Author's response to reviews

Title: Impact of oxygen uptake and physical activity on pregnancy related back pain: a cohort study

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Version: 2 Date: 15 February 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor in Chief,

Re: MS: 4570746386402388.

Please find enclosed a revised edition of our manuscript with the changed title “Pregnancy related back pain, is it related to aerobic fitness? A longitudinal cohort study”.

Please find our replies to the comments of the reviewers.

Answers to the editor comments:
1. Figure 1. We could not find any errors in Figure 1. Maybe errors have appeared in the transmitted version. Please let us know if any error remains in the resubmitted version.
2. Abbreviations on Table 2 are spelt out.
3. “created” changed to “identified”
4. The presentation of data collection points is changed to mean and range.
5. A small introduction of cycle test is included in the introduction.
6. The title is changed.
7. The cycle ergometer test is included in the abstract.
8. The conclusion is toned down by referring to the time sequence aspect.

Answers to comments by reviewer N. N. Ansari:
Page 4, line 2-3: A reference is included.
Page 7, last paragraph, line 4: Changed to 30-37%.
Page 10, paragraph 2, line 1: Regular is deleted.
References: The spelling of the name is changed.
Tables: Bold titles are changed. In table 1 s.d. is changed to SD and the “l” after Lumbosacral is deleted.

Answers to comments by reviewer Shohreh Jalaie:
1. Table 1. The absolute numbers of the numerator and denominator are included where proportions are presented.
2. Table 2. The frequencies of women with more than one pain location are introduced in a separate column of Table 2.
3. In the multivariate regression analyses “back pain in pregnancy” is omitted and the changed result is changed accordingly in the corresponding text and in Table 3.
4. The variables “pain intensity”, “physical activity” and “vo2 level” are all graded variables. This means that the full information of the data set will be utilized in a regression model while not in a relative risk model using dichotomized data.
Yours sincerely,

Per Kristiansson