Author's response to reviews

Title: Age-specific prevalence of the metabolic syndrome defined by the International Diabetes Federation and the National Cholesterol Education Program: the Norwegian HUNT 2 study

Authors:

Bjorn Hildrum (bjorn.hildrum@hnt.no)
Arnstein Mykletun (arnstein.mykletun@uib.no)
Torstein Hole (torstein.hole@helse-sunnmore.no)
Kristian Midthjell (kristian.midthjell@ntnu.no)
Alv A Dahl (alvd@ulrik.uio.no)

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BMC Public Health
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Middlesex House
34-42 Cleveland Street
London W1T 4LB

Object: MS: 1001909799120644 - The metabolic syndrome in different age groups as defined by the International Diabetes Federation: prevalence data from the Norwegian HUNT 2 Study. Bjorn Hildrum, Arnstein Mykletun, Torstein Hole, Kristian Midthjell and Alv A Dahl

BMC Public Health

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your response dated June 12, 2007. We hereby send you our response to the reviewers' comments.

Reviewer: Charles M Alexander

"General comments
Manuscript much improved, but the authors still continue to use 3 definitions of metabolic syndrome, when there are really only 2 remaining with most of the rest (eg, WHO, original ATP III) of historical interest. The manuscript should be revised using just the 2 key definitions (IDF and revised ATP III). This can be accomplished fairly quickly."

. In the cover letter dated April 11, 2007, we gave reasons for using also the original (2001) ATP III definition. We accept, however, to follow the recommendations by the reviewer and have revised the manuscript using just the IDF and revised (2005) ATP III definitions.

Best regards (on behalf of the authors)

Bjorn Hildrum, MD