Author's response to reviews

Title: Oxidative stress mediated arterial dysfunction in patients with obstructive sleep apnoea. Effect of continuous positive airway pressure treatment

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To the Editor in Chief of

BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Please, find enclosed the manuscript “Oxidative stress mediated arterial dysfunction in patients with obstructive sleep apnoea. Effect of continuous positive airway pressure treatment” by Del Ben Maria, Fabiani Mario, Loffredo Lorenzo, Polimeni Licia, Carnevale Roberto, Brunori Marco, Augelletti Teresa, Violi Francesco, Angelico Francesco for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

The paper was initially submitted to BMC Medicine, whose Editor suggested that the manuscript might be better suited to the scope and readership of BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

The study has been performed in a large series of patients with OSAS, an emerging disease strongly associated with the metabolic syndrome.

The paper reports that patients with OSAS and cardiometabolic comorbidities have increased oxidative stress and arterial dysfunction that are partially reversed by nCPAP treatment. Strength of our study is that in contrast to many previous studies performed in otherwise healthy OSAS, we included patients with concomitant chronic diseases such as obesity, metabolic syndrome, hypertension, type 2 diabetes, i.e. a representative sample of the real-world OSA population. This is the first study to demonstrate the efficacy of nCPAP therapy on oxidative stress and arterial dysfunction in OSA patients with cardiometabolic risk factors, independent from weight loss and risk factor management.

I hope you will find of interest the manuscript and may consider it for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

The paper has not submitted for publication in other Journals, and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere until a decision is made as to its acceptability by the Journal.

All Authors attest that the paper represent original work and state that all have contributed significantly and meet criteria for authorship. All Authors declare that they have no conflict of interest in connection with this paper and agree to the conditions outlined in the copyright assignment form.

The paper has been prepared according to the Instructions to Authors.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely

Prof. Francesco Angelico,

Rome, 06/09/2011