Author's response to reviews

Title: Association between metabolic syndrome and bone fractures: a meta-analysis of observational studies

Authors:

Kan Sun (revman.sk@gmail.com)
Jianmin Liu (jianmin.L@gmail.com)
Nan Lu (LY1988@163.com)
Hanxiao Sun (SUN.HX@yahoo.com)
Guang Ning (gning@sibs.com)

Version: 7 Date: 24 January 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Responses to the editor:

Editor's Comments:

1. I think that the meta-analyses of the 3 prospective studies should be included as a sensitivity analyses. Meta-analyses of cross-sectional data is weak.

Response 1:
Thank you for your revision and we appreciate very much for your comments.

Related part was presented in the revised manuscript as “Sensitivity analyses of our primary outcome were carried out by excluding one study at a time and the combined overall risk estimates were consistent, with a range from 0.91 (95% CI 0.80 - 1.03) to 0.94 (95% CI 0.84 - 1.05) in cross-sectional studies and 0.56 (95% CI 0.24 - 1.29) to 1.35 (95% CI 0.42 - 4.32) in prospective cohort studies.”

2. Please change the following sentence to: "The present meta-analysis of observational studies suggests that THE metabolic syndrome HAS no explicit effect on bone fractures." Corrections are in capitals

Response 2:
Thank you very much for your suggestion. Following your suggestion, we changed relevant abstract in the revised manuscript.