

## **Answering to Reviewers**

Dear Editor,

We appreciate you and the reviewers for your precious time in reviewing our paper and providing valuable comments. It was your valuable and insightful comments that led to possible improvements in the current version. The authors have carefully considered the comments and tried our best to address every one of them. We hope the manuscript after careful revisions meet your high standards. The authors welcome further constructive comments if any.

Below we provide the point-by-point responses. All requested modifications have been integrated in the manuscript as per your indications.

Sincerely,

Koulali Hajar,

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## **Response to Reviewer 1**

**[Comment 1]** : How to improve the accuracy of diagnosis?

**Response:** Thank you for your question. We have added more information relative to the improvement of diagnosis accuracy in the discussion section. We hope the manuscript has been improved accordingly.

**[Comment 2]:** What is the difference between the diagnosis and treatment of elderly patients and young patients?

**Response :** Thank you for your question, when it comes to diagnosis, there seem to be no difference between elderly and young patients, as for the difference in treatment between these two age ranges, we have added information addressing this in the discussion section, hoping it answers best your question.

**[Comment 3]:** How to prevent colonic schistosomiasis in epidemic areas?

**Response:** thank you very much for your question, prevention indeed is a very important part of disease control, we have addressed this issue in the discussion section of the manuscript, hoping in a clear way.

## **Response to Reviewer 2**

**[Comment 1]:** more cases should be included.

**Response:** thank you very much for your comment, additional cases would have certainly been more valuable, but this is the first and only case of Colonic schistosomiasis encountered in our department over 14 years since our department has been functional.

**[Comment 2]:** a literature review ought to be added into the discussion part.

**Response:** thank you very much for your comment; we have added a literature review to the discussion part. We hope the manuscript has been improved accordingly.