Author’s response to reviews

Title: Body Composition and Arsenic Metabolism in the Strong Heart Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Grandjean,

Thank you for considering our manuscript titled “Body Composition and Arsenic Metabolism: A Cross-Sectional Analysis in the Strong Heart Study” (manuscript # 1380147602102845). We appreciate the reviewers’ feedback and believe that incorporating these suggestions has strengthened the revised manuscript.

Regarding the most recent suggestion from Reviewer 2 to remove the equations for calculating the % body fat, lean mass (kg) variables used in analysis: our preference is to keep the equations in the manuscript as we believe it is more informative to the readers, unless the editors suggest otherwise. We provided citations for the method in the text [refs 46, 47] to make it easy to comply with the reviewer recommendation that only a methods citation is needed, if the editors prefer to omit the equations.

If there are no further changes requested, we look forward to publishing our results in your journal. Thank you for working with us to improve the manuscript.

Sincerely,
Matthew Gribble