Author's response to reviews

Title: Weight misperception amongst youth of a developing country: Pakistan - A Cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To,
Editor in Chief
BMC Public Health

**Subject: Submission of original article**

I am enclosing herewith an Original Article entitled "Weight misperception amongst youth of a developing country: Pakistan -A Cross-sectional study" for submission to your journal.

This will be the second time I am submitting this article to your journal. The first time it was titled “Weight misperception amongst university youth of Pakistan: A cross sectional study” with manuscript id 6437762987536464.

I am now a final year medical student of Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) and along with four more co-authors, the idea of this study came to us when we came across the very significant shortfall of data regarding weight misperception and appropriate measures to curb this problem. We were then studying for our community medicine project based on overweight teenagers. We concluded that unless a fair representation of this problem in the university youth was not obtained, any primary preventative measures would be useless. We worked enthusiastically for six months on this project collecting data from the major undergraduate universities of Karachi, Pakistan.

The findings of our study were significant and similar to similar studies conducted across the globe with Pakistan and the subcontinent being under-represented. Overestimation of weight by underweight females and underestimation of weight by overweight males were the two significant findings of our study.
The study when peer-reviewed highlighted some major flaws in the manner of writing of the introduction and discussion and the way the results were analyzed. Both reviewers however stressed upon its originality as a research hailing from a third world country –Pakistan. This was the main motivating factor which made restructure our manuscript from top to bottom carefully answering all the objections made by the reviewers to the best of our capacity.

The Introduction has been made more thorough quoting similar studies conducted internationally. As requested we have now analyzed the data using bmi distribution but comparing the results between the two genders. The results and discussion have been simplified for better understanding. The discussion has amended with stronger justifications.

I hope we have been able to meet the expectations of your esteemed journal.

For the benefit of the Editor-in-Chief, I would like to disclose that there is no conflict of interest amongst the authors and I would like to undertake that the above mentioned manuscript has not been published, accepted for publication or under editorial review for publication elsewhere.

As per the editor's request, I have uploaded a copy of the questionnaire we used for data collection. Also the author names have been replaced with initials in the section of author contributions and the format of the title page altered to meet journal requirements.

Regards,

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