

Dear editor:

Enclosed please find the revised manuscript Manuscript ID 77121 "Resumption of school after lockdown in covid-19 epidemic: three occult fracture cases report on the same site of the same grade adolescents". We greatly appreciate the comments and have learned a lot from the reviewers. The critics have been addressed as following:

Reviewer #1:

1. For the case 1, there was no clear evidence of the occult fracture in Figure 1 a, b and e, f as well. Is it possible to provide the follow-up MRI after 8 weeks?

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, we did not give the patient MRI test after we diagnosed occult fracture, for the economic reason we only use X ray as a follow up radiology method. And we apologize for the unclear resolution of the follow up X ray, but individually check the follow up X ray it is very clear that there is a significant bone healed and porosis formed outside of the periosteum, which can account as a clear evidence of the occult fracture in case 1. The amplifying image was attached here.



2. What were the running surface and running shoes they used?

**A:** Thank you for your thoughtful remind, we asked the parents of the three patients, because of the pandemic, the patients and their parents did not have the opportunity to buy new shoes, after the lockdown, the running surface and running shoes they used are exactly the same as they used before lockdown.

3. How long did the affected lower limb fix with plaster and non-weight bear? Usually, it should be 3-4 weeks, light weight for another month, and then gradual return to normal activity. It's better to report these.

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, we actually did the fixation just like you recommended, and we apologized for unclear describe in the manuscript. We modified as “free weight bearing for 4 weeks, light weight bearing for 2 weeks, and then gradual return to normal activity.” All the modifications are marked RED.

Reviewer #2:

1. The English Language needs to be extensively edited before acceptance . Please consider a good quality English language editing service

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, we used help of better English language editing service and made modifications from beginning to end of the manuscript, all the modifications are marked RED.

Reviewer #3:

1. the Introduction looks like a second version of the abstract. Can the Authors rework it, and leave any conclusion for the Discussion section?

**A:** We apologize for the writing of the Introduction, but as this manuscript is focus on occult fracture within special period in specific population, it is important to introduce the special period that the special population faced. We modified the expression of introduction and add “The present study is focus on occult fracture on special location within special period in specific population.” in the conclusion section, all the modifications are marked RED.

2. English and style can be improved.

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, we used help of better English language editing service and made modifications from beginning to end of the manuscript, all the modifications are marked RED.

3. Do the Authors think that encouraging physical activity (or even suggesting exercise) even during a lockdown period can be useful? if so, can they comment on this? (of course, if they do not agree with my suggestion, this can be omitted; it is a matter of Authors' opinion, not mine)

**A:** Thank you for your thought provoking advice, we agree with your opinion. Physical activity during a lockdown period can be very useful for adolescent to keep daily exercise, but there is not enough space for them to do exercise when lockdown at home, it is a thought provoking advice that some indoor exercise can be recommend to adolescent when lockdown at home. And we hope the pandemic reaches its end and there will be no more lockdown.

4. Do the Authors think that this special attention to return to physical activity can extend beyond a lockdown, e.g. after return to school after an injury or any other period of interruption of lessons? if so, can they comment on this? (again, of course, if they do not agree with my suggestion, this can be omitted)

**A:** Thank you for your thought provoking advice again and we totally agree with your suggestion. This is the underlying purpose of this manuscript which need readers to get, it is very important

to pay special attention to return to physical activity after return to school after an injury, and more rehabilitation program should be designed to help those adolescent recover from interruption of lesions. But in that case, there will be physic therapist to help them, but after lockdown from pandemic, there may lack attentions from parents, education providers and policy makers, that is the purpose of this manuscript.

Reviewer #4:

1. Occult fracture cases are not extraordinary, so that this reports should better be enhanced with other clinical findings.

**A:** Thank you for your critical advice, we admit that occult fracture cases are not extraordinary, but in present study we focus on three similar occult fracture cases after pandemic lockdown. The fracture location is almost the same region and the etiology is the same test, which should alert the students, parents, education providers and policy makers to pay attention to the physical exercise during pandemic.

2. What did the authors mean with result "(-)" in physical findings and laboratory examination? Negative or not performed? And how those results affecting the cases should be discussed in discussion.

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, the result "(-)" means Negative. We apologized for the unclear describe of the result and modified the abbreviate: **(-): Negative**, all the modifications are marked **RED**.

3. How was the conditioning/training prior to this hard exercise? Was there any training, or increasing intensity?

**A:** Thank you for your careful question, the conditioning prior to this hard exercise remain the same before lockdown, and the training intensity have a sudden increase in the amount of exercise because of the entrance physical examination test for senior high school.

4. The authors should redefine the article: is this reporting on occult fracture, occult fracture after sudden high intensity exercise, occult fracture in specific population?

**A:** Thank you for your precious advice, we redefine the article on occult fracture within special period in specific population, so it is more dramatic and impressive.

5. Considering the covid-19 entity in the title, was this report really related to covid-19 that irreproducible in other condition ather than covid-19 lockdown?

**A:** Thank you for your thought provoking advice, for the time being, this is related to covid-19, but it is also important to pay special attention to return to physical activity after return to school after an injury or any other period of interruption of lessions, and more rehabilitation program should be designed to help those adolescent recover from interruption of lesions. But in that case, there will be physic therapist to help them, but after lockdown from pandemic, there may lack attentions from parents, education providers and policy makers, that is the purpose of this manuscript.

We feel that these changes are more persuasive and strongly support our statement in the

manuscript. We hope the reviewers agree with our answers and the new version of this manuscript meets the standard of the prestigious Journal of ***World Journal of Clinical Cases***. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

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