Author's response to reviews

Title: Can Cardiac Computed Tomography predict cardiovascular events in asymptomatic type-2 diabetics? Results of a long term follow-up

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Timothy Shipley

Executive Editor of BMC Cardiovascular Disorders,

We are delighted to submit our manuscript, entitled “Can Cardiac Computed Tomography predict cardiovascular events in asymptomatic type-2 diabetics? Results of a long term follow-up” for consideration for publication in BMC Cardiovascular Disorders.

This paper provides new insights regarding risk stratification of asymptomatic patients with Diabetes mellitus type 2 and the role of Cardiac CT scan. Moreover, in this paper we derive a risk score for risk stratification of these patients (prediction of major cardiovascular events) combining clinical parameters with those obtained through CT scan (calcium score and coronary angiography) that, albeit needing further external validation, outperforms the two well-known and most used risk scores (SCORE and Framingham).

The field of biomarkers in risk stratification of asymptomatic patients with diabetes has been a hot topic since the prognosis varies widely (some are very low risk and have no events, while others, despite asymptomatic have a very high likelihood of adverse outcomes and merit early identification and appropriate intensive and aggressive treatment.

Due to the nature of this paper, we think that it may be relevant to physicians involve in the treatment of cardiovascular disorders, as cardiologists, internists, endocrinologists, but also general practitioners.

We believe this paper will be of considerable interest to the readership of BMC Cardiovascular Disorders, due to the fact that Diabetes mellitus is highly prevalent, risk stratification can yet be improved and Cardiac CT scan is a technique which usage can yet be improved.

This manuscript has not been published before in full, or in part, and it is not currently under consideration for publication in any other journal. We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

The authors declare that there are no proprietary, financial, professional or other personal interests of any nature or kind in any product, service and/or company that could be construed as influencing the content of the manuscript.

This study was conducted with the approval of our Institution’s Cardiology Department Supervisor and Ethics Committee and all patients provided informed consent before undergoing CT and authorized the use of follow-up information.

Yours Sincerely,

The Authors