Author’s response to reviews

Title: Peripheral Artery Disease and Exertional Leg Symptoms in Diabetes Patients in Ghana.

Authors:

Kwame Yeboah (melvinky@gmail.com)

Peter Puplampu (pedpup@yahoo.com)

Joana Ainuson (ainuson@yahoo.com)

Josephine Akpalu (janduah@yahoo.com)

Albert G. B. Amoah (agbamoah@hotmail.com)

Ben Gyan (BGyan@noguchi.ug.edu.gh)

Version: 1 Date: 05 Nov 2015

Author’s response to reviews:

The authors greatly appreciate the critical comments of the reviewer and those comments guided the modification made in this manuscript as follows:

Responses

* We reanalyzed the whole of the data on ECQ and redefined the patients into leg symptoms groups based of the Edinburgh intermittent claudication questionnaire(page 4 lines 108 – 118).

* We have indicated in the methods that the diabetes patients were recruited from urban tertiary center. However, patients were referred from all over the country. (page 4, lines 84 – 87)

* Hypothesis has been introduced in the introduction. The aims have been restated. (page 3, lines 76 – 80)

* Variables in medical history have been restated (page 4, lines 100 – 102)

* Leg symptoms have been redefined and categorised, based on psychometric properties of ECQ (page 4 line 104 – 119)

* Diabetes patients were matched in gender and age-decade with non-diabetes control and their characteristics have been presented in Table1. (page 4 line 91)
* Further references highlighting the prevalence of smoking in Ghana have been provided (page 9 line 229 - 231).

* Distribution of ABI followed the Gaussian curve

* Further details on patients & controls selection have been provided (page 4, lines 87-96.

* Self-reported macrovascular diseases were removed from analysis.

* Issues about ethics and consent have been indicate on page 4, line 96 - 99.

* Individual authors contribution has been indicated at page 10, lines 270 - 274.