Author's response to reviews

Title: Socioeconomic status and race/ethnicity independently predict health decline among older diabetics

Authors:

Emily J Nicklett PhD, MSW (enicklet@umich.edu)

Version: 6 Date: 26 August 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
April 26, 2011

Dear Professor Jigisha Patel:

I am pleased to submit the formatting changes for the manuscript entitled "Socioeconomic status and race/ethnicity independently predict health decline among older diabetics" to BMC Public Health. This article examines the socioeconomic and racial/ethnic disparities of long-term health among older adults with diabetes. Type 2 diabetes mellitus is arguably one of the most significant and preventable health concerns for older adults and the disease disproportionately affects disadvantaged populations.

I am most delighted that this research will be published in BMC Public Health. Below is a list of point-by-point changes in response to the suggestions by the review committee.

This paper is not being considered for publication elsewhere, nor is any similar paper using these data. There are no conflicts of interest to disclose. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the submission. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Joy Nicklett, PhD, MSW

Assistant Professor of Social Work
University of Michigan
enicklet@umich.edu
**Major revisions** (we require the author to make these changes)

1. Author list: the list of authors in the manuscript should be written exactly as they are in the submission system, both in style and order. The preferred style is 'First name Initial Last name' (e.g. Joe F Bloggs)

*Response:*

The list of authors has been changed in response to this request. The author is now listed as Emily J Nicklett, which is also written exactly as it is in the submission system.

2. Structure: this manuscript does not have the correct structure. Please reformat it to use these headings:
   - Abstract
   - Background
   - Methods
   - Results
   - Discussion
   - Conclusions
   - Abbreviations (if any)
   - Competing interests
   - Authors' contributions
   - Author information (optional)
   - Acknowledgements (optional)
   - References

*Response:*

The author realized that the Conclusions section had not been included in the list of the correct structure. The author also revisited the Author Guidelines and changed the main headings to conform to the style (size 16 Arial, Bold) to differentiate from the subheadings (size 12 Arial, Bold) and made according changes with the Title to conform to these standards.

3. References: Please make sure references are cited in numerical order. We notice reference 38 is not cited within the main text. Please make sure references continue to be cited in numerical order once this reference is cited.

*Response:*

The author apologizes for this oversight. Reference 38 was in superscript form and had been added in brackets within the main text. The references continue to be cited in numerical order.

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**Minor revisions** (we can make these changes for you, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above)

4. Author list: Please remove Authors’ titles

*Response:*

The Author’s title has been removed—the Author’s Information section has also been removed as it is optional and appeared redundant.

5. Highlighting/tracking: Please remove all highlighting and tracking from the manuscript.

*Response:*

Highlighting has been removed.

5. Tables- please remove the visible vertical lines from your tables

*Response:*

Vertical lines have been removed from the tables.
6. Typography: Please take this opportunity to check your manuscript for any typographical errors and to make any final corrections or revisions. This is the final proofing stage for your manuscript, and you will not be able to make any changes after acceptance.

Response:

a. On the bottom of page 13, changed “The populations to which these findings can be generalized are older adults with diabetes in the US” to “The population to which these findings can be generalized are older adults with diabetes in the US who have survived to the age of 65.”

b. The author checked the remainder of the manuscript for typographical errors and has no other corrections to make at this time.