Author’s response to reviews

Title: Cardiotoxicity of Freon among refrigeration services workers: comparative cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor –in-chief:

Enclosed is the manuscript by Sabik et al. titled Cardio–toxicity of Freon among Refrigeration Services Workers after doing the recommended corrections.

This manuscript is being submitted to you for possible publication in the "Environmental Health Journal". This research paper is new and is not being published or even refereed elsewhere. The authors believed that it is a very important area of research as Freon is considered one of the major gases causing global warming which in turn increases the needs and the utilization of people to all types of refrigerants to overcome the hot climate. This communities and countries trend makes large number of workers involved in the refrigeration related industries; so many workers became exposed to this hazardous chemical which is being strongly associated with many common health problems in our societies such as hypertension, CAD, and arrhythmias. So, we hope from publishing this research in your respectable journal to arouse scientists, employers and workers especially in developing countries about the possible cardiac hazards of Freon to take the corrective actions needed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laila Sabik, MD

Lailasabik714@hotmail.com

Assistant Professor of Clinical Toxicology

Zagazig University
I will submit a clean copy in word format.

Contents of the manuscript:
1- Title page.
2- Abstract
3- Background.
4- Methods.
5- Results.
6- Discussion
7- Conclusions
8- Abbreviations
9- Competing interests
10- Authors' contributions.
11- Acknowledgment
12- References
13- Legend figures
14- List of tables

N.B.
15- Figures will uploaded as a separate 4 files.

Comments:
I carefully review the manuscript and made the recommended changes as follow:
1- Page (1)
a- I change form of Email address from:

Email addresses:

1LMES: lailasabik714@hotmail.com; 2RAA: reemabbas@netscape.net;

3MMI: awadime@gmail.com; 4SER: safwat_elrefai@hotmail.com

Sharkia Governorate, Egypt
To

Email addresses:

1LMES: lailasabik714@hotmail.com;
2RAA: reemabbas@netscape.net;
3MMI: awadime@gmail.com;
4SER: safwat_elrefai@hotmail.com

To coincide with journal style

b- Author list: please ensure that the author list is identical in the manuscript and the submission system.

Author list is identical in the manuscript and the submission system.

c- Affiliations: please replace the slash before `Egypt' with a comma

OK, this done

2- abstract page:

a- Abstract: the title and author list has been included again in the abstract, please remove this.

OK, I will removed it during this submission, I will upload the abstract only.

b- Formatting notes: In the Conclusion of the Abstract, chloroflorocarbons should be chlorofluorocarbons.

OK, this done

3- Background (page 3):

Change first sentence in second paragraph of the main text from 'Since the 1930s, when chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), fully halogenated or non-hydrogenated fluorocarbons, were developed and were considered to be nearly perfect chemicals.' to 'Since the 1930s, when chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), fully halogenated or non-hydrogenated fluorocarbons, were developed, they were considered to be nearly perfect chemicals.'

OK, this done
4- **Figure 2:** this has not been cited in the manuscript, please amend this ensuring that all citations remain in consecutive numerical order.

*OK, I CITED IT IN (PAGE 14),
*and also I rearrange the numbers of figures, as I change the number of figures making fig 3 take no fig 4 and fig 4 take no fig 3 ,this is better to make the results written in consecutive order.

5- **Figure legends:** do not separate this legend into figure 2a and figure 2b, just `a' and `b' under the title of figure 2.

   OK . I corrected it as follow

   **Figure 2**

   (a) Narrative summary of Holter monitoring for Freon–exposed worker during an exposed day showed frequent atrio-ventricular multifocal arrhythmias.

   (b) Narrative summary of Holter monitoring for the same Freon–exposed worker during a control day showed a lower frequency of abnormal beats.

6- **Figure legends:**

   I change the title to become beside the figure instead of under it as I see that in the link of the journal related to the figures.

   I changed it from:

   **Figure 1.**

   A percent distribution of the studied workers regarding present symptoms suggesting hypertension, arrhythmias, and renal disease.

   To :
Figure 1. A percent distribution of the studied workers regarding present symptoms suggesting hypertension, arrhythmias, and renal disease.

7- Tables: please edit these so that vertical lines are not visible. OK, this done

8-Figure cropping - It is important for the final layout of the manuscript that the figures are cropped as closely as possible to minimize white space around the image. OK, this done

8-Finally, remove 'List of' from the heading of Abbreviations. OK, this done

I hope that all things are all right, and I hope hearing good news shortly. With my best wishes.

Dr. Laila Sabik, MD