Author’s response to reviews

Title: Low birth weight contributed to increased serum IL-6 levels in infantile respiratory syncytial virus infection

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Dear editor:
We carefully studied reviewer’s comments again, and have made the necessary changes according to the suggestions. Our responses to reviewer’s comments are listed below:

1. Methods: How was wheezing diagnosed in your patients? Was it diagnosed by the treating physicians or study team? or was it traced from documentation in the case notes. Since there was an analysis in this subset of patients, it is important to state how these clinical signs were picked up and by who?
   Reply: “Wheezing is defined as a continuous high-pitched sound with musical quality emitting from the chest during expiration [10]. Wheezing symptoms were assessed by at least two clinicians from our study team or the treating physicians (during the weekend).” has been added in the Methods section.

2. Page 7 Line 3: please define NBW when it is first used in the manuscript. Please check that all abbreviations are defined when they are first used.
   Reply: The abbreviation “NBW” is first used in Page 4 line 6. The “NBW” of the Page 7 (Page 8) has been also defined.

3. Tables: Please put in footnotes for all tables the definitions of all the abbreviations used in the table.
   Reply: The definitions of all the abbreviations in the Tables have been provided.

Cover letter with a point-by-point response to all the comments has been provided. In the manuscript, the first revised changes to the manuscript were indicated in the text by the red, the
second revised changes were highlighted by the underline or strikethrough, and the third revised changes were shown by the green.

We have addressed all the suggestions of reviewer. Undoubtedly, this revision will improve the quality and clarity of this manuscript. We thank again you for your consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely yours,
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