Author’s response to reviews

Title: Exercise capacity and body mass index - important predictors of change in resting heart rate

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Michael Schwarzer
BMC Cardiovascular Disorders

Ref.: manuscript "Exercise capacity and body mass index - important predictors of change in resting heart rate" (BCAR-D-19-00401R1)

We thank the editor and reviewers for their constructive critique and positive review of our paper. Below we have addressed the final comments.

Sincerely,

Shani Shenhar-Tsarfaty and Ori Rogowski

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Editor Comments:
The authors have improved their manuscript substantially. However, several aspects need to be addressed:

In the Abstract, the authors state that determinants of delta resting heart rate have not been studied extensively. While this statement is correct, it suggests that the actual manuscript may address these, but this is not the case.

This sentence was deleted. (Abstract, first paragraph)

In the discussion, the authors state that their study addressed the determinants. However, the analysis may indicate correlations but not determinants as this would require to investigate mechanisms.

We change the text accordingly. (Discussion; first paragraph, page 7; page 10 2nd paragraph)

The authors use the word gender to address sex differences. While sex is used for the biological differences between men and women, gender indicates social/behavioural differences. Thus, please replace the word „gender“ by using „sex“.

Thank you for this comment and explanation. We replaced the word accordingly.

In the reference section, reference 41 seems incomplete and formatting of reference 42 differs from all others.

Corrected with thanks.

BMC Cardiovascular Disorders operates a policy of open peer review, which means that you will be able to see the names of the reviewers who provided the reports via the online peer review system. We encourage you to also view the reports there, via the action links on the left-hand side of the page, to see the names of the reviewers.

Thank you and the reviewers for valuable comments.

Reviewer reports:

André Schmidt (Reviewer 1): I thank the authors for providing adequate response to all comments and for incorporating.

Thank you once again for valuable review.