Author's response to reviews

Title: Clinicopathological features and prognosis of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms in a Chinese population: a large, retrospective single-centre study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Author’s Response

Dear editors,

We would like to thank you and the reviewers for your valuable comments on our manuscript (ID: BEND-D-17-00002), entitled that Clinicopathological features and prognosis of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine neoplasms in a Chinese population: a large, retrospective single-centre study. According to these comments, we have seriously revised it. We believe that these revisions would greatly improve the quality of the manuscript and we appreciate your and the reviewer’s re-evaluation on the revised version and hope that you will find the revised manuscript suitable for publication in your journal.

For comments from associated editor:

Comment 1: We note that the order of authors in the system is not the same as in the title page of the manuscript. Please ensure that the order of authors in the system is the same as in the title page of the manuscript.
Re: Many thanks for this comment. We are very sorry to misunderstand the order of authors in the submission system. We have corrected the order of authors in the system. And we ensure that the order of authors in the system was “Meng Zhang, Ping Zhao, Xiaodan Shi, Ahong Zhao, Lianfeng Zhang, Lin Zhou”, which is the same as in the title page of the manuscript.
Comment 2: We note that your study contains minors. In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of the Declarations please clarify whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from the participants parents or legal guardians. If verbal consent was obtained, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure.

Re: Thank you for your help. We are very sorry for our carelessness. In our study, informed consent was obtained from all participants prior to the conduct of any study-related procedures. And written consent of minors was obtained from the participants’ parents or legal guardian. We did not write clearly on the manuscript because of our carelessness. According to your suggestion, we have made correction, which can be seen in the line 3-4 of the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” part of the “Declarations”.

Comment 3: In the Authors’ contributions section please ensure that the initials are in the format first name, last name. For example, the initials for author Ping Zhao are PZ.

Re: Thanks for your suggestion. We have made correction as follows: LZ conceived and designed the study. MZ, AHZ and LFZ collected pathological data and analyzed the data. MZ, PZ and XDS collected clinical data. MZ wrote the original draft of the manuscript. All co-authors revised and approved the current manuscript.

Comment 4: Please remove the funding information from the Acknowledgements and include it in the Funding section instead. If you have no further acknowledgements please put “Not Applicable” in the Acknowledgements section.

Re: We have re-written this part according to the reviewers’ suggestion. Thank you very much for your suggestion.

Comment 5: Please submit your revised manuscript and supplementary files as clean copies without any tracked changes, coloured or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Re: Thank you for your advice. We have made correction according to the comment.

Finally, we believe that we have addressed the concerns of the reviewers in a constructive manner. With these revisions, the quality of the manuscript should be greatly improved. We are hearing from your positive decision.

With best regards

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