ANSWERING REVIEWERS

Title: Predictors of 50 days in-hospital mortality in decompensated cirrhosis patients with spontaneous bacterial peritonitis

Authors: Chinmaya Kumar Bal, Ripu Daman, Vikram Bhatia

Dear Editor(s),

Thanks for your constructive comments and suggestions. All of your comments and suggestions were followed as per guidelines. Point to point changes made as required were mentioned below.

Response to reviewer (ID: 03294162)

Comment	Response
It is a retrospective study, with data taken from medical records, with all the associated biases	Data was collection was blinded and we tried to minimise all the bias associated with retrospective study
There is no treatment protocol behavior of SBP. Antibiotic choice varied from patient to patient, and no standard first line drugs were used	We didn't follow a treatment protocol and no standard first line drugs were used as most of the patients were referred from another hospital with history of variable antibiotic exposure. Let's say a patient has received Carbapenem in past then it does not make sense to downgrade the antibiotics treatment to fluoroquinolones or 3rd generation Cephalosporins. But the antibiotics were used as per the culture sensitivity reports after the 24 into the admission
The focus of the study is not very innovative. The own authors cite other studies with similar results. Renal dysfunction and high MELD are intrinsically related. They didn't consider hepato-renal syndrome	We didn't consider Hepato Renal Syndrome (HRS). That is one of the limitations of our study. It has been mentioned in the limitation section
Although the authors have cited that cultures were performed, this data is not described in the results. They don't demonstrate the most common germs and if there is any association with mortality	Data regarding the culture reports were not produced deliberately as we are planning a post hoc analysis on it
The tables are cut between pages	Table 1 is moved into new page

Response to reviewer (ID: 00053580)

Comment	Response
Try to abbreviate the words in the first use. you may see the word "spontaneous bacterial peritonitis" is abbreviated many times and this should be reviewed	Abbreviated words described properly
In the patients section - 3th paragraph: "Because most patients admittted to our ICU were sick and..." - what does this mean?	In the patients section - 3th paragraph: "Because most patients admittted to our ICU were sick…. It was deleted as it didn't make any sense
At the end of the "patients" section, the authors talk about "renal replacement therapy" but doesnt define, what is this?	At the end of the "patients" section… renal replacement therapy" was deleted to avoid confusion
The discussion is too long and must be abbreviated	We tried to make discussion section simple, clear, concise and deleted some of the sentence that created confusion