Author’s response to reviews

Title: Phenotypic variability in a child with Felty’s syndrome: a case report

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Author’s response to reviews:

Cover letter

RE:BPED-D-19-01524R1, entitled “Phenotypic variability in a child with Felty’s syndrome: a case report and literature review”.

Dear editor:

Thank you for giving us a chance to revise our manuscript (BPED-D-19-01524R1) again.

We read comments from reviewer and editor carefully, and have revised our manuscript based on your comments.

Best wishes

Children’s Hospital of Fudan University

Guo-min Li
Editor Comments:

1) Please remove 'literature review' from the title.
Yes, we removed 'literature review' from the title.

Reviewer reports:

Lillemor Berntson (Reviewer 1): I still think this is a very interesting and important case study since a possible Feltys syndrome is unusual in children and case reports are important. The manuscript has improved but I have a few further suggestions.

Page 4, Line 31. The parenthesis can be removed, this refers to the earlier Table 1.
Yes, we removed the parenthesis.

Page 9, Line 14-17. I guess that you mean Table 1 and 2.
Yes, we made a mistake, and corrected it. Thanks!

Page 10, Line 5. I guess that you mean Fig 3.
Yes, we made a mistake, and corrected it. Thanks!

Table 2. It is very difficult to get an overview of this table. I still think you should present the overall results in another way. Why not remove the table and sum up the most important results and present it in the text.

We sum up the most important results and present it in the text, and removed the table.
Table 4. If you want to keep this table I suggest that you explain that it covers only six children with FS and that you mention the number of those six patients with specific features instead of words like "always". It is hard to assume that a clinical feature will be mandatory in pediatric FS when we only have six patients described so far. Regarding "arthritis" as well as "splenomegaly" I suggest that you write "in all six" instead of "always". "Almost always" should be changed to "common". Regarding the column "autoantibody", "almost always" should be changed to "common" and "sometimes" to three out of six.

Yes, we revised the table 4 based on reviewer’s comment.

Violetta Opoka-Winiarska, Ph.D., M.D., D.Sc. (Reviewer 2): Authors performed required corrections. I have one additional comment.

Abstract

Background

"It is rarely seen in patients with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA)"

Conclusions:

"FS is rarely seen in children with JIA."

The conclusions should be re-analysed.

Yes, we deleted the sentence "FS is rarely seen in children with JIA." in the conclusion.