Author’s response to reviews

Title: Aspergillus fumigatus during COPD exacerbation: A pair-matched retrospective study

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Editor

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Re: Manuscript No. PULM-D-17-00280R2

Dear Professor Fabiano Di Marco,

Attached please find our revised manuscript entitled “Aspergillus fumigatus during COPD exacerbation: A pair-matched retrospective study”.
We highly appreciate all the valuable comments from you and the reviewers. Based on the reviewers’ suggestion, we revised our manuscript and in the following pages and have included our point-by-point responses to each of the comments from you and the reviewers.

We hope that the revised manuscript and our accompanying responses will be sufficient to make our manuscript suitable for publication in the BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Sincerely,

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Responses to Comments:

Reviewer #1

Silvia Terraneo, MD

Comment 1: page 7 condition D: I cannot find in the list of abbreviation "CPA", "IPA" and "ABPA"
Response: As your suggestion, we supplemented the definition of "CPA", "IPA" and "ABPA" in the manuscript at the first usage (Methods section, line 8, condition D, page 7) and also added them in the list of abbreviations (List of abbreviations section, page 17).

Comment 2: METHODS "Statistical analysis", line 166: please explain how did you choose the variables to insert in the multivariate analysis.

Response: Thanks for your kind suggestion. The univariate analysis was performed, and then variables with p value < 0.10 were inserted in multivariate logistic regression, which was used for identifying the independent risk factors for Aspergillus colonization (Methods section, line 8-10, page 9). We added the specific explanation in the revised version as your suggestion.