

To: *World Journal of clinical cases*

April 28, 2021

Dear Editor and reviewer,

Thank you very much for having our manuscript entitled **“Impact of continuous positive airway pressure therapy for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in patients with obstructive sleep apnea”** (Manuscript NO.: 64841, Prospective Study) reviewed in a timely and professional manner and for giving us an opportunity to revise the manuscript. We also deeply appreciate the reviewer for their critical review of the manuscript with thoughtful and constructive comments, based on which we have revised the manuscript. At this time, we have re-submitted the revised manuscript the Submission System again, and we hope to have an opportunity to publish this paper in **World Journal of Clinical cases**. After much consideration, we added two sentences “both aspartate aminotransferase (AST) and alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels were significantly decreased after 6 mo of CPAP therapy” and “(P = 0.051)” in RESULTS of Abstract. Our point-by-point responses to the editor and reviewer’s comments are detailed below.

Editor’s comments and responses:

1, Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a prospective study of the

impact of continuous positive airway pressure therapy for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in patients with obstructive sleep apnea. The topic is within the scope of the WJG. (1) Classification: Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The authors addressed the interesting impact of positive airway pressure therapy for NAFLD in patients with obstructive sleep apnea. However, the questions raised by the reviewer should be answered; and (3) Format: There are 4 tables and 1 figure. (4) References: A total of 47 references are cited, including 2 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There no self-cited references; and (6) References recommend: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by peer reviewer(s), especially the references published by the peer reviewer(s) themselves. If the authors found the peer reviewer(s) request the authors to cite improper references published by themselves, please send the peer reviewer's ID number to the editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful review and help. We have revised the manuscript according to the review reports and your comments. We

also carefully answered the questions raised by the reviewer #1 in this letter and addressed in **“Discussion”** section of the revised manuscript. There were no peer reviewers who request to cite improper references published by themselves.

2, Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful review.

3, Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, Clinical Trial Registration Statement, CONSORT 2010 Statement, the Institutional Review Board Approval Form, and the written informed consent. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful review.

4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The study was supported by 1 grant. The topic has not previously been published in the WJG.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful review.

5 Issues raised:

(1) The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s).

Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s)

Response: Thank you very much for your careful comments. Via the F6Publishing system, we have uploaded to the funding agency copy approved by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) (Approved No. JP16K09564).

(2) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful comment. Via the F6Publishing system, we have uploaded the original figure document using PowerPoint.

(3) The “Article Highlights” section is missing. Please add the “Article Highlights” section at the end of the main text.

Response: Thank you very much for your suitable comment. Via the F6Publishing system, we have added the “**Article Highlights**” section.

(4) The scientific quality can’t meet the requirement of WJG.

6 Recommendation: Transferring to the WJH.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful review and help. we have re-submitted the revised manuscript to **World Journal of Clinical cases**, and we hope to have an opportunity to publish this paper in **World Journal of Clinical cases**.

Reviewer’s comments and responses:

Reviewer #1: Comments 1. NAFLD is frequently associated with an inflammatory activity. The effects of the airway pressure on the inflammatory component are not addressed. Is there any chance to do so? Alternatively, this issue should be intensively discussed.

Response: Thank you very much for your suitable comment. In the present

study, we used hs-CRP as a marker for systemic inflammation. However, levels of hs-CRP were not significantly changed between before and after 6 mo of CPAP therapy in any studies. As a further research, we will investigate the systemic inflammation using other makers including experimental studies. We have added and suggested it in the **DISCUSSION** section of the revised manuscript (page 13, lines 23-26).

Company editor-in-chief's comments and responses:

I recommend the manuscript to be published in the World Journal of Clinical Cases. The title of the manuscript is too long and must be shortened to meet the requirement of the journal (Title: The title should be no more than 18 words).

Response: Thank you very much for your suitable comment and suggestion.

We have shortened the title of the manuscript.

Thank you and best regards,

The authors.