

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

December 30, 2013



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7512-review.doc). We would like to thank editor and reviewers for their very valuable comments and suggestions that helped us correct errors and improve our manuscript.

Title: Review of treatment assessment using DCE-MRI in breast cancer radiation therapy

Author: Chunhao Wang, Fang-Fang Yin, Janet Horton, Zheng Chang

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Methodology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7512

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Reviewer 1 Comments:

This is a nicely written review paper about DCE-MRI. I have just some remarks.

(1) Page 3, line 7: '...scans have been proposed...' please show reference

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. This sentence has been rewritten with the added references. Please see page 4, line 9 in the revised manuscript.

(2) Page 3, 2nd paragraph, line 2: '...among all clinical scenarios...' delete this sentence

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. This sentence has been removed.

(3) Page 3, 2nd paragraph, line 7: delete 'irreplaceable role'

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. This phrase has been removed.

(4) Page 3, 2nd paragraph, line 7/8: '...standard care of breast cancer...' is not true in this way; it depends on individual patient; delete or rewrite with reference

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. This sentence has been rewritten with more precise expressions. Please see page 4, 2nd paragraph, line 6 in the revised manuscript.

(5) Page 6 line 2/3 spelling errors: "tempoal" "poetentially"

Response: Thank you for pointing out these errors. These two spelling errors have been corrected.

(6) Page 6 last part: abbreviation is wrong EEM instead of EMM

Response: Thank you for pointing it out. We have corrected it throughout the manuscript. 'EMM' stands for Empirical Mathematical Model, which is used in the manuscript. Please see page 8, line 10 in the revised manuscript.

(7) Page 7 last paragraph: delete "as stated above..."

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. This phrase has been removed.

(8) Page 10: RR is the standard abbreviation for relative risk; don't use it for reference region

Response: Thank you for this suggestion. All 'RR' abbreviations in this manuscript have been replaced by 'reference region'.

(9) *Page 12 last part: Figure illustrates... which Figure?*

Response: Thank you for this comment. The issue has been resolved. Please see page 14: "Figure 5 illustrates an example". Please see page 16, line 17 in the revised manuscript.

(10) *Table 2: delete reference 15 --> only published data with DOI should be cited.*

Response:

Thank you for this suggestion. This reference has been replaced by another published study with DOI information. Please see reference No. 105 in the reference list.

(11) *Discussion and/or critical comments before the summary are missing.*

Response: Thank you for this valuable suggestion. As advised, we have created a discussion section and discussed the potential value of DCE-MRI clinical application in radiation treatment assessment and some potential issues on DCE-MRI implementation and analysis. Please see page 14 in the revised manuscript. Hopefully, this arrangement would be acceptable.

Reviewer 2 Comments:

The manuscript presents principles of the DCE-MRI method. It is well documented with a sufficient number of citations. I appreciate very much the tables illustrating the correlation between the physiological parameters and the DCE-MRI measurement. The text is clearly written in good English. Nevertheless, I would recommend adding a more detailed discussion concerning clinical application of the method and its comparison with the state-of-the-art approaches. This would be helpful to attract the attention of broader public, especially clinical specialists.

Response: Thank you for this valuable suggestion. Following your comments, we have added a paragraph of the potential value of DCE-MRI clinical application in radiation treatment assessment at the beginning of the discussion section. Please see page 14 in the revised manuscript.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Methodology*.

Sincerely yours,



Zheng Chang, PhD
Department of Radiation Oncology
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina, 27710, United States
Fax: +1-919-6817183
E-mail: zheng.chang@duke.edu