

Author's response to reviews

Title: Weight- Perception in male career Firefighters and its association with Cardiovascular Risk Factors

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Re: Weight- Perception in male career Firefighters and its association with Cardiovascular Risk Factors

Dear Editors

We are pleased to present for your consideration our research paper "Weight- Perception in male career Firefighters and its association with Cardiovascular Risk Factors".

We believe that your journal would be ideal to present such a manuscript. We describe that a very high proportion of overweight and obese male firefighters underestimate their true weight categories. Our paper is also novel because we present statistically significant differences among groups with the same measured weight categories but different weight perceptions regarding cardiovascular risk factors; such as Metabolic Syndrome, aerobic capacity, body fat percentage and cholesterol measurements (after adjustment for age and BMI).

Because our data are representative of career firefighters from two different Midwestern states and because of the concordance of our data with those documented in the general population, we are confident that our results are generalizable to the fire service as a whole and other similar professions, such as law enforcement, emergency medical services and the military.

For your convenience we have listed three possible reviewers below.

Thank you very much in advance for your valuable time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Stefanos N. Kales, MD, MPH, FACP, FACOEM
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Suggested Peer Reviewers:

- 1.) Keshia M. Pollak, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, email: kpollack@jhsph.edu
- 2.) Oisaeng Hong, RN, PhD, Professor, Department of Community Health Systems, University of California: Berkeley, Davis, San Francisco, email: oisaeng.hong@nursing.ucsf.edu
- 3.) Christopher W Ide, MD, Salus Occupational Health & Safety, 14 Beckford Street, Hamilton ML3 0TA, UK, e-mail: christopher_ide@yahoo.co.uk