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Reply to Letter to the Editor: "Circulating MicroRNA-423-5p in Hypertensive Patients with Heart Failure: Correspondence"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR REPLY

To the Editors,

Thank you for your attention and interest in this manuscript.[1] We would like to give our responses for your kindly suggestions and questions.

After careful scientific research and literature review, our team believes that the results of this study were obtained under a rigorous and careful experimental study, and the results are credible and scientific. The basis is as follows.

1. Previously, our team had done a relevant preliminary study on this subject[2]: we applied microRNA gene expression profile technology to screen the differential expression of microRNAs in the plasma of patients with essential hypertension combined with heart failure. The results suggested that miR-423-5P was significantly increased in patient's plasma ($P < .05$), and the most significantly altered miRNAs changed accordingly with increasing severity of heart failure and correlated significantly with N-terminal pro-b-type natriuretic peptide. The results of this study are consistent with the findings of the previous study.
2. It is no doubt that the mechanism of hypertensive ventricular hypertrophy and heart failure in hypertension is complex and the factors involved are plentiful. However, in the experimental design and group selection, we have removed interference factors as many as possible to make the experimental conditions unified. Excluded factors have included diabetic patients as you pointed out.

We would like to express our appreciation for these constructive suggestions and comments, and we will improve ourselves for higher credibility and scientific validity in the follow-up study.

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