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Answering reviewers

We appreciate that the reviewers gave professional comments so that we can improve our work. According to the opinion of reviewer 00289422, we extended the topics and add the session of “comparison with other modalities and clinical indications”. We have discussed specific clinical situations in patients after renal transplantation, such as intrinsic etiologies of graft dysfunction, urologic obstructions and vascular complications. We discussed what imaging techniques are available for each situation, their strength and pitfalls, and when the MRI can enter the game and play an important role. We compared different modalities and emphasized the possible benefits of MRI. At the same time, clinical indications for MRI in routine practice were raised, which could help the physicians integrate the knowledge with daily scenarios better.

As requested by reviewer 00060192, we discussed the limitations of MRI in the session of “comparison with other modalities and clinical indications”. Besides the aspect of inconvenience, we raised the risk of nephrogenic systemic fibrosis in contrast-enhanced studies, which is really worth consideration for patients with renal transplantation.


We thank reviewer 00289512 for pointing out the typing mistakes in our manuscript. We carefully corrected them, and also revised the paragraph regarding the work of Thoeny et al. “Normal kidneys” were changed into “native kidneys” in the sentence “Thoeny et al. investigated the DW imaging of transplanted kidneys in fifteen patients in stable condition and normal kidneys in fifteen matched healthy volunteers”, in order to avoid

confusion. We double checked the abbreviations used in the manuscript to make sure that they are defined in full at first use. More recent 2015 reference was added in the session of DTI, which reported similar results with the previously cited ones: the F_A of the medulla was proposed as the most valuable indicator of allograft function.

We also would like to respond to the opinion of reviewer 00503315. As this paper involves many MR technologies, the technical issues can be a lot, but the emphasis is the diagnostic value and clinical application of these imaging. The statements regarding technical issues have been supplemented reasonably in the introduction of every new technology to avoid confusion. Furthermore, we added deeper discussion in the session of “comparison with other modalities and clinical indications”, highlighting the advantages of MRI when compared with other imaging modalities. The abstract has been revised in order to better reflect the content. The aim of the article is no longer at the end of the abstract, DTI was included, and the clinical findings and research progress of each functional technology were included besides the technical description.

We thank the reviewers again and please contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,
Yu-Ting Wang

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yu-Ting Wang' followed by a stylized flourish or mark.