Author's response to reviews

Title: Ki-67 as a prognostic marker in early-stage non-small cell lung cancer in Asian patients: a meta-analysis of published studies involving 32 studies

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Responses to Editors' comments

We would like to thank all the editors for their valuable comments and suggestions. In reply to the editors’ comments:

Q1. Clarify what non-financial competing interests they have. Also ask them to confirm that they have no financial competing interests.

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion. The Sentence 'All authors declare that they have non-financial competing interests' in Row 415, Page 18 have been changed to 'All authors declare that they have no financial competing interest'. Thanks again for your kind point it out.

Q2. Remove the Covering letter and response to the referees from the additional files.

Reply: Thanks for your advices. The cover letter and response to the referees have been removed from the additional files (Figure 1).

![Additional material files](image)

Figure 1. The cover letter and response to the referees have been removed from the additional files.
Q3. Clarify what the ethics approval was obtained for and who gave consent to participate.

**Reply:** Thanks very much for your suggestion. We have read many meta-analysis articles after received your suggests. However, limited ethics approval showed in these articles. So we decided to delete this sentences, if it was possible. Please see the tracked changes in Row 96-100, Page 4. We feel very sorry for this mistake. Thanks very much for your work again.

We hope that these changes address your concerns.

Best wishes,

Yours,

Wuhua Guo