Author’s response to reviews

Title: Is Treated HIV Infection Associated with Knee Cartilage Degeneration and Structural Changes? A Longitudinal Study using Data from the Osteoarthritis Initiative

Authors:
Yao Liu (liuyaonn@hotmail.com)
Sarah Foreman (sarah.foreman@ucsf.edu)
Gabby Joseph (gabby.Josep@ucsf.edu)
Jan Neumann (jan.neumann@tum.de)
Phyllis Tien (Phyllis.Tien@ucsf.edu)
Xiaoming Li (lilyboston2002@163.com)
Nancy Lane (nelane@ucdavis.edu)
Michael Nevitt (michael.nevitt@ucsf.edu)
Charles McCulloch (Charles.McCulloch@ucsf.edu)
Thomas Link (thomas.link@ucsf.edu)

Version: 2 Date: 11 Apr 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

We would like to thank the editors for their review and comments. We have worked rigorously on responding to all comments and have modified and revised the resubmitted manuscript. Please find our point-by-point responses below. Comments are in italics and answers in standard font, changes made in the manuscript are highlighted in yellow both in the response letter.

Response to editor

Editor 1

E 1.1: Authors addressed the comments of the reviewers. The manuscript can be published in the journal. --Please carry out minor revisions as below before we can proceed your manuscript to Production.
Author response 1.1: Thank you for the detailed review of our manuscript. We appreciate the input concerning our manuscript and hope to have satisfactorily addressed and answered all your comments in this revision.

E 1.2: Ethics approval and consent to participate.

We would expect ethical approval for a study such as this to be granted by a local ethics committee at each clinical site.

-Please provide more information regarding ethical approval for research at all the different locations including IRB names, institution names and a reference number if relevant.

Author response 1.2: Thank you for the comments. More information about ethical approval were provided in the DECLARATIONS section.

Author action 1.2: The following sentences were changed/addeded:

- DECLARATIONS section, page 20 / line 423-429: The OAI study is HIPAA compliant and approved by received ethical approval from the institutional review boards at each clinical site (Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island Institutional Review Board, The Ohio State University’s Biomedical Sciences Institutional Review Board, University of Pittsburgh Institutional Review Board, and University of Maryland Baltimore – Institutional Review Board) as well as the OAI Coordinating Center and the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging at UCSF (Committee on Human Research at the University of California, San Francisco).

E 1.3: Availability of data and materials

As we note the current link included within this section is invalid, please adapt it to the correct information.

Author response 1.3: Thank you for pointing this issue out. All OAI data will continue to be available by accessing a new website that is hosted by the National Institutes of Health. The URL for this new website is: https://oai.nih.gov.

Author action 1.3:

The following sentences were changed:
- METHODS section, page 6 / line 122: This study utilized data from the Osteoarthritis Initiative cohort (OAI, https://oai.nih.gov), a longitudinal, multi-center cohort study which recruited 4796 individuals and is sponsored by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH).

- DECLARATIONS section, page 20 / line 435: The data sets analyzed in this study are available on the OAI website (https://oai.nih.gov).

E 1.4: Authors’ contributions

Please represent authors' names using their full initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors. Please also include individual contributions of the author “Xiaoming Li” and “Nancy E. Lane” in this section.

Author response 1.4: Thank you for pointing that out. Individual contributions of “Xiaoming Li” and “Nancy E. Lane” were added and all authors were represented with their full initials.

Author action 1.4: The following sentences were changed:

- DECLARATIONS section, page 22 / line 463-467:

YL and TML take responsibility for the integrity of the work as a whole, from inception to finished article.

Conception and design of the study: YL, SCF, TML.

Acquisition of data: YL, JN, SCF, TML.

Analysis and interpretation of data: YL, SCF, GBJ, PCT, XL, NEL, MCN, CEM, TML.

E 1.5: Funding

The role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript should be declared in this section.

Author response 1.5: Thank you for the comments. The role of the funding body was added in the DECLARATIONS section.

Author action 1.5: The following sentences were changed/added:

- DECLARATIONS section, page 21 / line: 449-458: This manuscript was prepared using an OAI public use data set and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the OAI investigators, the NIH, or the private funding partners. The analyses in this study were funded
through the NIH/NIAMS (National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases grants R01AR064771 and P50-AR060752) and were also supported by the grants from National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC, No. 31630025, 81320108013 and 81571643). The views expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the NIH/NIAMS and the NSFC. These funding bodies did not have a role in the design of the study, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; and in writing the manuscript.

E 1.6: Figures

Please remove duplicate figures and the corresponding figure legends from embedded within this manuscript file. These figures should still be submitted as separate figure file and should contain the image graphic (and any associated keys) only.

Author response 1.6: Thank you for the comments. We have removed duplicate figures/figure legends from the manuscript.

Author action 1.6: Duplicate figures and the corresponding figure legends were removed.

E 1.7: Clean copy

On uploading your revisions, please remove any tracked changes or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Please also remove ‘Cover Letter-tml.docx’, ‘BMC response letter 4.2-tml.docx’ and ‘BMC manuscript tracked 4.2-tml.docx’ from the file inventory as these are no longer required at this editorial stage.

Author response 1.7: Thank you for this reminding. A single clean copy of the manuscript has been uploaded.

(Please see BMC response letter 4.12 Yao-tml.)