Author’s response to reviews

Title: A Graft Inversion Technique for Retrograde Type A Aortic Dissection after Thoracic Endovascular Repair for Type B Aortic Dissection

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Prof. Zamvar:

Thank you very much for your email of Dec 09, 2018, with regard to our manuscript ( ID: JCTS-D-18-00332 ). We appreciate very much your constructive comments and suggestions, which are valuable for improving the quality of our manuscript. We were very pleased to see that all reviewers recognized the novelty and potential significance of our work. Accordingly, we have carefully revised the manuscript. All changes have been highlighted in red. Point-by-point responses to the questions/comments raised by the reviewers are listed below. We hope, with these modifications and improvements based on your suggestions and the reviewers comments, the quality of our manuscript would meet the publication standard of Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

Thank you and all the reviewers again.

Yours sincerely,

Liang Ma
Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Reviewer 1:

- Comment: Nicely written the pictures provided difficult to follow and add very little to understand the technique I propose drawing diagrams to illustrate clearly the operative steps which will increase the publication impact and improve the readers understanding.

- Answer: Thanks for your kind suggestion. We added two diagrams in the section of Surgical Technique. Moreover, we have made a video to improve the reader's understanding.

Reviewer 2:

- Comment 1: You stated that patients with Marfan Syndrome or other connective tissue diseases requiring aortic surgery have not been accepted for TEVAR in your hospital. Were six patients with Marfan syndrome and retrograde type A dissection referred from other hospitals?

- Answer: Thanks for your comment. Yes, these six patients with Marfan syndrome and retrograde type A dissection referred from other hospitals. We added this point into our revised manuscript and the details can be found in Line 11 of the patients section.

- Comment 2: In methods section, in line 54-56: 'The postoperative variables, which included cardiopulmonary bypass time, the circulatory arrest time, ' should be corrected as 'The variables, which included cardiopulmonary bypass time, the circulatory arrest time, '

- Answer: Thanks for your kind suggestion. We have revised in line 54-56 of the methods section.
- Comment 3: Writing and grammatical errors should be corrected.

- Answer: Thanks for your kind suggestion. We have corrected some writing and grammatical errors in our revised manuscript.

  In addition, we have added a line in the table 5.