## Informed consent statement

Patients were not required to give informed consent to the study because the analysis used anonymous clinical data that were obtained after each patient agreed to treatment by written consent.

Yan-Hong Sun, BM BCh, Chief Nurse,

Joints Osteopathic Department,

Chengde Central Hospital,

No. 11 Guangren Street, Shuangqiao District,

Chengde 067000, Hebei Province, China.

Email: syh1858@163.com