Author’s response to reviews

Title: Comparison of disease progression subgroups in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

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POINT-BY-POINT RESPONSE TO EDITOR AND REVIEWER COMMENTS

PULM-D-18-00525R3

Comparison of disease progression subgroups in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis Miia Kärkkäinen, M.D.; Hannu-Pekka Kettunen, MD; Hanna Nurmi, MD; Tuomas Selander, M. Sc.; Minna Purokivi, MD, PhD; Riitta Kaarteenaho, MD, PhD

Assistant Editor Comments:

1. Reviewer 3 comments (see below).

Comment 2. Consent to Participate

-- please provide a reference to the exact finish legislation that states consent to participate is not required.

Response 2. The reference has now been provided. In addition, the exact act of Finlex has been included in the manuscript text, please see page 5, lines 5 – 6 and page 14, line 2.

Comment 3. Overlap- Methods
We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

Underlying and immediate causes of death in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis - Miia Kärkkäinen et al.

This overlap mainly exists in the methods- please ensure this is cited.

While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in this publication, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

If there is overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source.

Please re-phrase these sections to minimise overlap.

Response 3. The sections in the Methods section has now been re-phrased and the previously published work has been cited in the parts where overlapping could not be avoided.

Comment 4. Funding

-- In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding body/bodies in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Response 4. The funding sources did not have any role in the study design, data collection, data analysis, interpreting the data or writing the manuscript. This has now been included in the funding chapter. Please see page 14, lines 21–22.

Comment 5. Acknowledgements

-- Please specify in your response that you have permission to use full names under 'Acknowledgements'.

Response 5. The permission to use full name of the acknowledged person in the Acknowledgements-section has been received and the person has proof read the manuscript in order to ensure the correct English grammar of the manuscript.

Comment 6. Cite

-- Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication.
Response 5. All figures and tables have been cited in the text.

Comment 7. Red text

At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Please ensure that all figures, tables and additional/supplementary files are cited within the text.

Response 7. The text has now been edited and different colours have been changed to black text. All figures and tables are cited in the text.

Reviewer reports:

Nazia Chaudhuri, MB ChB BSc PhD (Reviewer 1): Authors have responded to reviewers comments

Felix Chua (Reviewer 3):

Comment: Revision of the descriptive term for these non-honeycombed cases would be appropriate - they should be labelled as non-definite UIP and not non-UlP.

Response: The term non-UIP has been revised to non-definite UIP in the Results section, please see Results section on page 6.