Author's response to reviews

Title: The emerging role of dietary fructose in obesity and cognitive decline

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Version: 2 Date: 16 June 2013

Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer Charles Halsted (Referee 1)
We thank the reviewer for his positive critique and feedback in improving the article. We have made the following changes:

1) On page 3, we better defined the populations citing reference 10 and 11.
2) On page 4, reference 27 was updated. Reference 31 was also moved.
3) On page 5, we reworded the Freeman et al. study.
4) On paged 6-8, clarified the role of DMII, HTN, and HPL in studies assessing obesity and cognition.
5) The Stanhope referenced was added.
6) Expanded on the Agrawal and Gomez-Pinilla study.
7) The fructose content is now defined on page 14.

Reviewer Natalie Parletta (Referee 2)
We greatly appreciate the revision suggestions. Our changes are outlined below:

1) Background, line 6, typo corrected.
2) The description for AD was redefined.
3) On page 6, "weight" was changed to "waist".
4) On page 6, findings related to obesity and cognition in the elderly are better defined.
5) The co-variables were expanded on page 6.
6) The obesity in school aged children studies were expanded.
7) We tempered our statement to state a potential association on page 8.
8) The Whitehall study on page 8 was clarified.
9) The first sentence under Fructose were divided into two.
10) The 90% HFCS formulation was added to page 10.
11) The word "accounting" was deleted to page 10.
12) On page 11, we reworded the sentence on HFCS/sucrose and health risk.
13) On page 13, the Agrawal and Gomez-Pinilla study design was better defined. Also, the last sentence in this paragraph was removed as suggested.
14) "Only a few studies" was changed to "A recent population-based study" on page 13.
15) The heading on page 15 was changed to "Underlying mechanisms."
16) On page 17, the heart reference was removed.
17) The conclusion was revamped to best explain our thesis. The novel reference was also removed from this section.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shaheen E Lakhan and Annette Kirchgessner