Author's response to reviews

Title: Ancestral DDT Exposures Promote Epigenetic Transgenerational Inheritance of Obesity

Authors:

Michael K Skinner (skinner@wsu.edu)
Mohan Manikkam (mohan.manikkam@email.wsu.edu)
Rebecca Tracey (rebecca.h.tracey@gmail.com)
Carlos Guerrero-Bosagna (catelo@wsu.edu)
Md M Haque (mhaque@eeecs.wsu.edu)
Eric E Nilsson (nilsson@wsu.edu)

Version: 4 Date: 24 September 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
September 24, 2013

Dr. Lin Lee, PhD
Senior Editor
BMC Medicine

Dear Dr. Lee:

The enclosed third revised manuscript MS#: 3183211929952274 entitled “Ancestral DDT Exposures Promote Epigenetic Transgenerational Inheritance of Obesity” as a submission for consideration for publication as an Article in BMC Medicine.

All the new comments of the reviewer 3 were addressed with revisions and outlined in the Discussion of Revisions enclosed. We feel the manuscript has been improved by responding to the reviewers comments.

Pending acceptance for publication we have included potential cover art. In addition, we anticipate press around the publication so would request you provide an anticipated online publication date so we have a chance to arrange press on the article.

The manuscript was submitted electronically as requested by BMC Medicine. Supplementary information is also submitted and required for review. We look forward to your comments and hope the manuscript is now suitable for publication in BMC Medicine. Thank you for considering the manuscript and please let me know if any additional information would be useful.

Sincerely

Michael K. Skinner
Professor
Epigenetic Transgenerational Inheritance of Obesity

Transgenerational Obesity

Transgenerational Sperm Epimutations
Discussion of Revisions

MS#: 3183211929952274 (Revision 3)

Reviewer 3 –

1) Suggest further clarify the logistic regression model analysis.
   As suggested, the description of the simple logistic regression modeling in the Methods section has been further clarified. It is pointed out that the analyses to compare DDT vs. Control were separate from the analyses to compare LD DDT vs. Control.

2) Question on validation of the statistical analysis.
   In regards to the online calculator, the website does not indicate that the calculator was validated. However, this stats site and its originator are well regarded, and the site received an award from the National Academy Press. SAS, Stata and SPSS were not available to our laboratory. The revised statistics methods section clarifies the online tool utilized.