Author's response to reviews

Title: In what extent anemia coexists with cognitive impairment in elderly: a cross-sectional study in Greece

Authors:
Stella Argyriadou (starge@otenet.gr)
Ioannis Vlachonikolis (I.Vlachonikolis@surrey.ac.uk)
Haritini Melisopoulou (starge@otenet.gr)
Kostas Katachanakis (drknk@hotmail.com)
Christos Lionis (lionis@med.uoc.gr)

Version: 2 Date: 14 Oct 2001

Heraklion, 14 October 2001

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all authors I would like to thank you very much for your prompt reply and the very constructive comments of the referees which you have attached to us. I am re-submitting the new manuscript having incorporated all their commentary. Specifically our reply to the comments of Dr. Louise Waite have as follow:

1. The baseline data regarding the population distribution in the three sub groups and relevant demographics, including age-groups, educational level and marital status are provided in the modified manuscript (Table 1).
2. The impact, which the use of HCT bears on the interpretation of the study results, is discussed in the revised manuscript. As the literature supports, HCT can be used in epidemiological studies.
3. The statement that our paper supports the previous finding referred to the degree of anemia being associated with cognitive impairment was deleted. We agree with the referee's comment that it is not supported by our findings.
4. This conclusion was re-written and all the comments of the referee were considered in the revised manuscript.
5. We modified properly the data presented in Tables 1 and 2 of the previous manuscript and OR results have been deleted in the new text.
6. We are now explaining in the section of methods. The comment of the referee was incorporated.
7. We maintained the regression analyses and the results of Table 3 because they are not only confirming our previous findings but elucidate other factors with a significant or marked effect, like age-group and folate value.
8. We clarified according to the referee's is comment.
9. We delete the reference to the Figure 1.
10. We corrected the references.

The comment of Prof. Trell, which was referred to our abstract, was also corrected.

We hope that we have satisfied your referees and we look forward to receiving your final decision.

Yours sincerely,