Author’s response to reviews

Title: BIOMECHANICAL EFFECTS OF METASTASIS IN THE OSTEOPOROTIC LUMBAR SPINE

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Author’s response to reviews:

Many thanks for the opportunity to revise the above manuscript. Please find attached the revised version of the above manuscript. Your comments have been carefully considered, and implemented as follows:

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Thank you for submitting the revised version of your manuscript "BIOMECHANICAL EFFECTS OF METASTASIS IN THE OSTEOPOROTIC LUMBAR SPINE" (BMSD-D-17-00204R2). It has been re-assessed and I am pleased to inform you that your manuscript has been provisionally recommended for acceptance in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. However, before we can pass your manuscript on to our production team, there are a few minor stylistic points that need to be addressed as outlined below:

1) Abstract: please remove 'Purpose' from the 'Background and Purpose' heading

Heading modified as suggested
2) Ethical approval: the name of the ethics committee that provide approval needs to be stated

We changed the sentence as following: "The frozen human cadaveric spine specimen was obtained from the Mayo Anatomical Bequest Program. Ethical approval was originally obtained and the donor gave consent for his body to be used for medical research”.

3) Conflict of interest: this heading should be changed to Competing interest.

Statement modified as suggested

In addition, it should be updated with the text appearing on page 2 (AB, UGL and AT are members of the Editorial Board of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. The other authors declare that they have no competing interests.). Statement modified as suggested

4) Availability of data and materials: will any of the data specific to this study be available from readers upon reasonable request? Please see our Editorial Policies section for our requirements about data sharing (https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#availability+of+data+and+materials).

Yes, the data specific to this study will be available for readers upon reasonable request

5) Figure 1: has this figure been reproduced from either [25] or [26]?

No, this figure has not been reproduced from either [25] or [26]

We thank the Editorial Board for having given us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We appreciate your comments. I hope that the additions have now further improved the manuscript, and that it has now reached the standard necessary to be formally accepted for publication in your journal.

Best Regards