Answer to Letter to the Editor of Chen concerning “A randomized controlled trial: comparing extracorporeal shock wave therapy versus local corticosteroid injection for the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome”

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Dear Editor,

We appreciate the letter from Prof. Cong-Xian Chen, whose team had reported two queries on the article of Xu et al. The original paper titled “A randomized controlled trial: comparing extracorporeal shock wave therapy versus local corticosteroid injection for the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome” [1].

Answer to the first query. Prof. Cong-Xian Chen maybe misunderstood the statistical analysis methods. In this paper, we declared that “The paired *T* test was used to compare the outcomes of each follow-up and pretreatment visit between the two groups. The analysis of the outcomes between the two groups was performed by the independent *T* test.” Independent *T* test, which can be used when both groups have different number of samples, was used when we compare the outcomes between two groups [2].

As for the second query. Prof. Cong-Xian Chen wondered whether the non-dominant hand will cause a better prognosis or not in the severe CTS (carpal tunnel syndrome) patients. In the “Inclusion and exclusion” part of this paper, we declared the patients who diagnosed with mild to moderate CTS were enrolled in this study.

We are thankful that Prof. Cong-Xian Chen and your team read our study with great interest.

Yours sincerely.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The author declares that they have no conflict of interest.

Ethical approval This article does not contain any studies with animals performed by any of the authors.

References

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