

The revises of some Minor comments

1) How does IFN testing in ascitic fluid relate to blood IGRA tests? Some comment on this, which is an established test for latent TB infection (at least it is in Europe/UK). There may be little information out there in this area, but I think it is important that less experienced readers do not get confused between the 2 tests.

Answer: The blood IGRA test is an established test for latent TB infection, however, there is little information on the difference between IFN- γ and IGRA tests in clinical diagnosis. Multi-center and large blinded randomized controlled trials using both these tests for TB diagnosis should be conducted in the future.

2) Was the ROC any different if stratifying by reference standard (i.e. bac/hist or clin)?

Answer: It may has a little difference if stratifying by reference standard. We know that TBP is not always diagnosed by either histologic or microbiological examination. Some patients were diagnosed with TBP infection based just on the clinical course. This issue regarding accuracy of diagnosis could cause nonrandom misclassification, leading to biased results, and that should be made a little change of the ROC.

By the way, we had also made some revises in the Discussion, including the Conclusion and the numbers of words.

We had edited the manuscript (ESPS-1653) for English language and style by both native English speaking editor and Chinese expert by Jing-Yun Ma SCI Biomedical Editing Expert Office.