Author’s response to reviews

Title: Independent Association of Resting Energy Expenditure with Blood Pressure: Confirmation in Populations of the African Diaspora

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Version: 2 Date: 19 Sep 2017

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September 19, 2017

Dr Tim Shipley
Editor-in-Chief
BMC Cardiovascular Disorders

Re-BCAR-D-17-00170 manuscript edits
Dear Dr Shipley

We are delighted that our manuscript titled: Independent Association of Resting Energy Expenditure with Blood Pressure: Confirmation in Populations of the African Diaspora” (BCAR-D-17-00170) will be accepted following the addition of a limitations section to the discussion. We have now added this section, which reads as follows:

“In our study, while we attempted to ensure consistency and reliability of measurements, particularly with regards to the measurement of BP and REE across our research sites, our study is not without limitations. For example, we have no measure of circulating catecholamines, an issue which we have now addressed in our current studies. In order to maximize comparability of REE measurements we used the same indirect calorimeter in three of the four research sites, and conducted regular methanol burns as described by Cooper et al. [57]. With regards to the measurement of BP, the same model Omron was used in all sites and all clinic staff underwent the same in-house training prior to the start of the data collection period, and as previously described by Luke et al [22]. Due to the nature of multi-site research, there is always the potential for site-to-site variability in some measures. The investigators of the current study worked hard to minimize that variability.”

Yours faithfully,

Lara R. Dugas, PhD MPH, FTOS

Assistant Professor