

Cover Letter - Response to Revisions

Manuscript Title: What Factors are Important to New Patients when Selecting an Orthopedic Oncologist?

Ref.: Ms. No.: 72353

Name(s) of author(s): Charles A. Gusho, Vishal Patel, Linus Lee, Alan T. Blank

Name and address of Corresponding Author: Linus Lee B.E., 1611 W. Harrison St, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60612. Phone: (303) 408-2898; Email: linus.h.lee@gmail.com

To: Editor-in-Chief of World Journal of Orthopedics

Dear Dr. Massimiliano Leigheb,

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript for publication. The authors' responses to the reviewer's comments for the above-mentioned manuscript are included below. For ease of interpreting the responses, each comment and **response** has been broken down on the pages below and by reviewer where applicable. These changes are also represented in the corresponding section of the manuscript in **red**.

Sincerely, Linus Lee

Reviewers' comments:

Reviewer #1:

Dear Authors, you do present a well-written manuscript of more or less known or expected reasons why patients generally choose a doctor focused on orthopedic oncology, which shows no really new or surprising results and unfortunately has a very low response rate.

Thank you for this comment. We agree that the response rate was unfortunately low, but we believe the broad range of respondents with respect to demographics including age and insurance provider specifically can capitulate the general rationale for orthopedic oncologist selection by patients.

Reviewer #2:

It is suggested that some social media may be biased due to the profit-driven, so younger patients should pay attention to the reliability of information when referring to the corresponding suggestions. These guidelines maybe designed to better equip family doctors with the knowledge and support. Meanwhile, it may bring potential adverse effects to patients who lack medical expertise. Thus, those should be included in the discussion section.

Thank you for this comment. We agree that there may be non-medical incentives at play in social media and other internet-based advertising. We have addressed this area of potential concern in the discussion.