Author's response to reviews

Title: A prospective cohort study of dietary patterns of non-western migrants in the Netherlands in relation to risk factors for cardiovascular diseases: HELIUS-Dietary Patterns

Authors:

Louise H Dekker (l.h.dekker@amc.uva.nl)
Marieke B Snijder (m.b.snijder@amc.uva.nl)
Marja H Beukers (marja.beukers@rivm.nl)
Jeanne HM de Vries (jeanne.devries@wur.nl)
Henny AM Brants (henny.brants@rivm.nl)
Evelien J de Boer (evelien.de.boer@rivm.nl)
Rob M van Dam (ephrmvd@nus.edu.sg)
Karien Stronks (k.stronks@amc.uva.nl)
Mary Nicolaou (m.nicolaou@amc.uva.nl)

Version: 2 Date: 27 May 2011

Author's response to reviews:

Dear editor,

In response to the email of the BMC Series Editorial Production Team dated 20-5-2011 we have made the following changes to the format of the manuscript MS ID: 1686807464548612

Major revisions

- Author list: In the manuscript we have changed the author list to the preferred style.
- Figures: We have reconfigure Figure 1 onto one page.

Minor revisions

- References: we have updated the reference list in the style of Biomed central.
- Figures: We have deleted the title and figure number of both figure in the image files The legend and title are now part of the manuscript file as they have been places after the reference list.
- Figures: we have cropped figure 1 as closely as possible
- Typography: The document was checked for typography

Additionally we have made some changes in the text.

- First, on the title page we have deleted the department of the National Institute
for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), as this is in line with the policy of the RIVM.

- Secondly, we have updated the methods we will use to select informative food items in the food frequency questionnaires by adding the following sentence on page 7: "First, we will select food items on the basis of explained variance in nutrient intake without taking covariance from other food items into account."

- Third, we added a sentence on page 7: "As food items selected for inclusion in the FFQ are based on calculations performed for 20 nutrients, (including all macronutrients, dietary fibre, vitamin A, B2, B12, C and D, folate, calcium and iron), this study will also allow research into the link between individual nutrients and risk factors for CVD."

We hope these changes are consistent with the BMC format, please let us know if any additional changes are required.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to publish our paper to the BMC Public Health.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of all authors,
Louise Dekker