Author’s response to reviews

Title: Automated classification of dense calcium tissues in gray-scale intravascular ultrasound images using a deep belief network

Authors:
Juhwan Lee (juhwan.lee@case.edu)
Yoo Na Hwang (yoonahwang@gmail.com)
Ga Young Kim (kimga4080@gmail.com)
Ji Yean Kwon (jykwon@dongguk.edu)
Sung Min Kim (smkim@dongguk.edu)

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Assistant Editor Comments:

1. Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate
   -- As your study is labelled as retrospective, there is no need for consent to participate to be obtained. As such, please clearly state this as the reason why the need for informed consent was waived in your ‘Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate’ section, also.

   • We added the reason why the need for informed consent was waived. It is copied as below:
   “This study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Ulsan University Hospital, Republic of Korea and the need for signed informed consent was waived because it was a retrospective study without patient interactions.”

   -- In this section, please also clarify whether any administrative permissions were required to access and use the medical records described in your study. If so, please state who granted permission in the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section.

   • We did not require any administrative permissions.

2. Figure Headings
   --Please provide your figure legends under a separate heading of ‘Figure Legends’ after the References section in your manuscript, rather than as an additional file.

   • We included a separate heading of ‘Figure Legends’ after the References section.
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