Response to Reviewers:

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)
Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)
Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: The study by Lin et al presents the results of 7 cases of chlorine poisoning from household disinfectants. The manuscript is well written, the language is of reasonable quality and the presented topic is both interesting and important for clinicians. I have only one comment: the authors should choose only one corresponding author. 1 Title. Does the title reflect the main subject/hypothesis of the manuscript? Yes 2 Abstract. Does the abstract summarize and reflect the work described in the manuscript? Yes 3 Key words. Do the key words reflect the focus of the manuscript? Yes 4 Background. Does the manuscript adequately describe the background, present status and significance of the study? Yes 5 Methods. Does the manuscript describe methods (e.g., experiments, data analysis, surveys, and clinical trials, etc.) in adequate detail? Yes 6 Results. Are the research objectives achieved by the experiments used in this study? What are the contributions that the study has made for research progress in this field? Yes 7 Discussion. Does the manuscript interpret the findings adequately and appropriately, highlighting the key points concisely, clearly and logically? Are the findings and their applicability/relevance to the literature stated in a clear and definite manner? Is the discussion accurate and does it discuss the paper’s scientific significance and/or relevance to clinical practice sufficiently? Yes 8 Illustrations and tables. Are the figures, diagrams and tables sufficient, good quality and appropriately illustrative of the paper contents? Do figures require labeling with arrows, asterisks etc., better legends? Yes 9 Biostatistics. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of biostatistics? Yes 10 Units. Does the manuscript meet the requirements of use of SI units? Yes 11 References. Does the manuscript cite appropriately the latest, important and authoritative references in the introduction and
discussion sections? Does the author self-cite, omit, incorrectly cite and/or over-cite references? Yes 12 Quality of manuscript organization and presentation. Is the manuscript well, concisely and coherently organized and presented? Is the style, language and grammar accurate and appropriate? Yes 13 Research methods and reporting. Authors should have prepared their manuscripts according to manuscript type and the appropriate categories, as follows: (1) CARE Checklist (2013) - Case report; (2) CONSORT 2010 Statement - Clinical Trials study, Prospective study, Randomized Controlled trial, Randomized Clinical trial; (3) PRISMA 2009 Checklist - Evidence-Based Medicine, Systematic review, Meta-Analysis; (4) STROBE Statement - Case Control study, Observational study, Retrospective Cohort study; and (5) The ARRIVE Guidelines - Basic study. Did the author prepare the manuscript according to the appropriate research methods and reporting? Yes 14 Ethics statements. For all manuscripts involving human studies and/or animal experiments, author(s) must submit the related formal ethics documents that were reviewed and approved by their local ethical review committee. Did the manuscript meet the requirements of ethics? Yes

**Response:** Thank you for your approval. We have made the changes you suggested; we have chosen only one corresponding author.

**Reviewer: 2**

Comments to the Author

Scientific Quality: Grade D (Fair)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors:

1. Please explain that respiratory complications following chlorine gas exposure occur immediately after exposure, and that patients present 240 hours after exposure are not justified.

**Response:** Thank you for your comments. Respiratory complications following chlorine gas exposure, including breathlessness, difficulty breathing, headache,
dizziness and more occurred immediately after exposure. Some of our statements in the text were inaccurate. It should be the average poisoning time (time from exposure to poison to admission) was 57 h (4–240 h); because four patients did not first visit our hospital (they were first at the community clinic), we have made changes in the text. The first symptoms we described in Table 1 were all the symptoms that developed immediately after the patients were exposed to the gas (respiratory complications following chlorine gas exposure occurred immediately after exposure).

2. Given the limited number of patients, how is it concluded that corticosteroids may improve lung exudation in severe cases?

**Response:** Thank you for your comments. Indeed, due to the small number of cases, it is not sufficient for us to draw firm conclusions. The "Corticosteroids may improve lung exudation in severe cases" is based on our successful experience in treating one severe case. We only summarize and share our treatment experience through the presented cases, and more clinical cases and basic studies are needed to verify it in the future.