To: **Bing Wu, Ph.D.**  June 12th, 2018

Review Editor,

*JoVE*

Dear Dr. Wu

Thank you very much for your letter of May 31st, 2018 and for the editorial comments. We have addressed all the issues raised in these comments. Details can be found in the point by point response bellow. We have also made a few additional edits to increase the clarity of the text. The changes are all highlighted as tracked changes in the manuscript text. We now hope that the manuscript will be acceptable for publication.

Looking forward to hearing from you

Yours sincerely,

Tomáš Brdička, Ph.D.

**Response to editorial comments:**

**1. Please take this opportunity to thoroughly proofread the manuscript to ensure that there are no spelling or grammar issues.**

*The manuscript has been proofread again and several mistakes corrected.*

**2. Please define all abbreviations before its first use, e.g., EDTA, etc.**

*All the abbreviations are now defined before the first use.*

**3. Please specify euthanasia method.**

*Cervical dislocation – we have added the information in step 3.1.*

**4. Step 1.2: What’s the concentration of HCl, NaOH.**

*We have added the concentrations to step 1.2.*

**5. 3.3: What’s the size of the Petri dish?**

*It is 5 cm, we have adjusted the text accordingly.*

**6. 3.6: What’s the size of the small part of the epiphyses?**

*1 – 2 mm, we have adjusted the text accordingly.*

**7. 4.1: Please specify the antibiotics and the concentration.**

*The antibiotic concentration was specified in the note after step 1.4. We have now added the reference to this note into step 4.1.*

**8. 4.12: Please ensure that all text is written in imperative tense.**

*We have adjusted the text accordingly.*

**9. 4.13: Please ensure that all text is written in imperative tense.**

*We moved parts of step 4.13. to previous steps where its addition was more appropriate. We have changed the tens to its imperative form.*

**10. 5.1: Please ensure that all text is written in imperative tense.**

*We have re-written the whole step 5 to conform to this requirement.*

**11. 5.4: Please ensure that all text is written in imperative tense.**

*We have re-written the whole step 5 to conform to this requirement.*

**12. 5.5: Please ensure that all text is written in imperative tense.**

*We have re-written the whole step 5 to conform to this requirement.*

**13. 6.8: Chapter 3 and 4? Do you mean step 3 and 4?**

*Yes we do, we have adjusted the text accordingly.*