Author’s response to reviews

Title: Acute exacerbations of fibrosing interstitial lung disease associated with connective tissue diseases: a population-based study

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Version: 4 Date: 12 Oct 2019

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PULM-D-18-00700R3

Acute exacerbations of fibrosing interstitial lung disease associated with connective tissue diseases: a population-based study

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BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Dear editor,

We addressed the comments of editor and reviewers (see below) and revised the manuscript according to your comments. We appreciate the constructive criticisms of the reviewers and believe that our revisions have clarified and strengthened the manuscript. Specifically, we have made the following revisions in response to your comments point-by-point below.
Editor Comments:

1 - Please revise your ‘Declaration’ section to be in the following order with a heading:

Declarations
- Ethics approval and consent to participate
- Consent for publication
- Availability of data and materials
- Competing interests
- Funding
- Authors' Contributions
- Acknowledgements
- Authors' Information (optional)

Reply. Thank you for your comments. Yes, we revised our Declaration according to the above order with a heading.

2 - Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). A statement to this effect must appear in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations of the manuscript.

Reply. Thank you for your comments. We added the statement of the research is compliance with the Helsinki Declaration in section of the Declarations of the manuscript.

3 - If you wish to acknowledge someone by their name in the Acknowledgements, please ensure you have obtained permission from them to so do.

Reply. Thank you for your comments. Yes, we did obtain permission from Prof. Kevin K, Brown and Prof. Yin Chen to list their names in the Acknowledgements.
4 - In the Funding section of the Declarations please indicate the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. If no specific funding was received for this study, please clearly indicate this in the Funding section.

Reply. Thank you for your comments. Yes, we did indicate the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

5 - Please use unique initials in the Authors' contributions section; two authors have initials DW. Please distinguish between them.

Reply. Thank you for your comments. We used the full name to distinguish the two authors with same initials, Dandan Wang and Dongmei Wang.

6 - At this stage, please upload your proofread manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethrough or text in different colors. All relevant tables and figures should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

Reply. Thank you for your comments. We will upload the clean versions of our proofread manuscript, all relevant tables and figures.