Author's response to reviews

Title: Metabolic Syndrome among hypertensive patients at University of Gondar Hospital, North West Ethiopia: a cross sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response the reviewers.

We are very grateful for the thorough and critical comments of the reviewers. We have addressed and incorporated the comments in the revised document.

Olebogeng Majane

We believe it could have been interesting to classify the population as per the suggestion; however, is not statistically powered to classify the age $<40$ & $>40$. Because nearly 80% of the subjects are $>40$ years old.

There were 76 (25.3%) subjects who had elevated fasting glucose of $>100$mg/dl. However, we didn’t get a level above 126 mg/dl and also we didn’t screen the participants for poly symptoms as it was not the objective of our study. Moreover, there were no known diabetic patients encountered among these hypertensive participants. Therefore, what we could say is that 25.3% of the hypertensive patients had fasting blood sugar of $>100$ mg/dl.

Joanne Luke

The model is mentioned as per the comment

Abnormal BMI is elaborated. Both underweight and overweight are merged together considering a recent publication on the effect of malnutrition (low BMI) on HDL level. The reference is incorporated. Moreover, merging the two together was the only option to have statistical power.

The male and female odds ratio was exchanged by mistake. Now it is corrected. Moreover, the entire multivariate analysis was run again for there were some errors as pointed out by the reviewers.

The term protective, greater chance and fold is corrected.

Supporting citation is included for low HDL and low BMI as per the reviewers comment. (Delisle H, Ntandou G, and Després JP: At-Risk Serum Cholesterol Profile at Both Ends of the Nutrition Spectrum in West African Adults? The Benin Study. Nutrients. April 2013, 5(4): 1366 – 1383.)

As per the reviewers comment the discussion part is re-written to address the factors identified in the final multi-variate analysis.
All the other editorial and minor essential comments are addresses and corrections incorporated line by line.

**Johannes van Rooyen**

As per the reviewers comment, the symbol of the formula is explained.

All the other minor essential comments are addressed and corrections incorporated line by line.