

Metabolic neural activity in idiopathic tinnitus patients after repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation

Dear editor and reviewers:

First of all, authors appreciate the editor's and reviewers' thoughtful and helpful comments. Also, we are pleased to have an opportunity to make this paper to be an even better one and to be accepted with revision, because the editor and reviewers provided additional important points that we haven't realized before.

Here, we are submitting the revised manuscript that addresses several concerns of the editor and reviewers.

We hope that this paper will now be considered for publication.

We thank you for your time and look forward to your reply.

Yours Sincerely

Kan Ying, MD,Ph.D

Department of Nuclear Medicine, Capital Medical University, Beijing Friendship Hospital, Beijing, 100050, China

E-mail: 15210731624@163.com

Manuscript Id:47054

Point-to-point responses to comments by the Reviewer

1. An excellent study with important hints also for the clinician. The results will definitely influence our clinical practice and new areas of research will be addressed.

The authors wish to thank the reviewer for offering thoughtful and helpful comment.

R1. Thank you for your support for our work. We will continue to make more valuable research on the basis of our existing work.

2. Small sample size and lack of control are weaknesses in the study. Needs some language and grammatical polishing. Good research efforts by authors in an area with limited treatment options.

The authors wish to thank the reviewer for offering thoughtful and helpful comment.

R1. The limitation of our study is the small sample size. In our study, we have two groups, tinnitus and normal control. We compare the tinnitus baseline and normal control in PET/CT scan to confirm the neural changes of tinnitus patients in PET. Our study is aim to observe the changes of neural activities, not to confirm curative effect of rTMS. So, we didn't give sham stimuli in normal control. In our previous studies, we had observed the objective scales (eg. THI and VAS) to evaluate the effect of rTMS. In the future, we will increase our sample size and make our results more confidential.