



Reply to the letter

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To the Editor:

We are most grateful to Dr. Yue for the helpful comments on our manuscript [1]. Our study demonstrated that changes in the corrected carotid flow time induced by the Trendelenburg position could serve as a good predictor of spinal anesthesia-induced hypotension for cesarean delivery.

We appreciate the concerns regarding the level of sensory block in our study population and its potential impact on hemodynamic stability. We acknowledge that an elevated level of sensory block can indeed lead to hypotension, as Dr. Yue rightly pointed out. In our study, the distribution of sensory block levels was as follows: in the hypotension group, the proportions of T2, T3, T4, and T5 were 11.5%, 15.4%, 61.5%, and 11.5%, respectively, while in the non-hypotension group, the proportions of T3, T4, and T5 were 35.7%, 42.9%, and 21.4%, respectively, with no significant difference between the two groups.

We respectfully disagree with the concern that a sensory blockade level of \leq T4 is excessive for performing spinal anesthesia for cesarean section. The quoted literature in the letter also establishes T4-T6 as the appropriate level of spinal anesthesia for cesarean delivery [2]. Additionally, recent research has set the target sensory block level for cesarean delivery at T4 [3]. Furthermore, when considering the definition of hypotension in our study (systolic blood pressure $<$ 90 mmHg or $<$ 80% of baseline), which occurred in 65% of cases, compared to previous studies defining hypotension at $<$ 80 mmHg or $<$ 75% of baseline, with a hypotension incidence of 60% [4], the patients included in our

study did not exhibit significantly increased hemodynamic instability.

Based on these findings, we maintain that our results are reliable and applicable to patients undergoing cesarean delivery with spinal anesthesia. We believe that our study provides valuable insights into the prediction of spinal anesthesia-induced hypotension in this population.

Data availability Data will be available upon reasonable request to corresponding author.

Conflict of interest Koichi Suehiro has received speaker fees from Edwards Lifesciences and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Factory. Other authors have no conflict of interest.

References

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