Author's response to reviews

Title: Associations of age with serum insulin, proinsulin and the proinsulin-to-insulin ratio: a cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Points 1-3 indicate the changes made according to the comments by the reviewer and our responses:

1. Table 1: The variable “Beta-blocker use” has been removed. We feel, however, that the column “n” should be retained in the table as the numbers of observations (n) vary considerably according to variable and they are necessary in order to assess the standard deviations.

2. Table 2 and 3: The columns “hip circumference”, “white blood cells”, “platelet count”, “beta-blocker use”, and “anti-hypertensive medication” have been removed from the tables.

3. Tables 2 and 3: We think that regression coefficients (b) would be applicable in these analyses. We have now expressed the results as regression coefficients (b) with the respective 95% confidence intervals (95% CI).

Tables 2 and 3:
We have added to the table legends: “b, regression coefficient; 95% CI, 95% confidence interval”.

On page 9, first paragraph we have added the following sentences:

“The regression coefficients (b) for the associations of the independent variables with the outcome variables were determined with the respective 95% confidence intervals (95% CI).”