August 20, 2018

Dr. Ronald Myers, Senior Science Editor,

Journal of Visualized Experiment

Dear Dr. Myers,

**Subj.: Submission of manuscript**

I am writing to submit our manuscript entitled “A behavioral test battery for repeated assessment of motor, mood and cognition in mice” for your consideration to be published in *Journal of Visualized Experiment*. Behavioral analysis in mice is one of the most critical step in research in the neurodegeneration field. The complexity of the behavioral symptoms during the progression of neurodegeneration requires comprehensive analysis of the behaviors in research. We designed a behavioral test battery, which contained at least two well-accepted tests in motor, mood and cognition, all of which could be susceptible to neurodegeneration, to assess the overall behavioral changes in mice. The uniqueness of our method is the compatibility within the battery, which means the tests are arranged to achieve the maximum habituation for the mice and the minimum interference. In addition, this battery can be repeatedly tested in a longitudinal study, such as in long-term toxicological and/or pharmacological evaluation.

We believe that this behavioral test battery is important for the field of neurodegeneration, behavioral analysis, toxicology and pharmacology because it is proved to provide stable, convincing, comprehensive and repeated behavioral analysis in neurodegeneration-related study.

This submission was on inquiry from your editorial board. This method and part of the representative data has been applied in a published research in Particles and Fibre Toxicology (2018 **15**:28 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12989-018-0263-3I)>, one of the open access BioMed Central's journals. The open access articles are made available under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license, which means they are accessible online without any restrictions and can be re-used in any way, subject only to proper attribution (which, in an academic context, usually means citation). Therefore, I would like to declare on behalf of my co-authors that this manuscript is a brand-new paper with the authorization of Springer to use the published materials and data with proper citation. The entire paper is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. All the authors have agreed to submit this manuscript.

We highly appreciate your consideration of our manuscript, and look forward to receiving comments from the reviewers. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Sincerely yours,

Ran YOU, Ph.D

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