

### **Answering Reviewers**

Thank the reviewers for the comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Treatment of condylar osteophyte in temporomandibular-joint osteoarthritis with the muscle balance occlusal splint and long-term follow-up: a case report"(No.72203). These comments are very helpful for revising and improving our paper. We have studied comments carefully and have made corrections. The responds to the reviewer's comments are as follows:

**Comment of reviewer #1:** I read with pleasure and interest the submitted manuscript, which is an original case report of condylar osteophyte in temporomandibular-joint osteoarthritis treated with the muscle balance occlusal splint. The format of the manuscript fits general requirements. The description of case is sufficient and well-illustrated. The authors provided detailed and interesting discussion. Congratulation to the authors with the good job done!

**Author's response:** We thank the reviewer for the comment.

**Comment of reviewer #2:** Dear authors Thank you for the submission of your manuscript to our journal. I enjoyed your paper and felt it to be great interest to our readers.

**Author's response:** We thank the reviewer for the comment.

**Comment of reviewer #3:** This is an interesting case report.

**Author's response:** We thank the reviewer for the comment.

### **EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS**

**Comment of science editor:** I find it a well-structured interesting study. There are no obvious shortcomings. We commend the author's work. However, it is unacceptable to have more than 3 references from the same journal. To resolve this issue and move forward in the peer-review/publication process, please revise your reference list accordingly. 1 14 16.

**Author's response:** We are very sorry for the mistake in this manuscript. The manuscript has been thoroughly revised. The previous manuscript text "The change to the bone mechanical environment is accompanied by changes to the bone structure and shape, which force the bone to adapt to the new mechanical environment[16] " was revised to " Although arthroplasty may relieve symptoms, the long-term effects of surgical changes on TMJ remodeling and the function of stomatognathic system are still unclear [1] ". The number of references from the same journal is now no more than 3. The language of this manuscript has again been polished. New language certificate has been provided in the manuscript. We hope the revised manuscript can meet the publication requirement.

**Comment of company editor-in-chief:** I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Clinical Cases, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure

that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

**Author's response:** We thank the editor-in-chief for the comment. We have provided the original figures and the PowerPoint document in the manuscript revision. We hope these can meet the journal's standard.