Author’s response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of right ventricular function in fetuses with isolated single umbilical artery using spatiotemporal image correlation M-mode

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to revise our manuscript. We sincerely appreciate editors and reviewers for their constructive comments and suggestions on our manuscript entitled “Evaluation of right ventricular function in fetuses with isolated single umbilical artery using spatiotemporal image correlation M-mode”. Those valuable comments are very helpful for us to revise and improve the manuscript. We have studied the comments carefully, have addressed these comments, and revised the manuscript accordingly. The revised parts are marked in red in the paper. The detailed responses to the reviewer’s comments are as follows:

Responses to the reviewer’s comments:

Reviewer 1:

1. Did you exclude fetus with CHD?

Response: Yes, we excluded fetus with structural abnormalities and congenital heart disease. We have added descriptions in article materials and methods (line 78).

2. Even if the difference was significant between the third trimester group and control group, did you test predictors of isolated SUA group?
Response: In this study, the difference of f-TAPSE between isolated SUA normal group and control group group of third trimester was significant. But due to the small sample size of isolated SUA in the third trimester, it is not enough to predict the possibility of SGA with f-TAPSE. This requires us to increase the sample size for further study in future work.

3. Did you test the correlation between birth at weight and TAPSE?

Response: Yes, we tested the correlation between birth weight and f-TAPSE. In addition, we have made corrections according to the Reviewer’s comments, (line30-32; line40-42; line128-129; line211-214) and added a Figure3 (page 20) including figure legends (line 336-339).

4. Did you measure the TAPSE after birth?

Response: We are very sorry for our negligence of measure the f-TAPSE after birth. As Reviewer suggested that we should to measure the TAPSE after birth for further study in future work.

5. The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

We deeply appreciate your consideration of our manuscript, and we look forward to receiving comments from the reviewers. If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact me according to the address below.

Thank you and best regards.

Yours sincerely,

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