Author's response to reviews

Title: Association between obesity and metabolic co-morbidities among children and adolescents in South Korea based on national data

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Version: 4 Date: 9 February 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Feb. 7, 2014

Dr. Rafal Ilow
BioMed Central
Editor in BMC Public Health


Dear Dr. Ilow,

We are very grateful for the reviewer’s constructive comment. We have revised the manuscript based on the comment. Following please find our response to the reviewer’s comment.

In addition, we have made some changes and formatted the manuscript following the format guidelines of the BMC Public Health. Our changes in the manuscript were highlighted and a clean file was also provided.

Many thanks for your assistance. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

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Authors’ response to Reviewer’s comment

Reviewer's report
Title: Association between obesity and metabolic co-morbidities among children and adolescents in South Korea: the 2007-2008 Korea National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys

Version: 3 Date: 14 January 2014
Reviewer: Claire Zizza

Reviewer's report:
The authors have done a wonderful job of responding to the comments.

Response: Many thanks.

A lingering concern is that while the authors stated it was outside the scope of the manuscript to analyze the anthropometric measurements in various styles, the authors should note the limitations of examining a continuous variable as a dichotomous variable. This would lead to a statement on future studies which the authors have noted they are already conducting.

Response: We addressed these issues in the limitation. In the manuscript, we added:

“We also categorized several continuous variables of anthropometric and biochemical measurements. Categorization is a common practice in biomedical research which facilitates the interpretation of model parameters and can help decision-making in clinical settings. However, this may reduce variability of the data and statistical power. Future research that examines relevant variables on a continuous scale is warranted and could potentially help provide more insight.”

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.