Author's response to reviews

Title: Motorbike Rider With Ventricular Arrhythmia - Suspected Association to Air Pollution

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Motorbike Rider With Ventricular Arrhythmia – Suspected Association to Air Pollution

Thanks for a detailed and constructive reviewing, which I think have improved the manuscript.

Reply to the reviewers:

Reviewer Wayne Cascio:

“'A comment should be made indicating that CO exposure might be the driving the appearance of the VPBs rather than combustion related particulate matter':
There are studies showing a link between carbon monoxide and ventricular arrhythmias, others not showing such effect, which now have been mentioned in the manuscript under “Discussion”.

“Moreover, while the subject did not report feeling stressed one cannot exclude the possibility that noise and stress contributed to the finding. Only measures of cortisol would settle this issue. For this reason salivary cortisol is often used in the clinical studies to assess this possibility. A comment should be made that the association might be related to the stress of the motor bike ride’:
This has now been mentioned and added to the manuscript under “Discussion”.

Reviewer Richard Verrier:

“it would have been potentially useful to have obtained ambulatory ECG recordings during the motorbike ride in traffic in order to report changes in autonomic factors (as
measured by heart rate turbulence) or changes in cardiac electrical instability in the myocardial substrate (as measured by T-wave alternans). Perhaps in the future, if a similar case is noted, this could be a useful application of these tools."

This suggestion has now been mentioned in the manuscript under “Discussion”.

Reviewer Kathryn Meurs:

See answers to the two other reviewers.