Dear BPG Editorial Office,

We are submitting the revised manuscript (Manuscript NO.: 95340), entitled "Application of real-time shear wave elastography in the evaluation of Achilles tendon hardness in older adults" for publication in World Journal of Clinical Cases. According to the comments, we have already revised the manuscript. All revisions have been marked in yellow color in the revised manuscript. The following are our reply to the comments, item by item.

Once again, thank you for your kind reconsideration.

Yours sincerely,

Xuan He

E-Mail: 19908051666@163.com

Comments from the Editors and Reviewers:

Reviewer #1:

He et al. presents an interesting study on the assessment of Achilles tendon hardness in older adults using shear wave elastography. The authors utilized real-time shear wave elastography to measure the elastic moduli of the Achilles tendons and investigated potential differences in stiffness based on age, sex, tendon side, state, and segment. Overall, the study is well-structured, and the methodology appears valid. The findings provide valuable insights into the evaluation of tendon stiffness in older adults.

1. The description of the real-time shear wave elastography technique and its application for measuring the elastic moduli of the Achilles tendon should be more detailed to ensure that readers can understand the methodology clearly.

Answer: We feel great thanks for your professional review work on our article. We have introduced the real-time shear wave elastography procedure and its application in measuring the elastic modulus of the Achilles tendon in more detail in the “INTRODUCTION” section of the article, and added some detailed descriptions in the “Real-time SWE procedure” section to ensure that readers can clearly understand the method. Thank you again for your positive comments and valuable suggestions to improve the quality of our manuscript.
2. The authors should clearly articulate the implications of the study and how the findings contribute to the existing body of knowledge in this field.

Answer: We feel great thanks for your professional review work on our article. We have explained the implications of our study and how our findings contribute to the existing body of knowledge in this field in the last paragraph of the “INTRODUCTION” and in the “DISCUSSION” section. Thank you again for your positive comments and valuable suggestions to improve the quality of our manuscript.

3. The manuscript should include a more comprehensive and up-to-date review of relevant literature on shear wave elastography, tendon stiffness, and musculoskeletal assessment.

Answer: We feel great thanks for your professional review work on our article. We have added a new section in the "INTRODUCTION" that provides an overview of the literature on shear wave elastography, tendon stiffness, and musculoskeletal assessment over the past two years. Thank you again for your positive comments and valuable suggestions to improve the quality of our manuscript.

4. The references list should be formatted in accordance with the journal's guideline.

Answer: We feel great thanks for your professional review work on our article. In order to ensure the accuracy of the references, we used the "Edit References by Auto-Analyser" (https://www.f6publishing.com/Forms/main/ArticleReferenceTool.aspx) to edit the references of the manuscript. Thank you again for your positive comments and valuable suggestions to improve the quality of our manuscript.