Dear Dr./Prof. Lian-Sheng Ma,

Thank you very much for your decision letter and advice on our manuscript (Manuscript No.: 64022, Retrospective Study) entitled "Evaluation of the etiology and risk factors for maternal sepsis: a single center study in Guangzhou, China". We also thank the reviewers for the constructive comments and suggestions. We have revised the manuscript accordingly, and all amendments are indicated by red font in the revised manuscript. In addition, our point-by-point responses to the comments are listed below this letter.

This revised manuscript has been edited and proofread by Medjaden Inc..

We hope that our revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your journal and look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

LIN LIN

Reviewer #1:
Specific Comments to Authors: [STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of case-control studies
Response: STROBE Statement—Checklist of items has been included.

Reviewer #2:
Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)
Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)
Conclusion: Accept (General priority)
Specific Comments to Authors: The manuscript was well written, presented in a concise and consistent manner. The title reflects the main subject. The summary summarizes the work very well. The manuscript adequately describes the history and importance of the study. The manuscript describes methods appropriately. The manuscript interprets the findings appropriately and appropriately. The findings have already been described, but it is important to know the local data to improve treatment. Figures, diagrams and tables were sufficient. The manuscript cites the most recent, important and reliable references in the introduction and discussion sections. For the diagnosis of sepsis among pregnant women, the increase in respiratory rate and heart rate and the decrease in blood pressure in pregnant women can be a confusing factor and some adaptations have been discussed as pointed out by Greer et al (Greer O, Shah NM, Sriskandan S, Johnson MR Sepsis: Precision-Based Medicine for Pregnancy and Puerperium. Int J Mol Sci. 2019; 20 (21): 5388).
Response: Thank you very much.

Reviewer #3:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: Overall, the authors must be congratulated for a commendable manuscript. The authors describe their experience and attempt to identify risk factors for maternal sepsis. The manuscript is well written and provides a clear message. The inclusion criteria are broad and covers prenatal, prepartum and postpartum cohort of patients which is appropriate when considering maternal sepsis. The definition of sepsis is appropriately applied for diagnosis of sepsis While statistical analysis is appropriately used and univariate analysis was performed to identify risk factors, in general, a strong case can be made to only include variables in univariate analysis that have been identified as risk factor previously in literature. However, in this manuscript, the current method is adequate. The discussion is thorough and describes the current literature on the same topic and how their findings add to the literature.

Response: Thank you very much.

Reviewer #4:

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Accept (High priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: A well planned and executed study

Response: Thank you very much.

Science editor：

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a retrospective study of the evaluation of the etiology and risk factors for maternal sepsis. The topic is within the scope of the WJCC. (1) Classification: Grade A, Grade B, Grade B and Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The authors summarize the work very well. The manuscript adequately describes the history and importance of the study. It is well-written; and (3) Format: There are 5 tables and 1 figure. (4) References: A total of 21 references are cited, including 1 reference published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are no self-cited references; and (6) References recommend: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by peer reviewer(s), especially the references published by the peer reviewer(s) themselves. If the authors found the peer reviewer(s) request the authors to cite improper references published by themselves, please send the peer reviewer's ID number to the editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A, Grade A, Grade B and Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by Medjaden Inc. was provided. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the Biostatistics Review Certificate, and the Institutional Review Board Approval Form. Written informed consent was waived. No academic

misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. The study was supported by 2 grants. The topic has not previously been published in the WJCC. 5 Issues raised: (1) The title is too long, and it should be no more than 18 words; (2) The authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s); (3) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; and (4) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text. 6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

Response: Thank you for your insightful suggestion.

1) The title word count is now less than 18 words.
2) I will provide the approved grant application forms.
3) I will provide the original pictures.
4) I have added the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text in this revised manuscript.