Author's response to reviews

Title: Epigenetics modifications and Subclinical Atherosclerosis in Obstructive Sleep Apnea: The EPIOSA study

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Attached, please, find our manuscript entitled “Epigenetics modifications and Subclinical Atherosclerosis in Obstructive Sleep Apnea: The EPIOSA study” that we are submitting for possible review and publication in the Respiratory Research Journal.

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is highly prevalent disease all over the world. We and others have shown that OSA is associated with an increased risk of hypertension (Marin et al. JAMA 2012) and cardiovascular mortality (Marin et al. Lancet 2005). However, intermediate mechanisms that justify this high risk are unknown. We hypothesized that changes in epigenetic regulation of systemic inflammation and metabolic dysfunction in OSA, are linked to accelerated cardiovascular morbidity.

The present article describes the purpose and design of the “Epigenetics Status and Subclinical Atherosclerosis in Obstructive Sleep Apnea (EPIOSA) study”. This is a 5-yr longitudinal study with the overall aim to identify epigenetic markers associated to prevalent and progression of subclinical atherosclerosis in individuals with OSA, as well as biomarkers that may serve as surrogate end-points.
Our manuscript has not been published previously and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. None of the authors receive direct financial support or have financial interests relevant to the subject of the present investigation.

We are very grateful for the time and effort that you, your associate editors and the reviewers will devote to our manuscript.

With best regards,

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