Author’s response to reviews

**Title:** Leisure time physical activity in middle age predicted the metabolic syndrome and diabetes in old age: A 28-year follow-up of men in the Oslo Study.

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**Author’s response to reviews:** see over
Editor,

We have made the following changes in the ms:

1) Disclosures and authors contributions are now listed at the end of the ms.

2) We have followed the reviewers suggestion of stating the definition of MS in 1972/3 in the Methods section on page 7. At the same time we have mentioned the reason, ie lack of HDL-C in 1972/3.

3) We have specified that antihypertensive medication was not included in the blood pressure criteria of MS.

4) Table 1 was edited with NA as wished with notification of lacking HDL-C as a footnote. We also put in prevalence of antihypertensive medication use in year 2000.

5) We did not follow the suggestion of the reviewer on a subgroup analysis of lean men since we felt that such post hoc analyses could be looked upon as data dredging.