

## ROUND 1

Athens June 13th, 2021

To:

Lian-Sheng Ma

Editor-in-Chief

World Journal of Diabetes.

Re: Revised version Manuscript NO: 65466

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you and the reviewer for your interesting comments and constructive criticisms of our invited manuscript entitled: " Overcoming ischemia in the diabetic foot: Minimally invasive treatment options." that was submitted for publication in the World Journal of Diabetes.

We have followed the reviewer's and Science Editor's remarks and hope that we address all comments adequately. Please find attached a point-by-point list of all the changes made according to the reviewers' suggestions. We also attach separately an annotated text file with all changes made in red, and a clean revised manuscript.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further details.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Stavros Spiliopoulos, MD, PhD, EBIR

Associate Professor of Interventional Radiology

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

## # Reviewer 1

1. The manuscript is too long and I think the definitions and pathophysiology and diagnosis for diabetic foot is widely known to readers and this part should be more concise;

Authors' response: We appreciate your comment. Appropriate changes were done to shorten the abovementioned sections.

2. The title show the main aim is invasive treatment options for DFU, however, the authors didn't talk about the treatment of DFU in some parts of the manuscript.

Authors' response: Thank you very much for the notification. Treatment options of DFU were further presented in our manuscript and an additional "Minimally invasive surgery" section was added before the conclusive paragraph.

3. It would be better to talk about the disadvantages and advantages of the various methods for invasive treatment of DFU.

Authors' response: We do welcome this focused comment. A wide range of minimally invasive treatment techniques are documented and compared in our revised manuscript. Moreover a paragraph has been added in section A "Endovascular revascularization" as follows : "Significant advantages of minimal invasive treatment options over open surgical repair include less hospital stay, decreased periprocedural morbidity and mortality especially in critically ill patients and those at high surgical risk, while in the vast majority of the cases general anesthesia is not required and revascularization can be obtained using local anesthesia and mild conscious sedation . Moreover, endovascular methods represent the only option in patients with significant pedal arch arterial disease in which surgery is not an option for technical reasons. [14, 18, 19]."

## Reviewer #2

The author should have explained the advantages of minimally invasive treatment compared with open revascularization surgery.

Authors' response: We appreciate your comment. We documented and explained some fundamentals of minimally invasive surgery for DFU. Also, a wide range of minimally invasive treatment techniques are documented and compared in our revised manuscript. Moreover a paragraph has been added in section A "Endovascular revascularization" as follows: "Significant advantages of minimally invasive treatment options over open surgical repair include less hospital stay, decreased periprocedural morbidity and mortality especially in critically ill patients and those at high surgical risk, while in the vast majority of the cases general anesthesia is not required and revascularization can be obtained using local anesthesia and mild conscious sedation . Moreover, endovascular methods represent the only option in patients with significant pedal arch arterial disease in which surgery is not an option for technical reasons. [14, 18, 19]."

I don't think that "structural/gait abnormalities" section is necessary, as it's not directly related to the article's topic.

Authors' response: Thank you very much for the notification. The "structural/gait abnormalities" section has been removed.

## **ROUND 2**

Athens August 24th, 2021

To: Lian-Sheng Ma Editor-in-Chief World Journal of Diabetes.

Re: Revised version Manuscript NO: 65466

Dear Editor, We would like to thank you and the reviewer for your interesting comments and constructive criticisms of our invited manuscript entitled: " Overcoming ischemia in the diabetic foot: Minimally invasive treatment options." that was submitted for publication in the World Journal of Diabetes. We have followed the reviewer's remarks and hope that we address the comment adequately. Please note the following point-by-point reply to the reviewer's suggestion. We also submit separately an annotated text file with all changes made. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further details. Yours sincerely, Dr. Stavros Spiliopoulos, MD, PhD, EBIR Associate Professor of Interventional Radiology National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

Point-by-point reply Reviewer -It is still too long and need further edit to make the manuscript more conclusive as a review.

Authors' response: The authors have further extensively edited the manuscript in order to be more concise and conclusive as suggested by the reviewer.