Author's response to reviews

Title: Health Habits and Other Characteristics of Dietary Supplement Users: A Review

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Author's response to reviews: see over
My co-author Douglas MacKay and I are submitting a review article on the health habits of dietary supplement users for your consideration for publication in Nutrition Journal. Numerous articles have been published on patterns of dietary supplement use as shown in large surveys. These articles often also include findings regarding certain characteristics of dietary supplement users, including information on health habits, but these important features are typically covered in a brief sentence or two and are not given the attention we believe they deserve. Our review shows that a wide range of positive health habits, including efforts to consume a better diet, are consistently found to be characteristic of dietary supplement users. Health professionals and policy makers often emphasize the value of certain health habits but tend to view dietary supplement use as a separate and unrelated practice. Our review suggests that supplement use should instead be viewed as an important component of consumers' overall efforts to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Both authors are scientists affiliated with the Council for Responsible Nutrition, a trade association of the dietary supplement industry. Accordingly, we have had ample opportunity to carefully consider the scientific evidence relating to the practices and other characteristics of dietary supplement users, and our review gathers a wide range of relevant data that we believe will be of great interest to the nutrition and medical communities.

As requested in the instructions for authors, we provide (below) some suggestions for potential reviewers for this article. We have reviewed the list of members of your Editorial Board, and we believe Dr. Allen Taylor and Dr. Rick Weissinger have interests related to our topic. We look forward to hearing from you regarding next steps, in the hope that you will find this review article to be of interest to your readership.

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Potential reviewers of our manuscript on health habits of dietary supplement users:

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Dr. Bendich is Series Editor of more than 30 volumes in the Nutrition and Health Series published by Springer. Each volume is focused on a specific topic and is edited by one or more experts in that particular field.