The original databases were selected as it was felt that they would provide adequate coverage of the existing literature on our topic of interest, however in light of the reviewer’s suggestion, we have updated the review to include three additional databases: Google Scholar, SpringerLink, and ScienceDirect.

The example regarding mobile devices in the discussion section was alluding to the potential application of machine learning algorithms in patient-controlled technologies, however as the reviewer correctly notes, this may be misconstrued as an evaluative statement that is beyond the scope of the research that has been described. Thus, we have removed that sentence.

Yuanming Feng (Reviewer 2):

We repeated each database search as described in the manuscript to update the literature results with studies that were published after our manuscript was originally submitted. These searches, which were modified per the suggestions of Reviewer 1 as described above, identified an additional 19 articles, which have been included in the review.

The 19 studies that have been added include the article mentioned by Reviewer 2, “The skin cancer classification using deep convolutional neural network.”

The manuscript has been updated with commentary on each of the 19 added studies. Please note that all changes to the manuscript have been indicated using the track changes feature.
We hope you will consider our work for publication. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

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