

To Nam Nguyen, PhD  
Manager of Review  
JoVE

Würzburg, 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2021

Dear Dr. Nguyen,

We have included changes to the manuscript “Multifactorial assessment of motor behavior in rats after unilateral sciatic nerve crush injury” regarding the written manuscript (changes are highlighted in yellow) and the video. We also replied to the editor’s comments (the editor’s comments are in *italic*) as follows:

**Editorial comments:**

*Changes to be made by the Author(s) regarding the written manuscript:*

*1. Please renumber the protocol so that each motor behavior assessment is its own numbered step.*

- 2. Open Field Test*
- 3. CatWalk XT gait analysis*
- 4. Beam walking task*
- 5. Ladder rung walking task*

We renumbered the protocol as indicated and adapted the numbers in line 281 “3.2.1. - 3.2.1.8.”.

We deleted the paragraph “2. Motor behavior assessment” (line 133 – 138, version 62606\_R1) and added “A blinded experimental procedure and data analysis to experimental groups is essential for these experiments. Before behavior assessment, animals were acclimated in the testing room under testing conditions for at least 30 minutes.” in the manuscript (line 630 – 632, version 62606\_R1\_revised).

*Changes to be made by the Author(s) regarding the video:*

*1. Audio Editing and Pacing:*

*00:55 - 06:45 Audio Levels are quite high and not Balanced. Please reduce the volume so that audio level peaks average around -9 dB.*

We improved the audio levels and ensured the correct audio level.

We hope that we could address the editorial comments in the revised manuscript and look forward to a hopefully positive response.

Best regards

Chi Wang Ip