Author’s response to reviews

Title: Interstitial pneumonia and other adverse events in riluzole-administered amyotrophic lateral sclerosis patients: a retrospective observational study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Mar 22, 2019

Dear Dr. Samuel Harris,

BMC Neurology

I wish to submit the revised version of our manuscript entitled “Interstitial pneumonia and other adverse events in riluzole-administered amyotrophic lateral sclerosis patients: A retrospective observational study” for your consideration (NURL-D-18-00685R3).

We have addressed your comments and queries. Please find our comments below.
Best regards,

Aya Inoue-Shibui

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Editor Comments:

>As per the reviewer comments, and your revisions, please also amend this sentence in the Abstract: "Two cases had to discontinue the administration because of decline in forced vital capacity to <60 %, based on the pharmaceutical reference." to the new statement in your last revision: "Two cases had to discontinue the administration mainly because of progression of bulbar palsy." Otherwise, your manuscript is currently contradictory.

We apologize there were contradictions in our manuscript.

As per the reviewer comments, and our revisions, we amended "Two cases had to discontinue the administration because of decline in forced vital capacity to <60 %, based on the pharmaceutical reference." to the new statement in our latest revision of "In two cases, administration was discontinued primarily because of progression of bulbar palsy." which is edited by professional language editing service, in the revised version of abstract in page 4 and Results section in page 8.

Also, we revised “Careful follow-up for the first six months after the beginning of riluzole is needed with through interviews, chemical analyses, and chest X-rays.” to “Careful follow-up is important for the first six months after the initiation of riluzole administration, including through interviews, chemical analyses, and chest X-rays, as required.” in the abstract in page 4 and Conclusion section in page 19.
Please amend this statement in the Results section "In total, 92 cases could be followed” to “92 cases could be followed for 15.5 months (IQR, 9–22 months)."

We amended the statement that in the Results section "In total, 92 cases could be followed to 92 cases could be followed for 15.5 months (IQR, 9–22 months)" to “In total, 92 cases were followed up for a median of 15.5 months [interquartile range (IQR), 9–22 months].” in page 7.

Please have the text edited by a professional language editing service (please see recommended services below). There are many issues with grammar, wording, spelling, and/or punctuation that need to be addressed before acceptance for publication.

We are sorry that there were many issues with grammar, wording, spelling, and/or punctuation that need to be addressed, even though our text have been edited by professional language editing service in every submission.

Again, our text was edited by professional language editing service.

Please amend the Methods and Patients heading to Methods.

We revised “Methods and Patients” heading to “Methods” in the abstract.

Please represent authors’ names using their initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

We represented authors’ names using their initials in the revised Authors’ Contributions section in page 21.

Please confirm whether your study was submitted to and approved by your institutional ethics committee and include a statement to this effect in your Methods and Ethics approval and consent to participate sections. Please also ensure that the full name of your ethics committee is included in this statement. If the need for ethics approval was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

We stated: “The study was submitted to and approved by the Ethics Committee of Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine (2010–253, 2017-1-005). Consent to participate was
directly provided by patients or their families.” in Methods section in page 6 and in Ethic approval and consent to participate section in page 20.

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