Author's response to reviews

Title: Echocardiographic Partition Values and Prevalence of Left Ventricular Hypertrophy in Hypertensive Nigerians.

Authors:

Adewole A Adebiyi Dr (wadebiyi@yahoo.com)
Okechukwu OS Ogah Dr (osogah56156@yahoo.com)
Akinyemi A Aje Dr (ajeyemi@yahoo.co.uk)
Dike DB Ojji Dr (dikeojji@yahoo.co.uk)
Adedeji AK Adebayo Dr (akbavo53972@yahoo.com)
Olulola OO Oladapo Dr (dowo@skannet.com.ng)
Ayodele AO Falase Prof (aofalase@yahoo.com)

Version: 2 Date: 2 August 2006

Author's response to reviews:

RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS’ COMMENTS

Title of Manuscript: Echocardiographic Partition Values and Prevalence of Left Ventricular Hypertrophy in Hypertensive Nigerians.

Dear Sir,

Thank you so much for reviewing our manuscript. We respond to your comments as follows.

A. Reviewer 1. Vuyisile V Nkomo

Major compulsory Revisions.

1. We have deleted our suggestion for an international partition value for the definition of LVH from the introduction.

2. The definitions of Eccentric hypertrophy have been corrected. The second definition is for concentric hypertrophy.

3. The echocardiographic LV parameters were generally higher in men than in women except for the indexes of LV systolic function is correct however an error occurred during the entry of the values into the tables. This has been corrected.

4. The mean ages stated on page 8 and table 1 were type-over errors on our part.

   The sentence now reads: The mean ages for men and women were similar (56.0 +/-13.0 vs 55.5 +/-13.5, p=0.672).

5. Table 3 has been included
Minor Essential Revisions

1. Full terms have now been used before abbreviations (LVM and LVM in abstract, page 3 and LVM in the introduction -page 4)

2. American society of Echocardiography has been rewritten as American Society of Echocardiography

3. (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) were to indicate normal geometry, concentric remodeling, eccentric hypertrophy and eccentric hypertrophy respectively in table 3. (ii, iii, and iv indicates abnormal geometry; i represents normal geometry. They have been deleted from table 4.

Discretionary Revisions

"more common" has been used instead of "commoner"

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

REVIEWER 2: Marcello Chinali

Minor Essential Revisions

1. We have commented on two manuscripts published last year by de Simone et al and the papers referenced in the Introduction and discussion sections.

2. Page 7 line 8. The definitions of Eccentric hypertrophy have been corrected. The second definition is for concentric hypertrophy.

3. The work by Ganau et al has been included in the introduction and discussion sections of the manuscript.

4. We have included in the discussion (conclusion) section that: Partition values are strongly population dependent since they are derived from reference normal subjects. Different methods of indexation lead to different prevalence of LVH because the LV mass is looked at from different point of view. For example indexation to BSA offsets the independent impact of obesity on LV mass while indexation for height (especially when indexed to height raised to the power of 2.7) is useful in the definition of "genetically determined" LV mass.