

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



January 20, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 8251-edited.doc).

**Title:** Atherosclerosis Imaging Using 3D Black Blood TSE SPACE vs 2D TSE

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**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Radiology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 8251

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Format has been updated
2. Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer
  - a. Abstract Please consider to modify conclusion (see below: Conclusion)

*The limitation regarding femoral imaging has been added in the results section of the abstract. The conclusion is limited only to less than 26 words; hence, we were not able to add it to the conclusion section of the abstract.*

- b. Introduction Page 5, 3rd paragraph, line 3: Before this technique~ Is there any previous methods how to establish the multiple vascular territories in 3D SPACE?

*To our knowledge, this is the first study that uses SPACE in carotid, aorta and peripheral vascular beds in a single imaging session.*

- c. Method Page 8, 2nd paragraph, line 9: A trained reader~ How to define the OWA, WT, LA, TVA? If you manually segmented all these area, you'd better show the figure how to define these areas.

*Images were segmented manually. This has been shown previously (refer to papers from our group previously. Fayad et al, Lancet 2011, Fayad et al, American heart journal 2011, Hayshi et al JCMR and IJCI papers, Mani et al JCMR papers). The manuscript was revised to reflect (cite) these papers.*

- d. Did you check out the reproducibility of this manual method?

*Yes. Reproducibility has been previously established by our group (El aidi et al Nature clinical practice cardiovascular medicine 2008). The manuscript was revised to reflect (cite) this paper.*

- e. Please add more detail parameters about the sequence (2D TSE and 3D SPACE). For example, field of view, acquisition time, echo, etc.

*Detailed imaging parameters were added and tabulated in table 1.*

- f. Discussion 12 page, 2nd paragraph, line 9: One potential reason~ Please comment on what if the femoral imaging coil do is used. How does it affect the result?

*We used the body matrix coil for femoral imaging since we did not have a dedicated coil for femoral imaging. This set up may be suboptimal and could be the reason for poorer results obtained with SPACE for femoral imaging. The manuscript was edited to include a statement regarding this suboptimal femoral imaging.*

- g. Did you do any further image processing to improve resolution?

*No post processing was done on any images. Post processing does not increase intrinsic resolution of images.*

- h. Conclusion Page 13 The results show that 3D SPACE is poor than 2D TSE (qualitative assessment: Femoral, Morphometric). In particular, results from femoral arteries are poor. It looks like more reason needed for feasibility of 3D SPACE. Please consider this limitation when stating your conclusion.

*Yes. SPACE as performed in this study is sub optimal for femorals but that might be due to the use of sub optimal coils. This has been added to the limitations of the study.*

- i. Table 2 Please add unit in table 2.

*Unit added.*

3. References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Radiology*.

Sincerely yours,



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