

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers' comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Application of metagenomic next-generation sequencing in the diagnosis of infectious diseases of the central nervous system after empirical treatment". Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. The responds to the reviewer's comments are as following:

Responds to the peer-reviewer's comments:

Reviewer's code: 05429012

1. Response to comment:

The abstract should be re-written and reduced to 250 words.

Response: We have revised the abstract. Now, We have upload the changed manuscript.

2. Response to comment:

All figures and table are not cited in the text and have no titles.

Response: We have revised the figures and table, We added titles. Now, We have upload the changed manuscript.

3. Response to comment:

language needs to be edited by a native English speaker.

Response: We have edited the articler by a native English speaker. We

have upload the changed manuscript.

3.Response to comment:

conclusion is very long, and should be rewritten and reduced.

Response:We have revised the conclusion.Now,We have upload the changed manuscript.

Reviewer's code: 05086539

1.Consistency in writing are needed.

Response: We have revised the article.Now,We have upload the changed manuscript.

2.Data presentation was confusing. Please add p-Value for the difference of using mNGS and traditional methods to prevent overclaiming methods.

Response:We modified the data and added the p-Value

**Re-Reviewer's code:** 05429012

Some improvements have been introduced to the manuscript, however there are some points to be considered including: 1- abstract is still long. 2- conclusion is still long. 3-both figures and tables are not provided.

Response: Thank you very much for your valuable comments and suggestions on our manuscript. Following the reviewers' comments, we have modified and improved our manuscript according to your kind advices and referee's detailed suggestions. We sincerely hope this manuscript will be acceptable to be published on your journal.