Author’s response to reviews

Title: Laboratory markers of cardiac and metabolic complications after generalized tonic clonic seizures

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Dear Dr. Garg, dear Dr. Sharma, dear Dr. Thacker,

Thank you very much for your suggestions and comments on our manuscript entitled "Laboratory markers of cardiac and metabolic complications after generalized tonic clonic seizures". We would like to give the following answers to the comments:

PK Sharma (Reviewer 1): kindly explain critical tachycardia with more detail?

ANSWER: The term "critical tachycardia" could indeed be misleading, since it may especially imply ventricular tachycardias or ventricular fibrillation. We have clarified this term in the revised manuscript as follows (results section, p. 6, lines 41-45):

“About forty-one percent of the patients displayed sinus tachycardia (heart rates exceeding 100 bpm), while critical tachycardia (defined as heart rates exceeding the individual theoretical maximum heart rate according to the formula “220-patient’s age”) only affected 2 of 194 patients (1%).”
We have introduced this term because such very high heart rates reflect very vigorous cardiac activity in relation to the patient’s fitness that may be associated with an increased risk of detrimental cardiac events (such as ischemia or cardiac arrhythmia).

AK Thacker (Reviewer 2): Nothing new in the study. The authors themselves have highlighted their limitations.

ANSWER: We respect the reviewer’s opinion. We believe, however, that clinical research requires replication studies to strengthen previous data and to foster progress in medical sciences.

We hope that we have satisfactorily addressed the reviewers’ concerns and suggestions and are looking forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,

Rainer Surges (on behalf of all authors)