Author's response to reviews

Title: Hypotheses, rationale, design, and methods for evaluation of ischemic preconditioning assessed by sequential exercise tests in diabetic and non-diabetic patients with stable coronary artery disease - A prospective study

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Author's covering letter for initial submission

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Comments:

August 17th, 2013.
Timothy Shipley,
Executive Editor,
BMC Cardiovascular Disorders

Dear Editor, please find attached our manuscript entitled “Hypotheses, rationale, design, and methods for evaluation of ischemic preconditioning assessed by sequential exercise tests in diabetic and non-diabetic patients with stable coronary artery disease – A prospective study” that we would like to submit for publication in the BMC Cardiovascular Disorders.

In this paper, we present the rationale and the design of a prospective study, in which ischemic preconditioning will be assessed in stable coronary artery disease patients with and without diabetes mellitus. Ischemic preconditioning will be evaluated by sequential exercise tests and compared in terms of its incidence and magnitude between diabetic and non-diabetic patients.

Despite the fact that some studies in humans have shown that diabetes interferes negatively with the development of ischemic preconditioning, many experimental studies have demonstrated controversial results. Moreover, although patients with diabetes and coronary artery disease present worse clinical outcomes, it’s a matter of debate the impact of diabetes in the mechanisms of ischemic preconditioning, specially in the clinical context of stable coronary disease. Of note, there is no such study in the field of ischemic preconditioning with this number of patients and with the aim of studying the impact of diabetes in the expression of ischemic preconditioning.

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The authors declare that:
1. this report is not under consideration elsewhere;
2. none of this report’s contents have been previously published;
3. have read and approved the manuscript; and
4. no competing interests exist.

We hope this information will be interesting to the BMC Cardiovascular Disorders readers.
Thank you in advance for your kind attention,

Sincerely,

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