**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Association between intake of red and processed meat and the risk of heart failure: a meta-analysis

**Authors:**

Kun Cui (1026198819@qq.com)

Yabin Liu (185102230@qq.com)

Lingjun Zhu (541091012@qq.com)

Xia Mei (xiamei_2018@yeah.net)

Ping Jin (82547230@qq.com)

Yuhui Luo (luo_yuhui2017@yeah.net)

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Editor Comments:

- page 7: 'highest category of meat intake shot up the risk of heart failure'

= shot up is not a term traditionally used in English, please change it, for instance to:

“…highest category of meat intake was associated with increased risk of …”

Reply: Thank you for your careful review. We have revised the sentence following your suggestion.

- Conclusion: To sum up, the findings from this meta-analysis concluded that processed meat intake, other than red meat intake, increased the risk of heart failure, especially among the Europeans.

= your study is only implying causality rather than showing concrete evidence therefore please try to avoid the word 'conclude'. Perhaps try using the word 'indicate'. Please check all the text for this.
Reply: Thank you. We have revised the sentence following your suggestion.

Please change your 'Introduction' heading to 'Background'

Reply: We have changed ‘Introduction’ heading to ‘Background’.