

## Comments To Authors:

### Original Findings and Hypotheses:

- While the manuscript presents an intriguing case of Situs inversus totalis (SIT), it is essential to explicitly state the unique aspects of this specific case compared to other reported SIT cases. What makes this case distinct or rare?
- *This case is distinct as it is the first to our knowledge to highlight the lack of patient understanding of their SIT diagnosis and to focus upon the importance of patient education.*
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- Please elucidate on any new hypotheses this study has introduced, and which among them were experimentally confirmed.
- *This case hypothesized that this adolescent did not understand the importance or implications of his SIT diagnosis. This was confirmed when he expressed a lack of awareness of its associated conditions and failed to relay the condition during history taking.*
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- Detail any new phenomena discovered through your diagnostic methods or patient examinations.
- *It was discovered that this patient did not understand that SIT is a diagnosis that should be communicated to his providers as part of his history; it was only when heart sounds were auscultated on the opposite side that he then conveyed his previously-diagnosed SIT.*

### Quality, Importance, and Insights of the Manuscript:

- The manuscript seems promising, but for its enhanced value, please clarify the novel findings of this study explicitly.
- *The novel findings are the presence of a lack of patient understanding about their diagnosis as well as a gap in literature about the extent to which patients with SIT understand their disease and how to properly counsel these patients about their diagnosis.*
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- Are there new concepts or methods introduced in your report regarding SIT's diagnosis, management, or implications? If so, please highlight them.
- *This manuscript introduces the implications of adolescents with congenital cardiac conditions having a poor understanding of the disease and, if addressed, the potential to enable adolescents with SIT to safeguard their health.*
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- Additionally, for a holistic understanding and to authenticate your findings, please consider integrating results or images from the

Transthoracic echocardiogram. If images are included, ensure the consent of the patient has been secured, and personal identifiers are suitably removed to uphold patient confidentiality.

- ***The TEE images are not available. The results of the echocardiogram are present in the imaging examinations section.***
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- Clarify any innovative insights your case presents and any significant challenges in the SIT field that your report addresses or overcomes. ***This manuscript presents the challenges in the SIT field to properly counsel patients about the significance and implications of their disease, particularly adolescents.***

### **Limitations, Future Directions, and Impacts:**

- Every study has its constraints. Kindly highlight the limitations of your study, especially in terms of generalizability, methodological restrictions, or other potential biases.
- ***The main limitation is that the patient had an incentive to present himself as a healthy individual with no medical conditions, since he was seeking medical clearance for high school sports. It is thus possible that this led him to downplay his diagnosis. This patient is of the adolescent demographic, therefore there is limited generalizability.***
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- Indicate potential future research directions emerging from your case. Are there unanswered questions prompted by your findings that need exploration?
- ***This report highlights the need for exploration about the extent to which SIT patients understand their diagnosis.***
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- Discuss how your findings might shape basic science understanding of SIT or influence clinical practices.
- ***This manuscript may shape clinical practices by highlighting the need for improved counseling SIT patients about their diagnosis and its implications.***
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- The concluding segment seems to generalize advice for SIT patients. Refining this section to draw more direct conclusions from this particular case will provide clearer insights for readers.
- ***The conclusion has been refined to be the following: the medical profession has not recognized this lack of awareness within adolescent SIT patients, let alone SIT patients in general.***
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- Lastly, consider elaborating on how your case might stimulate new

questions or avenues for research, either for your team or the broader scientific community.

- ***There are currently no guidelines about how to counsel patients with SIT about their condition. Further research on this topic may help guide clinical practice in counseling patients with SIT and enable patients, especially adolescents, to safeguard their health.***

In summary, while your case report on Situs inversus totalis offers potential value, we advise refining its presentation to address the unique aspects of the case, the novel insights it brings to the field, and its implications for future research and clinical practices.