Author's response to reviews

Title: Is Impaired Energy Regulation the Core of the Metabolic Syndrome in Various Ethnic Groups of the USA and Taiwan?

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Version: 4 Date: 5 May 2010

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr Shipley

Re: MS: 1211978219336852 –
Is Impaired Energy Regulation the Core of the Metabolic Syndrome in Ethnically Diverse Populations in the USA and Taiwan?

Mark L Wahlqvist, Hsing-Yi Chang, Chu-Chih Chen, Chih-Cheng Hsu, Wan-Chi Chang, Wuan-Szu Wang and Chao A Hsiung

We thank you for the additional minor comments and suggestions which have helped clarify our meaning.

The changes are indicated point by point in the attachment and revision which we hope will finalise the paper for publication.

Yours most sincerely

Mark L Wahlqvist MD (Adelaide and Uppsala), FRACP
Reviewer's report

Title: Is Impaired Energy Regulation the Core of the Metabolic Syndrome in Various Ethnic Groups of the USA and Taiwan?
Version: 3 Date: 6 April 2010
Reviewer: Leone Malan
Reviewer's report:

Reviewers Report:
Major Compulsory Revisions: have been addressed.
Minor essential revisions (The author can be trusted to make these):

Reference # 2; for interest see paper of Prof G Alberti, published in Circulation (2009) on the most recent guidelines for MetS (attached).

Reply: We have added this reference (line 312-313). It is of interesting to see the recommendation for one set of cut points for all components, except waist circumferences.

2. It is quite clear that age and gender has a significant effect on your results especially the urban older women. Suggestion: maybe mention this in your conclusion as well.

Reply: Indeed, we have added a sentence in the discussion (line 429-430) to this effect

Methods:


Reply: We are sorry to have omitted this information. We have now included it (line 148-150). Participants were asked not to walking, run or lift heavy things for 30 minutes before the examination. Once seated for the measurement of blood pressure, they were asked to rest for 5 to 10 minutes.

# Blood pressure measurements; units not correctly given: mmHg
Reply: This has been corrected (Line 153, 154).

Discussion:
# Line 291: “They used the reciprocal………They found two factors”. Suggestion: combine two sentences.

Reply: We have made the revision.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests