Author’s response to reviews

**Title:** Increased dietary alpha-linolenic acid has sex-specific effects upon eicosapentaenoic acid status in humans: re-examination of data from a randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel study

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**Author’s response to reviews:** see over
Dear Dr Kumagai,

Re: Increased dietary α-linolenic acid has sex-specific effects upon eicosapentaenoic acid status in humans: re-examination of data from a randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel study

Please find attached the above revised manuscript and below the point-by-point response to reviewers’ comments.

Reviewer 1: Minor Essential Revisions

The conclusions have been modified to: "However, data from this analysis indicates that a diet rich in ALA does not contribute to circulating DHA status, and the consequences of this should be considered in circumstances where there may be specific needs for DHA, such as during pregnancy."

This is a quite strong conclusion based on a small study. Also, the DHA levels were higher after the intervention, even though not significantly. I suggest moving this sentence to the end of second to last chapter of the discussion.

This sentence has been moved as suggested.

Reviewer 2: The authors have revised the paper according to the suggestions. I feel that the paper can now be published without further changes

Reviewer 3: The authors have responded to previous comments and concerns. I have no further revisions for the authors.
If you require any further information from me, my contact details are as above. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Caroline Childs  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow