Author’s response to reviews

Title: Serum Vaspin Concentration in Elderly Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Macrovascular Complications

Authors:

Wei Yang (Yangw_79@163.com)
Yun Li (liy_xw@sina.com)
Tian Tian (799606420@qq.com)
Li Wang (280695784@qq.com)
Pearl Lee (pearllee@med.umich.edu)
Qi Hua (huaqi5371@medmail.com.cn)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your letter and advice on our manuscript entitled "Serum Vaspin Concentration in Elderly Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Macrovascular Complications" (BEND-D-17-00023R1). We also thank the reviewers for the constructive and positive comments. Accordingly, we have revised the manuscript without any tracked changes, coloured or highlighted text as per your instruction. Also, point-by-point responses to the comments are listed following this letter. We hope that the revision is acceptable and look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Qi Hua
1. Please provide the data of registration after the trial registration number in the Abstract. If registration took place after the first participant was enrolled, please state also “Retrospectively registered” at the end of this section.

Response: We retrospectively registered the study on 20 Dec. 2014. This information has been added in the abstract accordingly (Line 52-53, Page 3).

2. On the Chinese Clinical Trial Registry we note that it states that your study was not approved by the ethics committee. Please confirm whether your study was submitted to and approved by your institutional ethics committee and include a statement to this effect in the Ethics and consent to participate section. Please ensure that the full name of your ethics committee is included in this statement. Please also ensure that the information in the Chinese Clinical Trial Registry has been updated. If the need for ethics approval 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.

Response: Our study has been approved by the Ethics Committee of Xuanwu Hospital, Capital Medical University (reference number: 2017-008). The information in the Chinese Clinical Trial Registry has been updated. We added this information in Line 374-375, Page 18.

3. Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.

Response: Not Applicable.

4. The Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting tables and figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. If you do not wish to share your data, please clearly
Data availability statements can take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple datasets):

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]

- The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files].

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

- The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

- Not applicable. If your manuscript does not contain any data, please state 'Not applicable' in this section.

Please note that if you do wish to share your raw data and do not have consent from all patients to publish this data it will need to be de-identified.
Please also note that if you include your raw data as a supplementary file you will need to provide, after the References, a section titled “Additional files” where you list the following information about each of your supplementary files: * File name (e.g. Additional file 1), * Title of data, * Description of data. All additional files will also need to have been cited in the main manuscript.

Response: The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

5. Please use initials only rather than full names in the Authors' contributions section.

Please note that an 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. According to the ICMJE guidelines, to qualify as an author one should have:

a) made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; AND

b) been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

c) given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content; AND

d) agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Please ensure that all authors listed in this section meet these requirements for authorship.
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Anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship can be acknowledged in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section.

Response: We have changed authors’ full names with their initials in the Authors’ contributions section (Line 391-395, Page 19). We can also confirm that all authors listed in this section meet the requirements for authorship. No one needs to be listed in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section.

6. We note that there is no reference to Table 2 in the manuscript text. Please amend this.

Response: We added a reference to Table 2 in Line 208, Page 10.

7. Please submit your revised manuscript as a clean copy without any tracked changes, coloured or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Response: We submitted a clean copy of a revision accordingly.