Author’s response to reviews

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

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Menard,

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-17-00023R3). Accordingly, we have revised the manuscript. 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 change the Material and Methods heading to Methods.

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have changed the Material and Methods heading to Methods (Page 5, Line 99).

2. We would also like to ask for you to provide more justification for the contributions of QH, TT, LW, YL, as currently they do not automatically qualify for authorship. Contribution to one aspect of this manuscript, alone, does not usually justify authorship.

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.

Anyone listed as an author must be included in this section. If you choose to change your author list you will need to fill out a change in authorship form and send it by email to the Editorial
office to be approved by the Editor. The form can be found here: https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#authorship.

Anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship can be acknowledged in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section.

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We have provided more justification for the contributions of QH, TT, LW, YL (Page 19, Line 394-399).

3. Please clarify whether the informed consent obtained from the participants was written or verbal. Please include this information in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

Response: In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section, “written informed consent was obtained” have been stated (Page 18, Line 377).