Author’s response to reviews

Title: Efficacy and safety of cyclosporine A for patients with steroid-resistant nephrotic syndrome: a meta-analysis

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Response to the reviewers

Dear Dr. Lingling Tian, Dr. Hayley Henderson and reviewers,

We are hereby submitting our revised manuscript entitled “Efficacy and safety of cyclosporine A for patients with steroid-resistant nephrotic syndrome” (Manuscript ID: BNEP-D-18-00885R1). In the past several days, all of the authors participated in revising this manuscript. We have fully addressed the comments of the reviewers. We hereby provide our point-by-point responses to all of the concerns as detailed below.

Reviewer reports:

Uwe Querfeld (Reviewer 1):

Re: BNEP-D-19-00285R1

This manuscript is now much improved, but still contains numerous major flaws, both in content and in language, in spite of the certified English translation.

Response: We have carefully corrected the errors in both in content and in language. We have re-edited the content with the help of EditSprings.
The sentence "CsA and TAC are two members of calmodulin inhibitor" is wrong in several aspects.

Response: We have revised as “CsA and TAC are two most important members of calmodulin inhibitors”.

Tables should be rewritten: numerous spelling errors (e.g. Jaded score), nonsensical sentences ("all the patients were from children", "independently CsA levels", etc.) and phrases that look
like "copy and paste" from the original publication (e.g. "were enrolled in our study", "The following characteristics met our Criterion", etc.). Table content can be shortened.

Response: Thank you very much for your care and suggestion. We have revised them carefully in the revised manuscript. Thank you very much!

The number of patients total and in each treatment arm should be given for each study.

Response: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have added them in the Table 1 in the revised manuscript. Thank you very much!

It is unclear whether the reported side effects specifically apply to patients with CsA or to all patients.

Response: The side effects specifically apply to all patients. Thank you very much!

The forest plot should be carefully reviewed. The outcomes CR and TR favor placebo over CsA??

Response: We checked the data and figure 1 for CR and TR, and found the CR and TR in CsA group were higher than those in placebo group, not the outcomes CR and TR favor placebo over CsA. They were right! Thanks again!

Frederick Kaskel, MD, PhD (Reviewer 2):

The revised manuscript is significantly improved and the only comment that has not been answered is whether their review was targeted at children or children and adults. Response: Thank you very much for your care. We have revised it in the revised manuscript. Thanks again!