December 5th, 2018

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your continued consideration of this manuscript entitled “Facial Nerve Surgery in the Rat Model: Methods to Study Axonal Inhibition and Regeneration” for publication in the Journal of Visualized Experiments. We greatly appreciate the editorial and reviewer feedback. We have performed revisions to address all of the following reviewer comments:

**Editorial Office**

**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 for spelling and grammar issues.

**2. Step 4.11.1: Please ensure that all text is written in the imperative tense.**

The step has been updated to be in the imperative tense, as such on lines 222-225:

*4.11.1. Crush injury: use smooth-surfaced jeweler’s forceps to firmly grasp the nerve and compress it. Apply constant and reproducible pressure to the nerve for a period of 30-seconds to ensure appropriate crush injury.*

**3. 4.8.1-4.8.4: Please write these steps in complete sentences and in the imperative tense.**

The steps have been consolidated and now read in the imperative sense:

*4.8.1. Note that this region is bounded superiorly and medially by the skull base, laterally by the anterior digastric muscle, postero-medially by the ear canal, and inferiorly by the structures of the neck, including the superficial temporal artery.*

**4. Step 6.1.1 is missing.**

Step 6.1.2 has been amended to be 6.1.1.

**5. Figure 2: Please define the error bars in Figure Legend.]**

The error bars have been defined as such on line 303:

*“… as mean proportion ± standard error of the mean.”*

We attest that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere, accepted for publication elsewhere, or under review for publication elsewhere. All authors listed have contributed sufficiently to the project to be included as authors. To the best of our knowledge, no conflict of interest, financial or other, exists.

Sincerely,

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