**Response to reviewers 11-10-18 Responses are in bold following the editorial comments.**

**Editorial comments:**  
  
1. We are concerned about filming section 4 of the protocol, as it apparently involves showing animals in distress/pain (the rest of the protocol is fine). If you think this is essential to show, we may have alternative ways to visualize it, though–e.g., we could use still images (either provided by you or stills from footage captured by the videographer) and overlays of text, arrows, or highlighting to show things like where to palpate and how to locate the important structures; alternatively, we may be able to construct a simple animation using our stock graphics of rodents and anatomy. Please let us know your thoughts on this. **We believe this is essentially the most crucial part of this paper to share with readers as it is technically highly reliant on technique. Please understand that the reason this is difficult is that the pain is very mild so that it is hard to discern when the animals are actually in pain and when they are just uncomfortable being restrained. I think once you see what we are doing, it will not be disturbing to film. But alternatively, demonstrating placement and restraint technique would be helpful. Video graphics depicting the types of pain responses we grade might be an acceptable substitute.**  
2. The Figures are currently fairly low resolution (even in the original files). If you are having technical difficulties converting them to tif format, pdf format is acceptable (although, again, all panels for each figure should be combined into one file per figure). **We did have difficulty creating TIFF files without losing resolution. We have combined the figures into pdf files for better resolution.**  
3. Figures: Please explicitly define CAR and COL in the legends. **This has been done.**  
4. Figures: It’s “COL” in the legends/text but “Col” (not capitalized) in the Figures themselves; please make consistent. **This has been done**  
5. Figures 2 and 3: Please label panels only as ‘A’ and ‘B’ (e.g., not as ‘2A’). **Done**