Author's response to reviews

Title: Contributing Factors of Elective Surgical Case Cancellation: A Retrospective Cross-Sectional Study at a Single-Site Hospital

Authors:
Kaiye Yu (yannisyu007@163.com)
Xiaolei Xie (xxie@tsinghua.edu.cn)
Li Luo (luolicc@163.com)
Renrong Gong (285798772@qq.com)

Version: 3 Date: 29 Aug 2017

Author’s response to reviews:

RESPONSE TO EDITORIAL COMMENTS
(PAPER NO. BSUR-D-17-00153R2)

The authors appreciate the consideration of acceptance for publication in BMC surgery. We have made all the changes specified in the comments of our revised manuscript to accommodate the comments. The detailed responses are presented below.

(1) The reviewer stated: “Please include the full name of the ethics committee (and the institute to which it belongs to) that approved the study and the committee’s reference number if appropriate.”

Thanks for the comments. We have added the full name of the ethics committee and the institute to which it belongs to in “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section, line 234-235, page 11, as can be seen below.

“This study was approved by the clinical trials and biomedical ethics committee of West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Chengdu, Sichuan, China.”

However, there is no reference number of this committee.

(2) The reviewer stated: “Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.”
As the patient data you obtained from the hospital database was identifiable (i.e. included patients' names), consent to participate is required from the patients' whose cases are included in this study.”

Thanks for the comments. We asked permission from the patients before relevant data are collected. Specifically, verbal informed consent was obtained from the patients whose cases are included which is widely adopted in the West China Hospital for research use due to its convenience for both the patients and the healthcare practitioners without violation of any privacy laws or regulations. Moreover, the clinical trials and biomedical ethics committee of West China Hospital approved this procedure. The statement of informed consent has been added in “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section, line 235-237, page 11 of the manuscript as follows:

“The verbal informed consent was obtained from all participants, as we asked permission from the patients before data collection. Moreover, the clinical trials and biomedical ethics committee of West China Hospital has also approved this procedure.”

(3) The reviewer stated: “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.”

We appreciate the comments. We have represented authors’ names using their full initials in the Authors’ Contributions section, line 256-258, page 11, as follows:

“KYY analyzed the data and wrote the paper. XLX designed the study and revised the paper. LL organized the study and reviewed the paper. RRG provided hospital practice consultation and collected the data. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.”

(4) The reviewer stated: “Please remove any supplementary files which you do not want to be published, such as the response letter, as they are no longer needed at this stage.”

We have followed this comment and removed all supplementary files which we do not want to be published.

(5) The reviewer stated: “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 colors. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.”

We have followed this comment and uploaded our manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colors. The tables, figures, and additional files are also clean versions.