Author's response to reviews

Title: Association of Body Mass Index, Sagittal Abdominal Diameter and Waist-Hip Ratio with Cardiometabolic Risk Factors and Adipocytokines in Arab Children and Adolescents

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer comments:

1. The final paragraph of the results needs the following revisions.
   - "SAD showed significance in almost all parameters as well, with the exception of systolic blood pressure and triglycerides." Should be revised as "SAD was a significant predictor of most other parameters."

   The sentence was changed accordingly.

   - "Lastly, waist-hip ratio was significant in glucose, two or more components of MetS and MetS itself". This sentence was poorly written before and a suggestion to improve it was provided. The authors stated that they changed it but in the letter and the manuscript the sentence was not actually changed.

   This comment is well noted. The original comment of the previous reviewer was: In the Results section, second paragraph, last sentence, please reword as follows "...waist-hip ratio was significant in glucose, 2 or more components of MetS and MetS itself." This was actually followed except that the word two was spelt out instead of writing it exactly the way the reviewer wanted it. It is now changed accordingly.

2. "Figure 1 shows the positive linear trend between SAD in both boys and girls." This is an incomplete sentence and need further explanation. The correlation is between SAD and age. The line of best fit is not likely to be linear, especially in girls so a different curve should be applied. Finally, this figure is useful to provide a picture of the data distribution and is a response to the prior review. However, the authors should provide some further comment on it beyond just showing it. This figure and the accompanying text would probably fit better near the beginning of the results section with the other descriptive data.

   The comment of the previous reviewer was: More importantly, it is difficult to determine if application of a linear regression approach to address the primary question is correct. As such we did not do a linear regression scatter plot curve and opted for a linear graph showing marks and standard errors. Further explanation for figure 1 was given in the revised results.