

**CHECKLIST OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SCIENTIFIC EDITORS OF THE
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Manuscript No.: 15655 **Scientific Editor:** Ji FF **Column:** Meta-Analysis **Date:** February 3, 2015

The primary responsibilities of scientific editors include carefully checking the entire manuscript and all accompanying materials for:

- errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation and wording
- suitability of tables, figures, figure data and legends
- accurate and appropriate presentation of symbols (e.g. +, -, ×, ÷, %, *) in tables and figures
- complete and comprehensive revision of the manuscript according to the reviewers' comments

Item no.	Specific items for verification	Comments
1	Fixed headings are copied.	√ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
2	The title concisely summarizes the main topic of the study and is not too long (no more than 12 words). The use of words such as 'exploration', 'research', 'analysis', 'observation', and 'investigation' is avoided. The title does not start with 'The' or Arabic numbers, and does not include uncommon abbreviations.	√ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
3	A running title is provided (no more than 6 words).	√ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
4	The authors' full family (sur)names and full/abbreviated first names listed on the title page are consistent with those in the signed BPG Copyright Assignment form. All authors have signed the BPG Copyright Assignment form. The entire manuscript has been investigated for suspected or proven academic/publication misconduct before the manuscript is sent to the Editor-in-Chief.	√ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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7	The 'Author contributions' passage describes the specific contributions made by each author, using the following format (full family (sur)name and abbreviated first and middles names): Wang CL and Liang L contributed equally to this work; Wang CL, Liang L, Fu JF, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM designed the research study; Wang CL, Zou CC, Hong F and Wu XM performed the research; Xue JZ and Lu JR contributed new reagents and analytic tools; Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF analyzed the data; and Wang CL, Liang L and Fu JF wrote the manuscript.	√ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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	Structured abstract with subsections for AIM (no more than 20 words), METHODS (no less than 80 words), RESULTS (no less than 120 words), and CONCLUSION (no more than 26 words).	
12	The 'Keywords' list 5-10 keywords that reflect the main content of the study. The first letter of each keyword is capitalized, and each keyword is separated by a semicolon.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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14	The 'INTRODUCTION' section clearly describes the relevant background information for the study. Only the most relevant and current (within the past 5 years) literature is cited, with the exception of rare instances of seminal literature citations. All technical terms and/or abbreviations are explained and/or defined, with the full name of abbreviations given upon first appearance in the text and the abbreviation presented in parentheses (i.e. "...computed tomography (CT)"). First-person pronouns (e.g. 'I', 'we') are used appropriately to clearly indicate the work performed by the author(s). When weaknesses of previous studies are described in the text to highlight the innovations related to the current study, the information is presented carefully.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
15	The 'MATERIALS AND METHODS' section clearly and accurately describes all materials and methods used to obtain the data presented in the article and is adequate for a reader to repeat the study.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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18	Split pictures include flow charts, line graphs, histograms, and graphs including text. Unsplit pictures include meta-analysis diagrams, PCR amplification curves, and survival curves.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
19	Statistical symbols are accurate. Statistical significance is expressed as ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$ ($P > 0.05$ usually does not need to be denoted). If there are other series of P values, ^c $P < 0.05$ and ^d $P < 0.01$ are used, and a third series of P values is expressed as ^e $P < 0.05$ and ^f $P < 0.01$. Statistical data is expressed as mean \pm SD or mean \pm SE.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
20	The 'DISCUSSION' section (1) describes the main purpose and hypothesis of the study, (2) summarizes the most important results, (3) illustrates and explains the results (but does not simply repeat the data) and draws conclusions or inferences based on the results, (4) points out the limitations of the study and their impact on the results, as well as proposes further advice on future research topic(s) or direction(s), and (5) describes the theoretical significance and practical value of the findings.	✓ YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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