Author's response to reviews

Title: Prognosis and postoperative genital function of function-preservative surgery of pelvic autonomic nerve preservation for male rectal cancer patients

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Mr. Eden Nonato

Thank you for your letter and the valuable comments from the reviewers. Please convey our thanks to the expert.

We would like to re-submit our manuscript, which has been revised according to the comments of the reviewer. We have addressed each comment raised by the reviewers and revised the paper accordingly. All amendments are highlighted in red font in the revised manuscript. Point-by-point replies are included below. We hope that the revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your journal.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Jianping Wang, Ph.D.

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Response to Reviewers’ Comments:

Reviewer #1:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. The title is still incomprehensible and needs to be rephrased.

   Answer: we have changed the title. Please check. Thank you!

2. The English language deserves a deep and meticulous revision covering all aspects: Spelling, grammar, and phrasing.

   Answer: OK. We have revised this manuscript, which has been edited and proofread by native speakers. All amendments are highlighted in red font in the revised manuscript. Please check. Thank you!

3. In the introduction the authors refer to statistics without mentioning its geographical origin (where does this prevalence occurs?)

   Answer: Thank you for your advice. We have added the geographical origin: Guangdong Province.

4. Although the authors have a long-term FU for local recurrence, no genital function erectile dysfunction has been tested during this FU. This is of great importance, since many of these functions may improve later with time, or may decrease later if postoperative RT is given

   Answer: We have added the long-term data of erectile dysfunction. Please check.
Thank you!

5. The recommendation needs to be more based on the results.

*Answer:* OK. We have delete the unnecessary recommendation. Please check!