

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Minor revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** The article with the title "Effect of sitagliptin combined with Yiqi Yangyin Huoxue decoction on clinical efficacy and hemorheology in early diabetic nephropathy" is in generally well done. Title: Appropriate. It reflects the main content of the research. Authorship: Is correct. Institutions: are correct. Abstract: Is a structured abstract according to the required format. In 373 words authors showed a summary of the content of the manuscript. Key words: 6 that reflect the content of the study. Core Tip: Appropriate. Background: Early DN mainly involves kidney microvessels and glomerular functions, and its timely and effective treatment is critical. The development of traditional Chinese medicine has demonstrated its superiority for the treatment of many diseases. To investigate the effect of sitagliptin tablets combined with Yiqi Yangyin Huoxue decoction on clinical efficacy and hemorheology in patients with early DN, the authors conducted this research. Method: Authors made the detailed description of the investigations. Results: Authors found that the total response rate of patients in the OG was markedly better than that in the CG. After treatment, the levels of fasting blood glucose, 2h postprandial glucose, total cholesterol, triacylglycerol, and low-density lipoprotein cholesterol in OG patients were obviously lower than those in the CG, and cystatin C, homocysteine, urinary microalbumin, and blood creatinine values in OG patients were also obviously lower than those in the CG. Discussion: Authors made a detailed an informative discussion of the results. Illustration: All 3 Figures and 5 Tables are showing clearly making and adequate support of the results. However, Interchanging the horizontal and vertical titles may make it more comprehensible for the readers for Tables 3-5. Biostatistics: This work met the requirements of biostatistics. References: Authors cited properly actualized references of high interest for their propose in introduction and discussion. Organization of the study: It was properly organized Research method reporting. As a retrospective study it has been reported according with the corresponding guidelines. Comments to the author: In this manuscript authors study the effect of sitagliptin tablets combined with Yiqi Yangyin Huoxue decoction on clinical efficacy. This was recognized by authors as a point of recommendation for the future.

**Answer:** Thank you for your valuable advice. And the horizontal and vertical headings of Table 3- 5 have been modified as required.

Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Minor revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** With the promotion and implementation of integrated Chinese and Western medicine treatments, remarkable results have been achieved for many diseases. based on the basic pathogenesis of early DN with Qi and Yin insufficiency, dampness and heat, this study took 123 patients with early DN as research objects to observe the clinical effects of sitagliptin tablets with Yiqi Yangyin Huoxue decoction for the treatment of early DN patients, and its clinical impact on early DN patients, and its influence on blood rheology for early clinical intervention and to delay the progression of DN. The article is well written, and the idea of the study is novel. The text is strictly logical. The results are interesting and they confirmed that sitagliptin combined with Yiqi Yangyin Huoxue decoction has a remarkable effect when used to treat patients with early DN and it's helpful in improving hemorheological indices and controlling disease progression. The manuscript provided a theoretical basis for clinical treatment and could be useful for other studies in this field. I recommend that the manuscript can be published.

**Answer:** Thank you for your valuable advice.