Author's response to reviews

Title: Dietary patterns and colorectal cancer: results from a Canadian population-based study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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BioMed Center Nutrition Journal

Re: Manuscript # 1728424484140245

Dear Editor,

We appreciate the Editorial Board’s willingness to consider a resubmitted version of our manuscript entitled “Dietary patterns and colorectal cancer: results from a Canadian population-based study”.

We have carefully taken your comments into consideration in preparing our revision. Our responses are consistent with the reviewer’s comments. We feel that we have adequately addressed the comments from the reviewer. In addition to the changes made in the body of this paper, we have also reformatted the manuscript and supplemented all necessary information as required by the journal.

Thank you very much for your editorial advice and efforts.

Sincerely,

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Reviewer – Nadia Bastide:

Major Essential Revisions:

**Reviewer 1-1**: Results: “After adjusting for potential confounding factors, the Meat-diet and Sugary-diet patterns were significantly associated with an increased risk of CRC. In contrast, the Plant-based diet pattern was significantly associated with a reduced risk of CRC. The observed association remained consistent across three cancer sites: the proximal colon, the distal colon, and the rectum”. Authors should be less affirmative in their abstract: for colorectal cancer p trend is not significant, and results differ among cancer sites.

Authors 1-1: We appreciate the reviewer’s comments and, as a result, this sentence has been rewritten in the revised manuscript.

“Results suggest that the Meat-diet and the Sugary-diet increased the risk of CRC with corresponding odds ratios (ORs) of 1.84 (95% CI: 1.19-2.86) and 2.26 (95% CI: 1.39-3.66) for people in the highest intake quintile compared to those in the lowest. Whereas plant-based diet pattern decreases the risk of CRC with a corresponding OR of 0.55 (95% CI: 0.35-0.87). Even though ORs were not always statistically significant, largely similar associations across three cancer sites were found: the proximal colon, the distal colon, and the rectum.”

Discretionary Revisions:

**Reviewer 1-2**: Methods/Data collection, last paragraph (l.95): a space is missing between 673 and controls. Results/First paragraph (l.137): a space is missing between 673 and controls. Tables: Table 1: a space between n and (%) would make the table easier to read. Table 3 and 4: if possible, confidence intervals should be written on one line.

Authors 1-2: Corrections have been made in the revised manuscript.