Author's response to reviews

Title: Role of Lifestyle Changes in the Management of Chronic Liver Disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
April 5, 2011

Lin Lee PhD
Assistant Editor, BMC Medicine

RE: MS: 1896945718490916 “Role of Lifestyle Changes in the Management of Chronic Liver Disease”

Dear Dr. Lee:

Thank you for the positive review of our article entitled “The Role of Lifestyle Changes in the Management of Chronic Liver Disease”. We appreciate the comments made by the reviewers. We have highlighted the changes that have been made in the second revised version of the text.

Reviewer 1:
**Reviewer’s report:**
I do not have comments

**Response:** We thank the reviewer for the positive comments.

Reviewer 2:
**Reviewer’s report:**
Major compulsory revisions.
The manuscript was improved significantly from the previous version. I suggest to include detailed information about pathophysiological issues and/or categorize the quality and level of the evidence. Finally I suggest to comment the potential deleterious effects derived from bariatric surgery (Bariatric surgery for non-alcoholic steatohepatitis in obese patients. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2010 Jan 20;(1):CD00734).

**Response:** We have now revised the manuscript to incorporate the changes suggested. Please refer to the highlighted new version.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests’

Reviewer 3:
**Reviewer’s report:**
The revised article is more complete and answers most of the queries put forth by reviewers.
Minor Essential Revisions
Page 4 Para 1 after Ref 10. (referring to this study) Insert the following:
"Importantly, these changes were in the absence of weight loss, suggesting a key role for fitness as well as fatness".

Page 6 Para 2 after ref 27. Insert the following:
"There are no studies as yet detailing whether these lifestyle interventions impact on response to antiviral treatment".

Page 6 Para 3 (following from above). Change "Recent studies" to "Two recent studies"

Page 6 Para 3 after ref 28: delete "while", thus sentence begins with "Others..."

Page 6 para 3, 4 lines further down : chronic hepatitis C and insulin resistant (not resistance)

Page 6 para 3: delete last sentence: insert the following instead:
"At this point only lifestyle interventions can be recommended to improve metabolic syndrome and obesity associated with chronic hepatitis C, but their effect on treatment response and long term outcome requires further study.

Response: We have now incorporated these comments to the manuscript. Please refer to the highlighted new version.

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Response: We have revised the manuscript for syntax and grammar.

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
‘I declare that I have no competing interests’

Sincerely,
Christine

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