

**February 14, 2018**

Giuseppe Di Lorenzo,  
Editor-in-Chief  
*World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Dear Editor:

I would like to re-submit a case report for publication in *World Journal of Clinical Cases*, titled **“Serum matrix metalloproteinase 3 in detecting remitting seronegative symmetrical synovitis with pitting edema syndrome: a case report.”** The paper was coauthored by Ken Goda.

We thank you for your positive feedback and interest in our manuscript, and for the suggestions offered. The paper has been carefully rechecked and appropriate changes have been made in accordance with the reviewers' suggestion. Our point-by-point responses are attached.

We hope that the revised paper is now suitable for publication in your journal.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tsuneaki Kenzaka". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tsuneaki Kenzaka, MD, PhD  
Division of Community Medicine and Career Development,  
Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine  
2-1-5, Arata-cho, Hyogo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo, 652-0032, Japan  
Tel: +81-78-382-6732  
Fax: +81-78-382-6283  
E-mail: [smile.kenzaka@jichi.ac.jp](mailto:smile.kenzaka@jichi.ac.jp)

## **Point by point responses:**

### Response to Reviewer 1's comments.

The VEGF status of the case should be written.

**Response:** We have included information regarding the patient's VEGF status in our revised manuscript.

### Response to Reviewer 2's comments.

1. This study is a case report. Therefore, the problems of bias and potential limitation are inherent. Of course, the conclusions must be interpreted with extreme caution. Some suggestions and conclusion are exaggerated.

**Response:** Thank you for this comment. We have included the following sentence, “**Although the study of additional cases is necessary,**” before concluding with, “MMP-3 seems to be more sensitive to RS3PE syndrome symptoms.”

2. MMP-3 is multifactorial. Important previous papers therefore should be listed in the Reference section.

**Response:** We have updated our manuscript with references regarding RS3PE syndrome and MMP-3.

3. Images are important for journal readers. Replace them more fine and informative ones.

**Response:** We have replaced this image; however, we do not have additional images to support this case.